



Message from the Executive Principal

Tena koutou katoa.

It feels that the last 12 months have gone by so quickly as we find ourselves already about to celebrate Ko Taku Reo's one year anniversary in July. It has been an exciting journey as the school looks to consolidate its new national identity and grow and develop for the benefit of our learners. In some areas this has required some significant change which

sometimes isn't always easy. I would like to thank all our staff up and down the country for the work they do and continue to look forward to our progress as a new national school.

Ruaumoko Marae Development

Over the last few months interest and use of the Ruaumoko Marae, based at our campus in Kelston, as a meeting and learning centre has increased. The marae has a significant role in both supporting and representing Turi Māori in our organisation as well as being a place for educational and other groups to meet and learn. As a result, we are looking to support this growth by making some significant improvements to our marae buildings. The Marae Komiti has been involved in consultation with our Turi community in working on some new plans for developing the wharekai at the marae. The team has been working with architects to redesign Matai House to create a better fit for purpose wharekai to service the growing needs of the marae. The design also focuses on developing more effective student learning spaces for the teaching of tikanga Māori. This has been an exciting project to be involved in and helps to support our school's commitment to progressing learning for all students and staff in this area.

Beacon Schools Project

One of the challenges we have in Deaf Education is how to create a meaningful educational community around a group of often isolated learners, particularly those that need to engage in learning through the use of New Zealand Sign Language. With the opportunity for change discussions have been taking place about how to best support and educate DHH children, and as a result, what possible changes to service design might occur. The ability to investigate different service provision options (such as one day hubs, clustering of students at a magnet school or co-enrollment) is a unique opportunity and one that both the Board and the senior leadership team are keen to explore further.

Our Beacon School Project in Dunedin is one such opportunity. Done in partnership with Halfway Bush School we are trialing a new way of bringing our students together by creating critical mass through focused school enrolment. This provides the opportunity to "hot house" our resources to provide a well-supported structure of inclusion that provides the opportunity to build a community that is both authentic and reciprocal. The model embraces a multi-lingual/multi-cultural philosophy and helps to provide our learners with more continuous access to language.

The project began at the beginning of this term but already we are seeing some very positive results in student learning, participation, and social and emotional well-being.



Message from the Board Chair

Kia ora koutou,

Greetings to you all. Soon, secondary school students across New Zealand have the opportunity of standing for election and voting in the September Student Representative elections. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern's foray into politics began with a belief that girls should be able to wear pants. In a recently-rediscovered video clip from 2010, she said "I

ran for the school Board of Trustees because I thought girls should be able to wear pants as their school uniform".

Standing for election or voting for their student representative is often the first real experience young people have of participating in a democratic process. Student representatives have equal standing, voice, accountabilities and voting rights on the board. We find real value in being able to share their knowledge around the board table and they bring different points of view and experiences, which influences better outcomes for the whole school community.

The idea of being a young person on a school board might seem daunting, but student representatives get plenty of help and support to learn about and fulfill their role. The New Zealand School Trustees Association (NZSTA) provides training and learning opportunities, guidance and resources. As well as having a voice on how Ko Taku Reo is governed, being a student representative provides valuable, real-world knowledge and experience for students. I encourage any student who is interested in joining the Board for the next 12 months to look out for the nomination forms in July and start thinking about what they can contribute to Deaf Education in New Zealand. We'd love to see you!

Ngā mihi nui,

Dr Denise Powell



Welcome to learning in term 2!

Term 2 is known as the work-intensive term for students and their learning.

Many students receiving direct caseload teaching services from an RTD should have a current IEP well in progress with specific learning goals and timelines for measuring the success of programmes at any level from Year 1 to Year 13. We aim for our students to be lifelong learners! Parents have

an important role to play in expressing your wishes for your child's learning and identifying what is important for your child to be focusing on at school. Many areas have set up successful weekly Hub days and other areas have a variety of KIT days for children to connect with each other while engaged in meaningful learning activities. This newsletter helps us communicate with you about many of the activities/ currently on offer for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in a variety of areas across Aotearoa and is one of the ways we can look to develop whanaungatanga across our educational network.



