

## Lytton Street School

## **Thursday 13th February**

Newsletter: 25/02

## **WELCOME**

The weather is great, school is great and things are humming along. Tonight we look forward to welcoming all our school whānau. Our...

## WHĀNAU EVENING

... is an amazing chance for all our school to come together, enjoy some dinner and have a terrific time. Bouncy castles, free sausages and a waterslide will all be available for you and your kids to enjoy. You are also welcome to bring your own kai along to enjoy at this event. The event kicks off at 4.30pm tonight and lasts until 7pm. Please feel free to come along at any stage and join in. See you all tonight.

#### **PROGRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENT TESTS (PATs)**

Our school uses a variety of tests to determine what level students are at, what progress they are making, and where they may need extra help. Progressive



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Achievement Tests, commonly known as PATs, are one of the main sets we use. PATs are multiple-choice tests designed to help teachers determine achievement levels of students in Mathematics, Reading Comprehension, Reading Vocabulary, and Te Reo Māori. The test results help teachers decide what kinds of teaching materials are needed and which methods or programmes are most suitable for their students. PATs are also important because they identify the progress a student is making from year to year. All PATs are completed online. Over the next few weeks students in Years 3-6 will be sitting these tests. As usual, all levels are available to our parent community at Learning Conversation time.









# **NEW ICE CREAM SHOP**

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## TE A O MÃORI @ LYTTON STREET

Our Kapa Haka group kicked off this week. With Pā Ronald moving onto Opunake Pā Crete has taken over. The kids are learning a wide bracket of new songs which has been terrific. Performance Kapa Haka will begin in the next few weeks also. It is our aim to once again take our ropu through to Te Pae Tamariki. Our Kapa Haka group is called Te Rerenga Kōtare. This name was gifted to us by our local mana whenua - Ngāti Kauwhata. The narrative that underpins our Kapa Haka is included below. In addition our Māori language groups have begun. Once again students volunteered to be part of these programmes. Chanse Wade is teaching these groups.

## **TE RERENGA KŌTARE**

Te Rerenga Kōtare is a name that was gifted to the Lytton Street School kapa haka rōpū in 2021 to acknowledge the korowai (cloak) of manaaki (care) that covers them. It was gifted by their tutor, Rārite Mātaki, who is of Ngāti Kauwhata descent and is part of the Mana Whenua collective of the region.

The name comes from the manu kōtare, the sacred kingfisher bird, and was chosen because of the behaviours and characteristics that are similar to our tamariki. The kōtare likes to sit on the riverbanks and observe. Our tamariki love to observe and watch with keen eyes and are strongly influenced by what they see and hear. Dame Whina Cooper said, "Take care of our children. Take care of what they hear, take care of what they see, take care of what they hear, take care of what they see, take care of what they feel. For how the children grow, so will be the shape of Aotearoa". The name Te Rerenga Kōtare reminds us as influencers in the lives of these tamariki, to be mindful of what we gift them to carry into the future. It further reminds our tamariki to keep looking, to keep searching for the taonga of this world and treasure them.

The kōtare enjoys the habitat of the rivers and estuaries. This inclination is especially important for Māori, as it reminds us of our connection to the awa, and how it shapes our own identity. It is the river that helps breathe life into the surrounding environment and the people. For our tamariki, we hope that they also learn to recognise and identify the great influences in this world that they can connect with to enrich, grow, and flourish in their own lives, that they learn to give and take, just as the environment does, to maintain balance in the world.

# FEILDING'S BIG WEEKEND



#### HAVE-A-GO DAY SUNDAY 2 MARCH

Come along and have a go at a range of different sports at the ultimate showcase of sports and activities in the Manawatū.





The final connection of the name, kōtare, is the name of Kauwhata's father, Kōtare. Though the group is not named after Kōtare the tupuna, there remains a link to the whakapapa of Kauwhata itself. For those who know the stories of Kōtare, they will also know he was a short man, much like some of our children who are still growing. Kōtare sits at the base of the post outside the front of the whare tūpuna of Kauwhata, with his son Kauwhata placed at the top. This denotes an attribute of humility by the father (Kōtare) to place his son (Kauwhata) above himself. May our tamariki grow this attribute to place the needs of others above their own.

Kapa Haka is occurring three afternoons a week currently.

