

# **Lytton Street School**

Thursday 7th August

Newsletter: 25/23











# **WELCOME**

I'm pleased to let you know that we have received enough nominations to hold an election for our Board of Trustees. This is a positive sign of the strong interest and commitment within our school community to support the direction and governance of our kura.

The Board of Trustees plays a vital role in shaping the future of our school. They are responsible for setting the strategic direction, ensuring effective governance, and supporting the school leadership to provide the very best learning environment for our tamariki. Board members work closely with myself and the leadership team to uphold our values, monitor student achievement, and ensure that we are meeting the needs of all learners.

As we head into the election period, I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our current Board of Trustees for their hard work and dedication. They have given their time, skills, and wisdom to support our school in these exciting times of growth and development. Their contribution has been invaluable, and we are incredibly grateful for their service.

We'll share more information soon about the election process, including how and when to vote. Thank you once again to all those who have put their names forward — your willingness to be involved in the governance of our kura is greatly appreciated.





# DANCE NZ MADE

Evie, Maddi, Tova, Hunter, Aliyah, Stella, Korie, and Zara (photo above right) proudly represented Lytton Street School at Dance

NZ Made in Palmerston North last week, with many of them competing in multiple dance genres and categories. Walking away with 2nd runner-up was a fantastic achievement — we are all so proud of you! You did an amazing job. A huge thank you to our parent helpers for your support, and to Dance Unlimited for providing studio space and contributing to costuming.

# LEARNING CONVERSATIONS

A huge thank you to all of our parents, caregivers, and wider whānau who took the time to attend our recent learning conversations. These conversations are a valuable opportunity for us to strengthen the partnership between home and school. It's through these connections that we gain deeper insight into how we can best support our tamariki – academically, socially, and emotionally. Your input, questions, and encouragement are hugely appreciated and make a real difference in your child's learning journey. We know how busy life can be, and we are incredibly grateful for your ongoing commitment to your child's education. By showing up and being part of these important discussions, you are reinforcing to your child that their learning matters.









# 125TH JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

We're incredibly excited to be celebrating a huge milestone in our school's history – 125 years of learning, growth, and community. Plans are well underway for a very special weekend, and we warmly invite you to be part of the celebrations from Friday 27th March 2026 to Sunday 29th March 2026.

#### On Friday 27th March

We will begin with an Open Day, where our student leaders from *Te Raukura* will be running tours throughout the day. Bookings for these tours will be available through our website. In the evening, we'll officially open the celebrations with a special ceremony led by mana whenua, Ngāti Kauwhata followed by a performance from *Te Rerenga Kōtare*. Guests can enjoy an evening of cheese, wine, and crackers while listening to acoustic music and enjoying speeches and photo displays showcasing our rich history across the decades.

### Saturday 28th March

This will be a fun-filled **Gala Day** for the whole community. There will be stalls, activities, and live entertainment from a local band – with plans to host them on a truck trailer stage. The day will also be a fundraiser for the school - the biggest of the year, run by our PTA.

#### **Sunday 29th March**

We will host another opportunity for guided tours in the morning, again led by our fantastic *Te Raukura* team. The hall will serve as a base for reconnecting, reminiscing, and wrapping up the weekend together.

In addition there will be two special features. The Coach House Museum will be running a display at their location of all the Lytton Street School memorabilia they have. This will be awesome and showcase student rolls, photos and principal log books. The second will be a mural painted by Joe McMenamin. The mural will frame plaques which will be available to our parent community to purchase.

We can't wait to celebrate this special occasion with you all – past, present, and future members of our school whānau. Keep an eye out for further details and booking information in the coming weeks.

# **HOCKEY SEASON**

To the right is a photo of the LSS Storm who had a huge hockey season under Coach Hollee. I received this from a parent of this team but I think it is pertinent for all our parents, staff, coaches, kids and whānau who have put in a massive effort this year.

Please pass on our sincere thank you to all the teachers who helped coordinate, coach or support and to Mike for running the whole season so well. Our kids have had a wonderful winter of hockey and we can see how far they have come not only with their hockey skills and tactics, but with their confidence, team work and sportsmanship. On behalf of all the sideline parents, a huge thank you to the volunteer parents and coaches who put in hours of their own time so the kids can enjoy their Sunday sport. As parents we all appreciate the hard work and dedication.







#### 125TH CELEBRATION - TALES FROM THE ARCHIVES - 1ST WORLD WAR

Lytton Street School was heavily involved in supporting the community during World War 1. The school raised money to support wounded soldiers. One event was called the Queen Carnival. This was a monster fair lasting for two days. One pupil remembered an elaborate stall in the Drill Hall which raised over 70 pounds. These funds were raised through the creation of embroidered cushions. This expanded in the years following the war where pupils knitted clothing for refugee children in London. A large chest full of garments was sent to a school in the London dock area. The boys also learned how to knit. They knitted scarves for men in the very cold Baltic area. Girls specialised in socks and the staff were kept busy jelling with 'Kitchener Toe'.

