

# Kia ora kia tahi, kia tahi kia ora Together, we learn to live and live to learn



# Mānawatia a Matariki (Hautapu) - Friday 4th August 2023

#### **WELCOME**

Our Year 3/4 students began their swimming lessons this week and are busy improving water confidence and stroke development. We are very grateful for the BOT who are once again funding 5 wonderful instructors who get in the pool and help our students through a variety of activities. It's very rewarding to see how many of our tamariki have improved in confidence already.

And please mark it in your calendars - next Friday 4th August is a our Matariki celebration. An online form link has been sent home to register for this event and the awesome breakfast after. It will be great to see you all there.



#### LEARNING CONVERSATIONS

Teachers are keen to meet with you all next week to share in your child's learning. As you are all aware the Learning Conversations take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Both Tuesday and Thursday's sessions finish at 6pm but on Wednesday there are appointments available up until 8pm. If these times do not work for you please contact your child's teacher directly to make alternative arrangements. The QR code is included to the right. Scan this to make an appointment or jump onto <a href="https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/hfgkn">https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/hfgkn</a>. The last five letters of the link are the Event Code if you end up at the general School Interviews website.





### PARENTS ASSOCIATION OF LYTTON STREET (PALS)

Join us, and make a difference in your kids' future! Parents Association of Lytton St (PALS) is a group of parent volunteers who create opportunities for the school; ensuring our kids have resources, sports uniforms, access to camps, teacher aides - you name it, we do it. We are now calling for volunteers to join our social and fun committee. The commitment is only about 1-2 hours per month, and will make a huge difference to our school community. Come to our first meeting: 6pm Thursday 3 August in the school staffroom. If you can't make the meeting, or want more info please email pals@lyttonstreet.school.nz

## **WHĀEA JANIE**

A huge congratulations to Whāea Janie who has won a leadership position in Palmerston North. Janie has shown herself to be a super practitioner who dedicates her time to ensuring kids succeed in all aspects of their life. Janie begins her new position at the start of Week 4. Whāea Sarah is Janie's permanent replacement and has already had two weeks working alongside her and getting to know our kura. On behalf of the Lytton Street School community I would like to wish Janie all the best and know she will be extremely successful.



### LSS

### TE AO MĀORI @ LYTTON STREET

Our Matariki celebration is coming up next week so we thought it was a good time to provide a summary of why the day is so special to New Zealanders. Matariki signals the Māori New Year. It is a group of stars that appear in the sky during winter, usually around June or July.



Long ago, Matariki was very important to Māori. When they saw the stars of Matariki rise, they knew it was the start of a new year. It was a time for celebrating and coming together with family and friends.

Matariki is made up of nine stars, and each star has its own special meaning. One star represents health, another stands for knowledge, and there's a star for good fortune too. Māori would look at these stars and think about what they wanted to achieve in the coming year.

During Matariki, people would share delicious kai (food) and sing songs to celebrate. They would also do fun activities like flying kites and telling stories about their ancestors. It was a time to remember those who came before and to think about the future.



Today, Matariki is still celebrated in Aotearoa. People gather for festivals, art, learn about Māori culture and celebrate a major holiday. It's a time to reflect, set goals, and show gratitude for all the good things in our lives.

So, remember when you see the twinkling stars of Matariki in the sky, it's a special time to celebrate and be thankful for everything around you. Happy Matariki!

#### MONDAY NIGHT HOCKEY

Monday Night Hockey began on the turf at Feilding High School this week. Lytton Street School is extremely well represented with a huge number of our tamariki involved. I would like to extend a massive thank you to all those who have offered their support and/or coaching expertise. A special thank you to Feilding Junior Hockey for their organisation.

#### **BURGLARY**

Unfortunately, last weekend our school was the victim of a burglary. It is extremely disappointing when people break their way into your school and damage property and remove items that are used every day by our kids. I am hopeful that the visual images that were extrapolated from our camera system will enable the Police to locate the individuals in the near future. In the short term the school has acted to replace all lost items and take further steps to ensure the school is not a future target. As with all incidents such as this the most concerning is the time and funds it takes to put

things back to normal. These are funds that would normally be used to further support our learners. If anyone has any information regarding the burglary, or saw anything unusual on Sunday evening, please do not hesitate to let me know. I appreciate your support.





