



Whāia te māturanga hei orange mō koutou

Learning for life and making it count

Haere Mai - Welcome back Term 4, week 2

Tūmuaki Talk

Kia ora e te whanau - Welcome back to term 4. Connections have been an important part of my getting to know our kura, our people, our place. In the first couple of weeks I have now had the privilege of meeting all your children. I have met many of you and I know all of our 27 children and their names. I really want to know you all and thank you for allowing me to connect with you at the gate, or in our school grounds and to have a chat. I really care about people and quality 'teaching and learning' is at the forefront.

Information that I want to share with you, that you may have noticed is different in term 4.

- Our two junior classes have joined and this multi-level class is led by Mrs Sarah Thom. We also have Mrs Newey during Literacy and Math in this space supporting small groups



Time to learn and collaborate - check out the structure!

- Mrs Newey and Mrs Lindsay are also in our classes to support Teacher Classroom Release
- Mrs Newey is supporting with time too in Waimakariri
- We have been smarter with our duty times and in support of our tamariki having some time to sit and enjoy their lunch (in small schools staff are always doing duty)
- Hats are **IN** - we are modelling this and I love to see that all our staff wear hats when out in the sun too. There are still a few reminders needed to our young people to find their hat.



Well done boys and for letting Mrs S join in!

Culture is an integral part of any school. The way we welcome people (manaakitanga), greet and show we value each other is an important part of any school Culture. Our small rural school is unique. There is no other place like this in Canterbury. Our students matter, we are all privileged to work in schools, regardless of our role. You are our community and this community cares about our school. There are some wonderful connections and I am hearing lots of stories. Recently I went to visit and connect with the local Playcentre. WOW, I met the lovely Melanie who has some delightful connections here; even her sister being born here on site. Now that's connections; the old school house and so much more. All of these stories make this your place, a place where you belong. These past two weeks I have also had many of my principal colleagues visit Ōuruhia. My principal colleagues have been working in North Canterbury for a long time; their comments are all very similar, "what a place to come to work everyday. You are very lucky Katrina". "I know" and I am grateful for these gorgeous 27 children and the team who turn up everyday to this stunning environment 'ready to learn and engage and support our place'. Thank you all for smiling back, saying hello, sharing who you are and your connections. I care about your children and education is a wonderful place to work in. Those smiles and celebrating 'uniqueness' matters.

What's Coming Up

STRIKE DAY - All our teaching and support staff who are a union member of NZEI will be on STRIKE this day; **Thursday 23 October**.

What does this mean for our school? Gabrielle Wall has made the decision for our school to stay open. Our school will be open for instruction and I can confirm that I will be on site teaching and working alongside the junior class on this day. We have the senior school away, off site on camp, so it is only our junior class. If you have any questions about this, please connect with me; and or email me on principal@ouruhia.school.nz

You may well be a part of this collective and all around New Zealand on this day, there will be picket lines and supporters out there campaigning. I will also share a link soon for me to have an indication of if you are planning on sending your children to school in the junior class on this day.

TWILIGHT FAIR - see the flyer attached. We have a pocket of mums in our school who are championing this and THANK YOU. We need more Boot Sales! Have you got a friend who is having a Spring/Summer clear out - Kids stall - toys, lego, books to sell.... your own child/ ren, niece and

nephew might like to have a boot sale (a place to sell those unwanted items), to move on your treasures for someone else to have new gems.

PLEASE SPREAD the WORD and share!

MUFTI DAY - Wednesday 12th November. Please bring along some chocolate for our chocolate wheel, spin the wheel raffle! Your donations of chocolate as your contribution is greatly appreciated.



SCHOOL START - I am going to ask for your feedback regarding our start time of 8:50. I have spoken to the teaching staff about what I notice and I would like to get your thoughts. Look out for a google form shared soon in your INBOX.

Reminders

Pick up - 3:00 pm when leaving the grounds. I love seeing all of you connect and play in the grounds after school. Keep doing this! This is often a time to share, for you to observe your children playing with other children and for us to connect with you at the end of the day.

Every Monday, our staff take part in Professional Development as well as opportunities to look at effective teaching practices; we love to learn too! For us to be effective with our time, I'd appreciate the families who collect their children at the gate, to be as close to 3:00 as possible. I do not like leaving our students unattended at the gate. Thank you for your support here.

Celebrate

Take a look at OUR PLACE..... Time to learn, time to connect, time to play, time to have fun, time to be challenged, time for Technology at Rangiora Borough and so much more!





Important Dates to Remember

Wednesday 22nd October - Waimakariri Camp heading off Living Springs. Can't wait to hear all the stories and to see lots of pics on their return. First RULE is to have FUN!

Thursday 23rd October - STRIKE Day (Mrs S will be on site this day) - all our teachers and support staff are on Strike.

Thursday 23rd October N4L upgrade (we will have parts of the day without internet)

Monday November 3rd - Ouruhia Athletics, here on site - pp Wednesday 5th November

Wednesday 12th November - Mufti Day time to bring in some chocolate/s (blocks) for the Chocolate Wheel

Friday 21st November - Twilight Fair 4:30 - 6:30pm

School News...

Sustainability is our Topic for this term. Aren't we lucky? A favourite of mine too. We are all consumers and we can all do our part; no matter how big or small. Did you notice the bins have been moved from our entrance way? I can see there is still some learning in our place around recycling and what we can recycle in our bins and including the paper recycling. Watch this space.

I'd like to thank Roger Wells (a family member of mine who always supports me) for taking the time to make, create and gift new gutterball boards for our kura.

A friendly word from...PTA News - Twilight Fair Friday the 21st November in your calendar.



Ōuruhia School Twilight Fair
Friday 21st November
4.30 - 6.30pm
21 Turners Road



Limited Spaces Available - \$15 per boot or stall
contact ouruhiapta@gmail.com
to book your space

Thinker
Whakaaroaro

Independent
Motuhaketanga

Caring & Sharing
Manaakitanga

Can do
Manawanui