Cochlear Implant programmes

In July 2020 our two Deaf Education Centres (van Asch and Kelston) merged into a new national school, Ko Taku Reo Deaf Education. This merger gave us two opportunities in reviewing cochlear implant services:

1. For the Northern Cochlear Implant Trust (NCIT) and Southern Cochlear Implant Programme (SCIP) to review the current contractual arrangements. The contract provides habilitationists in consultation with Ko Taku Reo.
2. To put forward some recommendations to the Ministry of Education.

The review found that the Cochlear Implant programmes directly employing habilitationists would provide a number of advantages for clients and employers.

As a result of the review, from 2 July SCIP and NCIT (via The Hearing House) will manage the employment responsibilities of habilitationists.

The services you receive from SCIP and NCIT/Hearing House will not change and in many cases, the same staff will be present. Ko Taku Reo's internal support of students with cochlear implants will continue in the same way and the relationship between Ko Taku Reo and the two Cochlear Implant Programmes will remain strong.

We believe services will be enhanced as we focus on working together in new ways for the best outcomes for our ākongā and whānau.



Celebrating NZ Sign Language in Taupō with activities incorporating the Key Competencies

Two schools in Taupō celebrated NZ Sign Language Week by learning about NZ Sign Language and Deaf culture and practising them in their classrooms.

During NZ Sign Language Week, 2 students from the BOP Central region have shown their abilities to use sign language within their school settings.

At Wairakei Primary School, Lexi used her new learning about NZ Sign Language to prepare and present sign language classes and to talk about Deaf culture to students in a number of classrooms. She had to organise a timetable for classroom teachers so she could visit them when it suited that class. Of course, she checked that it was okay with her own teacher as well. She involved students and her Teacher Aide in planning and organising key aspects of her presentation so that she would get across the main points of NZSL and Deaf culture. She was asked to come back later in the week to see who signed their name correctly and presented a prize to them. This was an awesome way in which Lexi, who is quite shy, was able to show her abilities and develop confidence in presenting to others.

Charlotte and her intermediate class at Hilltop School were quizzed on their knowledge of NZSL and watched a video showcasing the challenges of hearing and lip-reading, explaining why Deaf people use sign language to communicate. After a brief lesson, Charlotte and her classmates keenly practised greeting and introducing themselves in NZSL. Their excitement and learning increased further when they played Sign Ninja. During intervals, some wandered around the class, eagerly scanning the QR codes on Ko Taku Reo's NZSL posters to learn more signs. By the following week, a few of those students were taking NZ Sign Language as an elective, teaching themselves NZSL using some online learning resources, Learn NZSL and Thumbs Up!



Tu Kokiri students preparing for future employment

Last week, four Tu Kokiri students made great progress towards paid employment in the construction industry.

Four young men, Charlie Tukerangi Paku, Whiti Iosua, Tane Fuataimi, and Jonathan Manoa participated in and passed the Site Safe Foundation Passport-Construction.

This qualification is a requirement if they want to gain employment in the building industry. They have been fortunate to have been completing work experience at Auckland Deaf Society under the expert guidance of John Schischka, Deaf community member and business owner, completing maintenance tasks around the clubrooms.

Last Friday's task was to dismantle a shed to make way for a new Barbeque area to be enjoyed by the Deaf community. It was a wonderful sight to see Deaf youth and "more senior" Deaf working side by side.



NZSL Hub Wellington: Learning in Action

We have so many fun learning opportunities at the NZSL Hub in Wellington.

Over the last two terms, the NZSL Hub in Wellington has learned about Hauora and Cause and Effect. We have built towers to see if they will fall in an earthquake, we have designed our perfect lunch box, and we have played collaborative games, as well as many other fun activities. During NZSL Week we made some awesome hand shape art. We loved thinking about different signs that could be made with that hand shape.



NZSL Taster at MOTAT (Museum of Technology and Transport), Auckland

Our Tu Kokiri students gave a taster NZSL class during NZSL week to staff at MOTAT.

Rahui Lee, Anuishka Singh and Courtney Nairn lead an NZSL taster for the MOTAT staff in Auckland with support from all the Tu Kokiri students. Our wonderful students contributed by delivering a basic introduction to NZSL and included fun

activities eg; BUZZ, Traffic-Lights. It was great to see Deaf and hearing interacting well. The staff were very engaged in their introduction to NZSL.



Wellington Make and Create KIT Day

The students in Wellington enjoyed a day of making and creating for their KIT Day this term.

The day started with making slime and bubbles. There was cornflour everywhere, but the slime proved to be a very popular activity. There was lots of problem solving going on

when the slime wouldn't stick together, but success was had in the end.

