



*Whāia te māturanga hei orange mō koutou*



*Learning for life and making it count*

## 18th September 2025 Newsletter

### School News... Swimming

The tamariki really impressed at the swimming pool with both their confidence and skills. The Waiswim programme again focussed on water confidence and water safety rather than more traditional swimming lessons. All age groups practised safe entry and exit of the pool, jumping in, swimming underneath obstacles, what to do if falling from a boat and swimming / staying afloat in a life jacket.

Everyone's behaviour was impeccable, both on the bus and at the pool, and the children represented our school in a way that made everyone proud.



## *A Wrap Up From The Teaching Team...*

As Term 3 draws to a close, what a busy term it's been! Our learners have shown determination, teamwork, and creativity in so many areas, and we couldn't be prouder.

Our tamariki showed incredible independence and self-management during swimming this term. From organising their gear to hopping on the bus with smiles, they impressed us with their maturity. The joyful bus singing was a highlight for everyone, and our seniors were wonderfully thoughtful and caring toward our younger learners.

The junior syndicate wrapped up their space inquiry with stunning salt art planets. A few learning curves along the way taught us all about the science of absorption, sometimes the surprises make the best lessons! Across the school, our whole-school science focus explored force, momentum, and perception of distance through exciting hands-on experiments that kept curiosity soaring.

To celebrate the change of season, learners created spring-inspired mixed-media art pieces, blending colours, and textures. These beautiful works will be on display in the library next week. Make sure to pop in and admire their creativity!

We've also been learning more about our classroom community, building teamwork, and diving into some friendly competition with Te Reo Māori challenges. One of the favourites was playing Hītoitoi, a fast-paced game that tested our listening, reflexes, and memories, lots of laughs and learning all rolled into one!

In maths, our juniors worked hard on fractions, creating their very own fraction walls. These not only strengthened their understanding of parts and wholes but will also be a brilliant resource for home learning over the holidays.

The homework effort this term has been amazing ka pai, tamariki! Over the two-week break, we'd love for you to keep the writing and number knowledge momentum going so we can hit Term 4 with a bang.

### **Looking Ahead**

With our new principal beginning next term, you may have questions about what learning will look like. Please rest assured that your child's potential and progress remain at the heart of everything we do. If any changes are on the horizon, we'll keep you updated before the new term begins.

A huge mihi to all our whānau for your continued support, whether it's helping with swimming gear, encouraging homework, or celebrating successes at home. Together, we've made Term 3 one to remember.

A heartfelt thank you to Lisa for her dedication and hard work, especially over the past three terms, as she now steps into her new role as Acting Deputy Principal at another school. We have no doubt she will embrace the exciting challenges that come with this larger school community. While staff and students will miss her warm smile and daily presence, we wish her every success in this new adventure.

Here's to even more learning, laughter, and adventures in Term 4, let's keep reaching for the stars!

Ngā mihi

Sarah, Leann and Michelle

## Lisa Hewitt, Acting Principal

It has been a privilege to have worked as the Acting Principal for the last six months and I thank the children, school community and especially the staff for their support during that time. It has been great to see the children flourish with their learning and I have been impressed with the academic progress that many have achieved due to the quality teaching they are receiving in our smaller classrooms. I pass the baton onto Katrina and wish her all the very best with growing the roll and returning our wonderful school to the thriving hub of the community once again.

I am excited to be given the opportunity to work as a Deputy Principal at a very large primary school in South Christchurch. I am being given the opportunity to work within a leadership team developing the schools curriculum for 2026 and mentoring beginning teachers.

We had a fun-filled morning with Skatescool skateboarding on Wednesday as an end of term treat.



Unsurprisingly for the end of the winter term we didn't have any members for the 100% Attendance Club so I "shouted" everyone ice cream on Tuesday. What a wonderful bunch of tamariki they are!



I wish all the tamariki at Ōuruhia School all the very best for term 4 and the future. I will miss them all. I hope you are all able to enjoy some quality family time over the holidays and re-charge the batteries after a long, germ filled, winter.

Ngā mihi nui

Lisa



## PTA News

The PTA is having a Twilight Fair. If you have contacts for raffle prizes or would like to help in any way please contact the PTA or see Raewyn in the office.

Pop Friday the 21st November in your calendar - this is going to be a fun time for all.



**Please Note the change of time!**

Our skateboard experience was thanks to George at Skate Skool. They offer private lessons, group sessions and birthday party skate jams:

[www.skateskool.co.nz](http://www.skateskool.co.nz)



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