



6 October 2025

Te Māhuri (Years 4-6) - Term 4 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Team Māhuri is looking forward to a productive and action-packed term 4 as we head towards the end of the year.

Classroom programme:

The classroom focus will be on effective numeracy and literacy learning.

Other curriculum focuses this term will be:

Sport: Athletics

Science: Living World (Rocky Shore / Antarctica)

Health: Keeping Ourselves Safe

Writing: Information reports

Numeracy: Geometry, measurement, problem-solving

Sun hats

Please remember that sun hats are compulsory for all students in Term 4.



Keeping Ourselves Safe

In Term 4, all classes will take part in a personal safety programme, Keeping Ourselves Safe, as part of the Health Curriculum. KOS is a comprehensive child protection programme in which students at all levels of schooling learn and apply a range of safety skills that they can use when interacting with others.

Keeping Ourselves Safe has three overall aims:

- To develop and strengthen children's skills to keep themselves safe with other people;
- To support and encourage children to get help from caring adults;
- To make teachers and parents more aware of the need and ways to keep children safe from other adults and children.

Children will learn:

- to work out when their safety is at risk, for example walking home alone in the dark;
- how to keep safe when they meet and mix with other people;
- that it is important to make and follow personal, family and school safety rules;
- who and how to ask for help if they, or someone they know, is being abused;
- to go on asking for help until someone does something to stop the abuse.

It is important that parents support their child by talking with them about what they are learning at school. This will help reinforce the messages the school is giving, and help your child to use their new skills with confidence.

Before the programme begins, we ask parents to please watch the [Te Parito Kōwhai Russley School presentation](#) of Keeping Ourselves Safe. The presentation can be found on the Russley School website, under the curriculum tab and then click Health and PE to find the presentation.

Important dates:

Week 2	Russley Music Night Mon 13/10
Week 3	Year 5/6 Taylor's Mistake field trips (TW 3/4 Tue 21/10, TW 5/6 Wed 22/10)
Week 4	Labour Day (school closed) Mon 27/10 Years 5-8 Athletics day Thu 30/10
Week 5	Year 4 Antarctic Centre field trip Mon 3/11 Christchurch Schools' Music Festival Wed 5/11
Week 6	Canterbury Anniversary Day (school closed) Fri 14/11
Week 8	Years 1-4 athletics day Fri 28/11 Tūhono Kapa Haka Festival Sun 30/11
Week 10	School Prize Giving Fri 12/12, 9.15am
Week 11	Leavers' Assembly 17/12 11.00am Last day of term Wed 17/12, school closes 12.30pm



Questions / Queries:

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or queries.

All the best

Te Māhuri Teachers

Maria Thwaites (TW 6)	maria.thwaites@russley.school.nz
Vanessa Ireland (TW 5)	vanessa.ireland@russley.school.nz
Pete De Wit (TW 4)	pete.dewit@russley.school.nz
Sophie Lennon (TW 3)	sophie.lennon@russley.school.nz
Lucy Handford (TW 2)	lucy.handford@russley.school.nz
Rachel Simmonds (TW 1)	rachel.simmonds@russey.school.nz