WWW. LYTTONSTREET.SCHOOL.NZ

## **TAMARIKI TOA**

Coming up on the 28th February is our Tamariki Toa event. This is a 'tough kids' styled activity for our students. It is held at Timona Park and includes kids from all over the region. Our school is the main organiser. The event is for all students in Years 3-6. It is not a race, it is something that kids can complete in pairs at their own pace - having a bucketload of fun along the way. This year we are extremely lucky to have a huge range of sponsors to support us on the day. Ricoh and Stephanie Hale from Property Brokers are our main sponsors. A huge thank you to them. Tshirts for this event are also available. These are \$35 each and are a really cool representation of the day. An order form came home on Monday.

#### Friday is the last day to order these t-shirts.

Check out the design of the t-shirts below.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORTS PROGRAMME

This year our school is pleased to offer a high performance sports programme. This programme will operate from 7.30am-8.30am five days a week and also from 3pm-4pm three days per week. The programme will focus on developing the strength and conditioning skills as well as the mental skills to perform at a high standard in sport. Crete Cribb will be taking the programme and be assisted by Mike Young and Richard Dodunski. Students have volunteered for this programme. If for

any reason you believe your child has missed out please do not hesitate to contact either Mr Dodunski or Pā Crete.

## FEILDING UNITED FOOTBALL

Junior football registrations are open for kids born between 2012 to 2019. Football is an awesome sport for your child/ren to be involved in. If you wish to sign up please visit the Feilding United Facebook page and follow the

links. If you require any further information please pop into the school office and I can point you in the right direction.

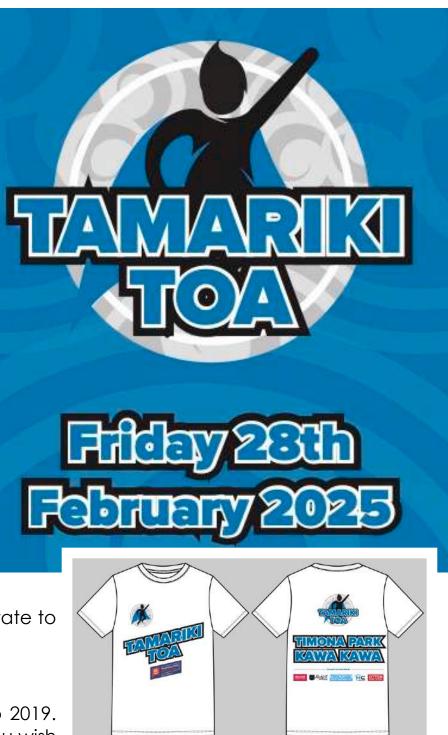
## YEAR 5/6 SCHOOL CAMPS

Year 5/6 Term 1 Camp: Our senior students have a Term 1 overnight camp each year. Having an overnight camp at the start of the year is a great way for students and teachers to get to know each other and form relationships that will have positive impacts on learning and the classroom culture for the rest of the year. We rotate between two venues and in contrast to the bush surroundings at Sixtus Lodge in 2024, this year we are heading for a beach environment. We will be going to Foxton Beach Bible Camp in March for a 2 day / 1 night camp. A Google Form went home this week on Seesaw which will gather permission and medical information for camp. We still need

one or two more parents for Rooms 1, 2, 19 and 20. Please complete it by Friday 28th February. If you would like to be a camp parent, please have it completed by the end of this week.

Term 4 Camp: Our Year 5/6 classes have their main camp every second year and this year we are heading to Camp Raukawa. More information will come out later in the year.









## SCHOOL POLICIES LINK

Our school is part of SchoolDocs - an online platform that is completely assessable to our parent community. In order to gain access please enter the following website into your browser:

lyttonstreet.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm

Once you have accessed the website please use the following details to log into our school-specific site.

Username: lyttonstreet Password: learn

> WWW. LYTTONSTREET.SCHOOL.NZ



Term 1: 3 February - 11 April Term 2: 28 April - 27 June Term 3: 14 July - 19 September Term 4: 6 October - 17 December

Teacher Only Days: 30 May, 22 August, 24 October

Kia Ora Kia Tahi, Kia Tahi Kia Ora | Together, we Live to Learn and Learn to Live

## **TRAINEE TEACHER**

Kia ora koutou, my name is Samiya, and I am excited to be a student teacher here at Lytton Street School. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, as they are a big part of who I am. I am also passionate about te reo Māori and I aim to incorporate this into our everyday learning experiences while I am here. I look forward to working with the tamariki and whānau in Room 4.