The bubbles group used a variety of tools to make their bubbles fly outside. The best tool was the fly swat. Someone said, "It looked just like snow". The students were very excited with bubbles flying around everywhere!

Box construction and paper planes were the next activity. We had some very creative designs, from wands to robots and the planes flew up and around and nose-dived to the ground. We loved seeing the creative juices flowing in the room.

The final activity was an egg challenge. Their mission was to create a parachute that would protect their egg from breaking when it hit the ground. This activity was a hit! We had a lot of different creations and not so many broken eggs.

All the students went home with slime to play with and stories to tell about the connections they had made. It was wonderful to see students who had made friends at a previous KIT Day, come together, and connect instantly.



Maths Adventure: a weekly exercise at Tu Kokiri

Rather than address this as a Maths-Problem, we do a maths adventure once a week.

We explored a PROCESS than the 'black and white' of a correct answer. Students found the PIRATES MATHS quiz engaging because this got them thinking about how they arrived at an answer that could have two or more possible outcomes. We debated if all pirates went to battle that some

would come back as dead than alive. The absence of this essential data of who died and who lived posed a theoretical problem. But the most important thing is how the students think about maths and finding the potentialities of a different answer depending on the interpretations provided. We noticed that Deaf students love a visual approach to work out the answers to maths quizzes.



Students at Hagley College

Rivvohntay is enjoying her first term at Hagley College.

She has been learning to play a variety of games and sports.

She has been out on visits to several local places of interest. The photo below is at the Christchurch Adventure Park where everyone enjoyed a drink at the café.

Amber-Rose is learning how to prepare and cook a variety of different foods in 'Hospitality'. She is also learning about the safe handling of high risk foods such as chicken, mince, fish and eggs.



A Day in the Life at Ormiston Junior College

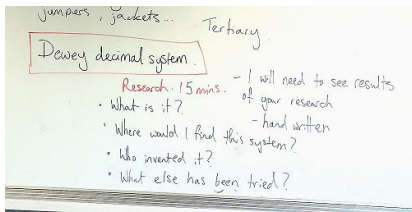
Our unique learning journey with amazing opportunities for all learners.

At OJC, we have MAC and KĀINGA where the learners work on personal goals and Hauora (holistic wellbeing). MAC day out is a fun day organised by our host school to allow all the learners to connect and have fun outside the classroom. At the end of

term 1, MAC day Out was specially designed to spend time walking along the coast of Maraetai.

The whole school had a Whanau-Ora (P.E) Day out at Pullman's Park with their WO Learning Couch. It's a great opportunity for our students to build relationships with mainstream mates. Our learners actively participated in activities such as Netball, Touch Rugby, and team building activities. Our students celebrated NZSL week with the mainstream. They created a video for each day of the week and shared it with the mainstream classes. Every morning during MAC time, all the students watched the videos and learned more signs. It's great to see them communicating with our students with more confidence.

Badge Bidding is the unique system OJC that provides them with an opportunity to collect evidence of their work (over their term) towards a specific badge, which connects to multiple learning areas of the curriculum. They can also use activities outside of school to show their understanding. We then set aside a full day that allows each learner to present their work.



A Typical Day in Term 2

A snapshot of school life.

A day in the life: at Ormiston Senior College

I arrived at school in the morning at 8:20 am. I walked to deaf provision. I go to there every day. I went to the staff room near the deaf provision to charge my laptop. I went to sit to have a chilling time until the class started and I had a good time chatting with my friends. The class started and I went to my first-period lesson. It was okay and I learning something new. I really enjoy learning new things at this school. My first-period class was over and I ate my sandwich during morning tea. I enjoy the chilling vibes at deaf provision. I attend English, Math, Algebra, NZSL, and Photography classes.

My second-period class is Math, the third is Algebra and it is sorta hard for me. My third-period class was over now it's lunchtime.

I microwaved some mi goreng noodles with spicy sauce and it made my mouth water because I was pretty hungry. So, I ate the mi goreng noodles while I was watching some videos on my phone. Lunchtime was over so I went to my fourth-period class at NZSL. It was okay and I practiced recording videos. This class was over and then, I went to my last period class, Photography. It was pretty good and fun because I enjoyed taking pictures and editing them to make them look good. After my last-period class, I went to the deaf provision staff room to put my laptop away.

