



# Lytton Street School

Thursday 20th November

Newsletter: 25/34



Team Hale

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#proudtobehere

## WELCOME

Things are certainly moving along towards the end of the term, and the year. Kids are busily getting their final assessments completed and also practising for the Final Celebration. With so much on, please be sure to check our calendar so that nothing is missed.

Importantly, on Thursday 4th December you will receive a report, your child's 2026 classing and also a bar code that will take you, once signed up, to the HERO assessment and progress dials. These dials will give you an idea of how your child is achieving in relation to the New Zealand Curriculum. There has been extensive explanation of this feature in previous newsletters and also on the reverse of this page. As always, you are welcome to talk to your child's classroom teacher and gather further information.

## ICAS

Last term, a group of our students took part in the ICAS competition (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools), an online academic challenge designed to assess higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills in subjects such as English, Mathematics, Science, and Digital Technologies. Our students participated in the Mathematics and Writing assessments. Congratulations to Tessa Barnacott, who achieved a Distinction. Check out the picture of our awesome students - top right.

## WHĀNAU KIRIHIMETE CRAFTS

We're excited to let you know that our Whānau Christmas event is returning again this year!

- Friday 5th December
- 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Join us for a festive afternoon where you can pop into your child's classroom and take part in a special Christmas activity together. Each class will have something creative and family-friendly for you to enjoy.

We can't wait to celebrate the season with you all!







## TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

Recently the Government has amended the Education & Training Act 2020 and our Board of Trustees wish to reaffirm our position.

Our school believes that giving genuine effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi is not just a professional and legislative obligation, but our moral compass. It is, quite simply, the right thing to do.

With approximately 35% of our students identifying as Māori, this commitment is a promise to them and their whānau. It is a promise that they will see themselves, their reo, their tikanga, and their unique worldview valued, celebrated, and woven into the fabric of our school every single day. This sense of belonging and cultural identity is the foundation upon which we can achieve true equity in learning and wellbeing.

But our Tiriti commitment is not just for our Māori students. It is for every child in our care. By embedding mātauranga Māori and te ao Māori into our local curriculum, we are providing a richer, more authentic education for all students, preparing them to be empathetic, informed, and collaborative members of a bicultural Aotearoa. This isn't just policy; it's about building a better future for our whole community.

To make this commitment real, we ensure our school's plans, policies, and local curriculum are developed in partnership with our whānau and iwi, and reflect local tikanga and mātauranga Māori. Deliberate steps have also been taken to grow the availability and quality of instruction in te reo Māori and tikanga Māori.

Ultimately, our focus is on action and a dedicated approach to achieving equitable outcomes for our Māori students, for all students; ensuring every child has the opportunity to succeed.

## 3 V 3 SUMMER SLAM BASKETBALL

Some of our students have been competing in a 3 v 3 basketball competition this term. This is a new initiative organised by Sport Manawatu and they're hoping to run it again in Term 1 next year. This photo shows Maddi, Dylan and Stella who enjoyed every game and also took out the best dressed team award.



## HERO

On Thursday 4th of December reports will be going home to whānau. A reminder that this year you will receive a paper report with your child's teachers comments written on them. The academic achievement information for your child will be found on HERO. It is important that you have logged into HERO before this time just in case you have any difficulties with this. Your child's academic levels will be shown on the three charts like the one included here. One for Reading, one for Writing, and one for Maths. If you need any support with logging in, please come into the office.



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Year 6 Graduation** - Wednesday 3rd December  
**Final Celebration** - Wednesday 10th December

## 125TH CELEBRATION - TALES FROM THE ARCHIVES

On the 25th September 2014 Mr Dodunski was appointed as Deputy Principal - he started in Term 1, 2015. Mr D. Came from South Makirikiri School and is well known to all of you through sports and outdoor education. Mr D has a long history with our school as both his Mum and Dad were teachers here - he himself went to Cheltenham School. I will reach into the archives to find out when Mrs Heyward started.

