



Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou
Learning for Life and Making it Count

2025 Term 1 Week 6 - Monday 3 March



2025 Term Dates:

Term 1: Wed 29th Jan – Fri 11th April

Term 2: Mon 28th April – Fri 27th June

Mon 2 June - King's Birthday

Fri 20 June - Matariki

Teacher only day - Mon 23 June

Term 3: Mon 14th July – Fri 19th Sept

Term 4: Mon 6th Oct – Fri 12th Dec

Mon 27th Oct - Labour Day

Teacher only day - Thu 13 Nov

Fri 14th Nov - Canterbury Show Day

After five weeks at school, our students have settled into classroom days. Mrs Vicki Archer, from Manaiakalani, has been working with teachers and students to implement Cybersmart information technology use in the classroom. All students are learning about the value of a chromebook as a learning tool and not just an entertainment toy. If you want to know more about this please speak with your child's teacher.

Over this year, teachers and students are learning to create classroom Blogs 2025 and these will replace Seesaw as a platform for parents to see the learning happening in the classroom. Students will be also learning to then develop their own blogs throughout this year and share their own learning.



Thank you for your continued support for our school and the new programmes we are introducing for your children. Due to the many changes in Education recently, we have teachers participating in Accelerated Learning in Literacy (ALL) professional development, Accelerated Learning in Maths (ALiM) professional development, Structured Literacy professional development, Numicon maths programme professional development and new mathematics curriculum professional development. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself. I have enjoyed catching up with parents that have emailed me directly and look forward to all future contacts from parents.

Ms Tracey Burgess: tracey.burgess@ouruhia.school.nz /
principal@ouruhia.school.nz



Waimakariri. Mrs Busch and Mrs Watson working with Vicki Archer
(03/03/2025)



Manaiakalani





TACKLING TALL POPPY SYNDROME TO TRANSFORM AOTEAROA



The staff have one of the above t-shirts or similar. On Fearless Friday or Colour your Day on 28 March 2025, the teachers wear their t-shirts and students will be able to wear a different t-shirt. If you would like to purchase your child or yourself a t-shirt you can go to the E Tū Tāngata website <https://shop.etutangata.nz/collections/kids> (discount code: ouruhia20)

There are also other accessories at <https://shop.etutangata.nz/collections/accessories>

A graphic with a dark background featuring a repeating geometric pattern. On the left is a cluster of colorful circles in yellow, orange, red, green, and purple. The text 'Colour your Day' is in a large, white, serif font, with 'your' in a smaller, cursive font. Below it, '28 MARCH 2025' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text 'Break out your brightest outfit and help kids #standupforstandingout' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

Colour *your* Day

28 MARCH 2025

Break out your brightest outfit and help kids #standupforstandingout



Pūharakekenui News (Year 0-2)

Kia ora, we have made a wonderful start to the year and our small numbers have meant lots and lots of quality learning and teaching. We are well into our structured literacy programme and structured maths. Since there were a few of you who were unable to come to Meet the Teacher last week I would be happy to run a Q&A session around what our core learning programme looks like and provide you with some ideas around how you could further help your child at home. I will send a separate email soon with a time and date.

We are working on some very early New Zealand history, starting when there were just birds and insects moving onto when the first polynesian sea travellers arrived. We will get to the core of the learning, the Treaty of Waitangi, before the end of term to help develop the understanding of how our wonderful modern day country has been created.

We are focussing on the school value of "Can do" and developing our E Tū Tāngata thinking around we have value, others matter and together we succeed.

If you would like to catch up feel free to pop in and see me or send me a quick email.

Ngā mihi nui

Mrs Lisa Hewitt: lisa.hewitt@ouruhia.school.nz

Kā Putahi News (Year 3 and 4)

We have had a fantastic start to the year, getting to know one another and building a positive and supportive learning environment. We have been setting up routines and routines to ensure a smooth and productive year ahead. Together (with Waimakariri) we have been working on our Treaty, discussing what makes a safe and respectful space where everyone can thrive. As part of our learning journey we have also begun exploring how to use Chromebooks as a tool to support our learning, developing essential smart digital skills will help us throughout the year. It's been a busy and exciting start, and we look forward to all the learning and growth ahead.

Mrs Sarah Thom: sarah.thom@ouruhia.school.nz



Waimakariri News

Our Waimakariri students have been busy learning about **road safety** and are in the process of making a short film to share what they've learned. To support this, **Constable Jeff** will be giving them a refresher on **Road Patrol protocols** this **Monday, March 3rd**.

The **Year 7/8 students** recently attended a **North Canterbury Sports Day** focused on leadership, and now they're excited to put their skills into action as **PALS (Physical Activity Leaders in Schools)**. They'll be leading fun and active games during lunchtimes and afternoons—looking forward to seeing their awesome leadership skills in action!

We're continuing to encourage a '**can-do**' attitude towards learning. It's fantastic and significant to your whanau. For example, **Rakahuri Awa** (Ashley River) and **Maukatere** (Mount Grey) are Danica's river and mountain because we live in Rangiora.

We've also been growing our **Cybersmart** skills with help from **Mrs. Archer** and **Mrs. Busch**. A reminder to check if your child has their **Chromebook** with them each day, especially on a **Monday**.