I went out to my taxi for home time. In the morning and after school, I take a taxi home. It is pretty quiet because my house is far away from this school. I was very exhausted because it was a really busy day at school all day.

Alexandra



Student Stories

Noah the writing superstar!

Noah has been working really hard this term to learn the alphabet letter sounds, and guess what!?! He's learned so many sounds he wrote this story all by himself with no help from anyone! He writes, "the dog sleeps by the fire". Tu meke Noah! We are all so proud of you and you even received a Principal's award for all your hard work and great story writing. Keep it up Noah, you're awesome.

Ayaan Gray the artist!

Ayaan is having so much fun at school this year and he's learning so much! His class had a history lesson about William Shakespeare. Ayaan drew an awesome picture of William Shakespeare and signed his name beautifully as the artist with a feather! Ayaan's goal was to learn to write his name, I think we can tick that off the list now Ayaan! Way to go, you're awesome!

Mia is a kind friend

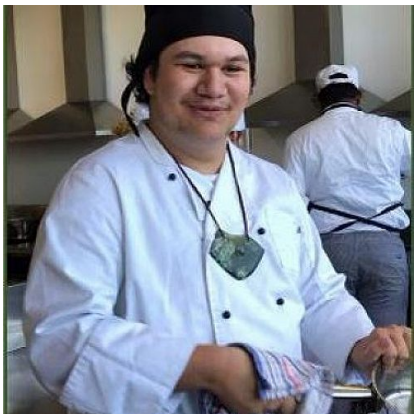
Mia, you have made a lot of new friends at school this year. You are sharing your toys and games with them with a big smile! You are such a kind and considerate friend. Well done, you're amazing.



Cool Collaboration Captured On Zoom

Three students from 3 provisions have been connecting and collaborating on Zoom to solve mathematics problems.

A primary school learner from Oteha Valley Provision and two college students from Kelston Girls College Provision and Kelston Boys College Provision meet up on Zoom to share their thinking about mathematical problems. How can a Year 4 student collaborate and share ideas with Year 10 and 12 students? Tuakana Teina. The tuakana-teina relationship, an integral part of traditional Māori society, provides a model for buddy systems. An older or more expert tuakana helps and guides a younger or less expert teina. Sometimes it is Merc or Callan who leads the way and sometimes it is Kaya who thinks of a way to test out their mathematical thinking. Their three teachers are inquiring into how we can connect our students to learn together at Ko Taku Reo. We are using technology to find opportunities from one side of Auckland to another, across age groups and Provisions. Our 3 amazing Ko Taku Reo students keep going with their mathematical wonderings after the teachers finish the Zoom session. Until next Friday when we connect again.



I'm just hungry - that is the main reason for me choosing HOSPITALITY

My name is Taitiaki Taylor and I have BIG dreams (and a big stomach).

Why am I taking Hospitality?

It is one of the classes that motivate me to go to school. I can learn how to make good food greater, and I am able to gain some work experience in the school's cafe. But my most favourite part of it all is that I can taste-test my "fruits of labour".

What do I hope to learn from taking Hospitality?

The main skill that I would like to take from Hospitality by the time I leave school is self-discipline. Another key learning experience is how to care for me better so that I can help take care of others. The definition of Hospitality is "*the friendly and generous treatment of guests, visitors, or strangers*", and from the two years of taking Hospitality I found out that I was just scratching the surface when it comes to cooking. I hope to learn to make great food for others, great enough that they would ask for seconds.

What would I like to do with these Hospitality skills (Career-wise)?

I like a lot of the jobs that the Hospitality Industry opens for me. Waiter, Bar-Tender, Barista, Chef, Baker, etc. But the dream job I am aiming for is to own a diner. I already have a notebook filled with ideas on how I want to do it. From the menu to the 1960's style aesthetics. A place that has a feel of nostalgia mixed with modern times is something that I feel will still be big when I get there. Even if I am not able to achieve that job of Diner-Owner, I still have many other fallback job solutions. Most that I still would love to do.



Ko Taku Reo Christchurch Campus Residences

Term 2 has been another busy term for Christchurch residences. We welcomed new student Rivvohntay Broomfield to Crawford Girls House and joined another sporting competition.

This term the Christchurch Residential Campus entered a team in a city indoor netball tournament. The students involved have learned new skills as many were basketball players. 10/10 for enthusiasm and we have a great support crew on the sideline.

