

Term 3, 2025

Dear parents/caregivers,

Term 3 learning opportunities in the senior team:

Mathematics

We will be continuing our measurement unit that we started at the end of term 2. Later in the term, we will be doing a rational numbers unit, primarily focusing on Proportions, Ratios, percentage and Fractions.

Our final unit for the term will be Geometry.

Discovery School has started using the Oxford Maths programme. Students have login details that they will use to access online pre and post unit tasks. They will have workbooks provided by the Ministry of Education to complete some of the written work. You are welcome to check out this [website](#) for more information about this programme.

Note that this programme will be supplemented by other teaching resources.

In week 5 of term (11th August), we will be celebrating Maths Week.



Otago Problem Solving challenges continue on Thursday, 24th July and Thursday, 21st August.

Six of our students will be selected to compete in 'Mathswell.' This is a regional competition held at Victoria University. We choose the team based on the results of Otago Problem Solving Challenges. This year, the competition is going to be held on Tuesday, 19th August.

Literacy

Each student will continue to participate in 'Structured Literacy' style spelling lessons through the IDEAL programme.

We will be learning to write essays this term; focusing on using paragraphing correctly to organise ideas. We will also be completing a novel study about the text; Dawn Raids.

Topic/Inquiry/The Arts

All students are currently completing a piece of art that can be turned into calendars/cards etc. These will be sold through the school via our DSPTA.

Our main topic in term 3 is a social sciences one. We will be focusing on Aotearoa Histories and learning about migration.

Congratulations to our NIWA Science team. The students were selected from our recent science fair and they will be taking their science experiments to the Regional Science and Technology Fair which is being held on Thursday, 28th August.

P.E.

We are travelling via bus to Te Rauparaha Arena for Swim for Life and water safety lessons.



The dates of these lessons are as follows:

Friday, 15th August (week 5)

Friday, 22nd August (week 6)

Friday, 29th August (week 7)

Friday, 5th September (week 8)

A google form will come home soon with more information.

Our year 7&8 [Swimming Sports](#) is at Cannons Creek Pool on Tuesday, 12th August (week 5).

All students are expected to take part in at least 3 events on this day. Selected students will represent Discovery School at the inter-school event. This is being held on Wednesday, 20th August.

We will also learn various winter sports, including basketball, netball, unihoc and rugby - and we will be doing gymnastics during weeks 9&10 of term.

Languages / Te Reo Maori

Students will continue to learn in cross class languages groups for the following; French, Italian, Japanese and NZ Sign Language. New rotations will start on Monday, week 1.

This year, we are going to have a 'languages lunch', where students dress up in attire from Italy, Japan, France or New Zealand. They will be asked to bring a plate of 'traditional' food from the country that they are currently studying to this shared lunch. [The date of this lunch is Wednesday, 17th September from 11:30 to 1pm \(there is no Technicraft on this date\).](#)

We will continue to integrate Te Reo Māori into our programmes.

Other Dates for your diary:

*Monday, 14th July: Mihi Whakatau to welcome new children and staff to Discovery School

*Monday, 21st July (full day) and Monday, 28th July (half day): Year 8 Girls Self Defence course

*Tuesday, 22nd July and Wednesday, 23rd July: Learning Conversations

*Tuesday, 5th August: Te Kiwa Nui (Pacific Performance Group)

*Tuesday, 26th August: Artsplash Choir performance at Michael Fowler Centre

*Wednesday, 17th September: Year 7 Gardasil Injection

Homework

As you know, students receive a fortnightly homework sheet.

Our expectation is that our students will spend time at home learning their spelling words,

reading, completing math activities/basic facts as well as finishing off project / assignment work.

Thank you for your support with our homework programme.

Syndicate Expectations

*Cell phones need to remain on silent or turned off in school bags. Students who use their phone will be asked to leave their phone in a locked cupboard in the principal's office until a parent can collect it.

*Just a reminder that chewing gum is not allowed at school.

Camp Makahika 2026

The 2026 senior camp is going to be held at the Makahika Outdoor Pursuits facility (inland from Levin) from Monday, 16th February to Thursday, 19th February.

The camp focus is primarily one of enhancing personal relationships through the challenge of age-related activities and living cooperatively together.

These activities include; flying fox, tramping, high ropes course (horizontal beam and caterpillar), confidence course, overnight stay in the bush, bush activities, fire lighting, water activities (such as river crossings) and orienteering. Qualified instructors will run these.

The camp donation will be approximately \$400. This cost will include buses to get to/from camp, food, accommodation and all activities. Year 7 parents, thank you for filling out the Google form earlier in the year agreeing to pay the camp costs. We are so pleased that camp is able to go ahead. More information will be sent out early in term 4. You are welcome to begin making payments now.

Whittakers Chocolate Mixed Fundraising Box

Thank you for participating and selling Whittakers chocolates for Discovery School. Each box has 30 Whittakers Chocolates to sell for \$2.50 each. Please return \$75 dollars at the end of Week 1, Term 3 - Friday 18th July.

Ideally, please pay online to:

DSPTA Account: 12-3254-0129836-000

Please include: Name of Oldest Child

Code: Child's Room number

Reference: Chocolate

Or return the cash in the envelope provided to the school office by Friday 18th July 2025

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We look forward to another positive term with your child!

Nga Mihi Nui

Sarah Jenner

Senior Team Leader