This term, we're exploring **Cricket** on Thursday afternoons. If anyone has cricket drills to share or knows any cricketers who could contribute to our lessons, we'd love to hear from you because we seek to enrich the students' experience.

Thanks to Jayde, Kerry and Craig for bringing in their live tadpoles to show us how they are turning into frogs. It is so kind of you to share with us your home learning so we can **see the life cycle of a frog. It's so interesting to learn more about tadpoles and what they eat and how they change into frogs! Thanks.**

Thanks for your undying support. Come & see me before / after school if you'd like to chat.

Hope you all have a great weekend!

Michelle Busch / Mrs Busch michelle.busch@ouruhia.school.nz

THE WILLIAM PIKE CHALLENGE

<https://www.williampikechallenge.co.nz/>



On the next page are student articles about their time listening to William Pike.



My fellow Year 7/8s and I went to hear William Pike's remarkable stories from outdoor adventures to his near death. There were about 300 students in the audience and my school took some photos with William Pike. He told us about his remarkable stories for one whole hour and I bet that at the end he was an inspiration to everybody who listened. I thought it was interesting and I definitely want to listen to him again. I am inspired to talk to my family about starting this challenge and what new passion/ hobby I could learn about.

- Benjamin Jones & Mrs Busch

Hi my name is Seth Tavinor and I am going to do the William Pike Challenge. Yesterday I met him. His story was sad and cool. We had a photo with him.

- Seth Tavinor

An inspirational talk from a strong and resilient Champion – William Pike

On the 27th of February, we were fortunate enough to be able to go to Rangi Ruru Girls' School to listen to the one and only William Pike share about his struggles in 2007 till now. He had been stuck underneath cold volcanic rocks after they came through the door of his hut up Mount Ruapehu. His story was one of not just surviving but thriving in life after this terrible accident.

William shared his real life experiences with 300 year 7/8 students and teachers in that short hour. Over 120 schools, just in New Zealand, have taken part in the Challenge programme which has a helpful and positive impact on our communities. William showed us to never give up no matter how hard life may seem. As I say there is always sun after months if not years of rain. William has made a huge impact on the kids he sees daily.

Due to the inspiration, I'm going to see if I can potentially volunteer at the S.P.C.A. and/ or see if I can read to people at an old people's home. I might do something building wise.

- Amelia Purcell & Mrs Busch

William Pike, a true champ

Yesterday Kyra Seth Benjamin, Amelia Mrs Willocks, Mrs Busch and I travelled to Rangi Ruru Girls' School. We heard William Pike Mt Ruapehu in 2007. He also told us about his Challenge program that our school is doing. During his talk, William even took off prosthetic leg and showed us his stump. He waved (bent his knee cap) at us because he can still do that. He showed a photo of his Leg straight after his accident and it was disgusting and weird you see his bones. And then he talked about if we step out of our comfort zone we will go somewhere amazing and feel more confident.

I think I might brainstorm ideas for my challenge with my family.

- Xavier, Kyra & Mrs Busch



Positive Behaviour for Learning

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning focus for the rest of Term one are:

Weeks 5/6	Spreading positivity
Week 7/8	Developing a “can do attitude”
Week 9/10	Learning and showing respect

Parents can discuss with their children what is happening at school and how they are spreading positivity, exemplifying a “can do” attitude and showing and receiving respect (whakaute).

Office Information

Thank you to those parents who have filled in the online General Information form.

If you haven't filled it in yet please do as it is important that we have your most up to date details in case of an emergency.

If you are unable to open it online, please feel free to come and see me and we can fill it out on my computer.

We have just received the school uniform order for Term 1. Our next order will be in Term 2. I will advise parents when that order is due at the start of Term 2.



A word from the PTA.....

Thanks to the people who popped in for some coffee and cake last week, especially Mrs Hewitt, it was nice to have some teacher support. We welcome some new members; Louise (Seth and Toby's mum), Amanda (Ruby's mum) and Kandy (Porter's mum).

Annual General Meeting 2025

We are holding our AGM on Wednesday the 12th of March at 7pm in the School Library. This is where we will talk a bit about our plan this year so if anyone has any fundraising ideas or events they would like to see happen, please come along, email us or talk to one of us at School.

We would like to sell the rest of the firewood from last year so please let family and friends know about it. All money will go towards our School and children.

DRY FIREWOOD SELLING DAY – pine/old man pine mix; at this stage we are just opening it up to Ouruhia School staff, families and friends at a special discounted price. Just bring your trailer along, fill it up and pay on the day (cash or bank transfer). Make the most of this great opportunity to get your next winter sorted at a great price.

Where: Turners Road

When: Date to be confirmed

Price: \$80.00 per cubic metre

Please email the PTA by the **11TH of March** to let us know you are keen so we can set a day/times for pick up. ouruhiapta@gmail.com

From your PTA: Bec, Cora, Kerry, Celeste, Amanda, Louise and Kandy



The Lions Christchurch Schools' Music Festival 2025

Is your child interested in auditioning for a Representative group

Applications for the Representative groups are still open and our numbers are slowly growing but we would like to see more students auditioning for these amazing groups.

A student can audition for the Representative Groups regardless of whether their school is part of the Festival or not.

Applications for Representative auditions close on Tuesday 01 April 2025.

Parents must register their child themselves so that they are aware of the commitments in regards to rehearsal times and performance dates as we are strict with attendance. [Link to register.](#)