Our students continue to attend Deaf Club events when possible. Jayden recently did quite well in a Fun Factor Games Night gaining 5th place.

Weekend Youth workers took the students to the Hororata Night Glow event. It was a Hot Air Balloon display, with stalls and food carts. We were very lucky and got front-row seating. Michael and Jayden went to the Rugby final the same night.

We have several students competing in a basketball competition on Friday evenings for Hillmorton Provision.

Jayden Edwards completed a trial as a "senior" student this term. Seniors have extra privileges as they have proven they can self-manage. Jayden was very proud to get his Senior status and has earned it by being responsible, motivated and consistent. Wonderful to see his growth as a young man.

Term 3 Activities - Staff have put forward a proposal for an overnight residential camp. It has been a long time since we have had a camp and the students are excited at the prospect of visiting the Tekapo area and trying some new activities if approved.



Celebrating NZSL Week at Ko Taku Reo Early Years Whānau Centre

We celebrated New Zealand Sign Language Week with our whānau by making butterflies and "I love you" biscuits.

This term we celebrated NZSL Week by involving the children in making very special biscuits. We completed the whole process from rolling the dough, selecting the shapes we wanted (either a butterfly or an "I love you" cutter), to baking, decorating and eating them. The make and do activity allowed each child to participate in as much of it that they wanted to, and certainly, most children wanted to eat them at the end! We added the photos to Storypark so that the

children had the opportunity to tell other family members what they had done that day.



Out and about for Matariki

Matariki is an important time of year to come together and celebrate the Māori New Year.

Matariki is celebrated in New Zealand from 19th June to 11th July 2021. In the past the Early Years Whānau Centre have invited extended family to visit us and share kai the children have had a hand in making. This year we will do this with our younger groups who always enjoy sharing their environment with others and with our older groups

we will be venturing out.

We will be joining Tūranga Library and the Christchurch Art gallery for their Wā Korero (Storytime) sessions with a Matariki focus. These excursions offer tamariki and their whānau the opportunity to make links between home, the centre and this new environment. We will be able to see some new stories and make connections with others.



Southland NZSL Immersion hub

We are now in Term 2 for our new venture in Southland, our NZSL Immersion hub. Every Wednesday we have 17 students come together for a day of learning where they are provided the opportunity to learn alongside other Deaf peers in a bilingual environment.

We have changed things up this Term by creating a focused language and literacy block for our learners where they have the opportunity to focus on specific learning goals and get

direct teaching from RTDs.

We have had fun exploring Whanaungatanga by creating our own pepeha and family trees. We have also been exploring Maori myths and legends. Looking ahead for the rest of the Term we will be exploring Matariki and the Olympics!

We have taken this special opportunity to focus on what is unique about us! We've been learning about our assistive technology and of course so much fun learning NZSL!

We are excited to continue our learning in this special way.



Invercargill Airport Visit

Wow - what an amazing afternoon!

We identified a need for some learners who are about to embark on their first solo flight up to Auckland to attend the upcoming He Hui Turi Immersion. To support our learners on their adventure we planned a trip to our Invercargill International Airport. We aimed to provide opportunities to develop their understanding of flying and airports. We wanted to grow their confidence as they are about to have their first solo flight.

We were welcomed by the airport management team Nigel, Julie, Chris, and Janet, who provided lunch with a view! We ate in our front row seats while we watched the Jet being loaded for Auckland. We then saw this take off and a smaller plane land from Wellington. From here we were given a tour of the airport. We got to see where the local Stewart Island plane takes off and have a chat to an Air New Zealand staff member about the process of checking in.

Did you know that dogs can fly to Stewart Island? And every person has to be weighed when they check in – even the dogs!

Now it was time to go behind the scenes! We each got provided a security card and were soon escorted out to the tarmac. We had the ground crew show us their cool toys that are used to service planes and load and unload people and luggage. We even got to have a ride on the Schopf - that is used to push and pull the planes out of their parking spots. We learnt that this vehicle can drive forwards, backward and sideways! From here we were given a tour of the fire station. We got to see the different parts of a fire engine and then got to have a turn with the hose.

It was a fantastic experience that we all won't forget in a hurry! We feel honored to have this special experience, supporting our learners and preparing them for future experiences.

Thanks so much to Invercargill Airport for welcoming us and supporting this learning.



Welcome to Wharenui Provision - We are awesome learners

We have had a fun term so far and have continue to learn a lot about ourselves and our and other cultures.

We are having a fun term learning a lot about our own and other cultures.

We looked at our Family Tree and who the people are that make up our history. We were amazed to think our family isn't just who we live with but our grandparents, and their parents as well. We made a family tree to put on our wall. We also have learnt about the people of New Zealand and famous explorers like Captain Cook and Hone Hike.

When it was NZSL week we went around a few of our partner schools' classrooms and taught them NZSL. This was so much fun and we made new friends as well. We did art work and had so much fun sharing our language. In Tui class we learnt about Helen Keller, and we researched her and made posters to display in the class.

When it was 'Say No to Bully Week' we wore pink to school to support this cause. We also learnt alot about how we can be good friends and be 'Up-Stander's not By-Standers'. This means helping out someone who is being bullied rather than standing back and watching.

This term the Intermediate Provisions held a School Hui on ZOOM and we had a fun KAHOOT Challenge with all the other provisions in New Zealand. It was fun time with lots of laughs. We really love meeting our new friends at Ko Taku Reo.

We had a visit from Rt Honourable Trevor Mallard, as he came to watch a debate discussion with Wharenui School. It was exciting meeting someone famous, and we asked him some questions about parliament, our Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and even about interpreters in the Parliament buildings to help people who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

There is a new principal starting at Wharenui School and her name is Tracey Young and she is lovely. We welcomed her with a Powhiri and we were so proud and excited to share our NZSL signing with her.



What's been happening at Hillmorton High Provision?

Students and staff have been involved in many interesting teaching and learning opportunities at the Hillmorton High Provision

Halberg Top Team On Thursday, our students took part in a Halberg Top Team event at Nga Puna Wai sports complex. Working in teams, alongside students from the Wharenui primary provision, our pupils undertook a variety of water based activities where teamwork was vital to successfully complete the task. Everyone was involved and making the most of an exciting event outside of the class.

Senior School Hui On Monday this week we took part in a nationwide senior school hui to celebrate NZSL week. We had the opportunity to connect with other deaf students and provisions around the country and share their plans to promote NZSL within their partner schools. They also tested their mettle in a kahoot challenge against other schools, drawing on their knowledge of NZSL and its history. Our year 12 student Kieran came out on top, winning the Kahoot for the Hillmorton provision.

NZSL Week To promote NZSL week, our students at Hillmorton took time to share their knowledge and expertise in sign language with different whānau groups around the school. Working in groups of 2-3, students introduced themselves to classes using NZSL and ran a brief tutorial on the basics of the language. With many budding and future leaders in our provision, it was a great opportunity for students to demonstrate their leadership skills. Furthermore, many of the Hillmorton students really engaged with the opportunity to learn some sign language and develop their ability to communicate and engage with our students on a day to day basis.

A Big Day Out for our Year 9 Students Planting harakeke, building quarry stone walls and hiking to the top of a 150 year old quarry – all in a day's work for our Year 9 students. On 20th May five students and four staff took to the hills in a convoy of buses with all the other Year 9 Hillmorton students and staff. The weather could not have been better with cloudless skies making the perfect backdrop to the photography and haiku competition. The history stories from the mining days of the quarry were informative, shocking and hilarious. We got to walk through the wee stone cottage that housed the 20 men who worked in the quarry. They had to share their bath water – all 20 of them! – and played poker to see who would go first. It was a great day with lots of games, laughter and new connections made between students.



Award for Rotorua Student

New school, New friends, and New learning for Arielle

Arielle began the second chapter of her education this year - Intermediate. She has been a delightful part of the Rotorua Team's caseload for several years now. Arielle has worked hard at school, both in an academic and a social capacity. At the end of Term One her efforts were recognised at the schools Award Ceremony. Arielle received her first badge for Academic Achievement.

past RTDs.
Congratulations Arielle.

A proud moment for her, her whānau, and her current and



Swimming and lions

Ormiston Primary having fun in term 2.

Ormiston Primary provision has had an eventful term 2! We have had swimming lessons every Monday which has been a big highlight for our tamariki. We then had an awesome time watching the Tim Bray production of the "Lion In The Meadow". There was a real-life dog in the show! We are looking forward to the next show coming up on the last week of term!
