

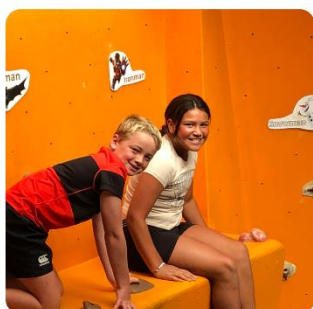
LEESTON LEARNERS - Legends in the Making

*Ko nga akonga o He Puna Karumata
He rangatira mo apopo*

Thursday 13 March 2025



He rau ringa e oti ai *Many hands make light work*



Kia ora kotou

The whakatauki at the start of this newsletter encourages people to work together, and I have used it here to acknowledge the effort and work of all those involved in our senior school camp this week – what an amazing effort! I had a wonderful day on Tuesday, sharing kai and laughs, and having fun trying new skills (loved the archery), being encouraged and encouraging others to do the same. I was pretty exhausted by the time I got home, and yet I had only been there for one day! I have such admiration for the children, teachers and parents who gave it their all and made it the great success that it was. A huge thank you to Dean Paton and his team – Nicole Ley, Mackenzie Scott, Nicky Johanson, and Angie Berliner

for the organisation that went into this, and to all our support staff and parent helpers who worked together tirelessly to make it happen – your help and support is so very much appreciated. And finally, a mighty mihi to all our tamariki – two nights away from home sharing bunkrooms, on top of all that fresh air and new learning – you were sensational! Tino pai rawa atu!!

Nga mihi nui
Lynda Taylor
Tumuaki

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

Sofia Bryan, Eleonora Black

LEARNING CONFERENCES AND LEARNING GOALS

All children will require a Learning Conference appointment.

Interviews can now be booked on-line at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz - The code is **sqs87**

Please note that children in Room 6 with Whaea Sari will have their Learning Conferences on Monday 24th March (during the school day) or Tuesday 1st April (3.15 - 7pm). Children can attend the conferences during the school day with their caregiver.

Student Learning Conferences will be held on **Wednesday 9th April (2:15 – 6.45 pm) and Thursday 10th April (2:15 – 6.45 pm)**. Booking will again be on-line, and details of how to do this are below.

On both Wednesday 9th April and Thursday 10th April, we will break for lunch from 12.00 – 1.00 and **classes will cease at 2.00 pm** to allow interviews to begin soon afterwards. Parents are asked to make alternative arrangements for children to go home or be collected at 2.00pm. **Primary buses will leave school at 2pm.**

We have contacted Busy Bumbles, and they will open from 2.15pm on both of these days to assist parents with childcare. You can contact them on 347-3031 should you wish to book your child into their session.

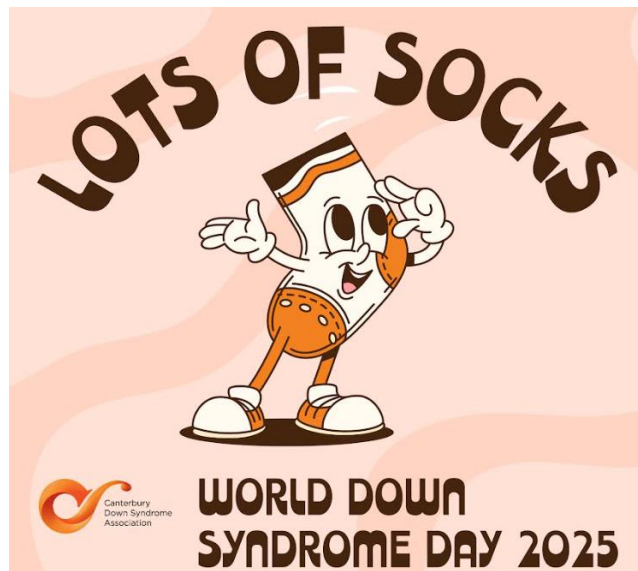
Involving children in the conference:

Remember that these conferences are about involving children in their learning. The aim is for students to develop the skills to confidently articulate where they are in their learning, what they need to do next and how best to achieve this. These conferences are not designed to be occasions for parents to discuss sensitive issues or serious behaviour concerns; a separate meeting at the time the issue or concern arises should be arranged with the class teacher for such matters

Booking on-line:

You can conveniently book a time that suits you online, or if you do not have access to a computer, you may ring the school office, and we will book the interviews for you while you are on the telephone. To book a time:

1. Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz (or access this link through our school webpage)
2. In the green box enter our school code which is **sqs87**
3. You will be guided through three single steps and a few moments later you will get an email confirming your learning conference times.



Help us support the CDSA on Friday 21st March.
Wear your odd or loud socks and bring a gold coin donation.

Why odd socks? Simply because chromosomes are shaped a little like socks and people who have Down Syndrome have an extra chromosome. Odd socks also celebrate diversity in a fun way. We are all different, but really are the same just like those odd socks in your drawer!

YEAR 4 PLANTING DAY - POSTPONED

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the year 4 planting day until term 4. The site by the marae is still under construction so we will have to wait until this is ready for our tamariki to plant the native trees. We will put another notice out when we have dates confirmed. Thanks for your understanding in this matter.
Regards Waiwhio Team

SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

Issue 2 of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club is now available. Book online with the current issue number 1 – www.mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz. Orders close **3pm, Thursday 20th March**. No late orders please.



THURSDAY COFFEE: THE PERFECT START TO YOUR DAY!

Need a coffee after dropping the children off to class? You're in luck! Every Thursday morning, a local family will be serving up delicious brews from their coffee cart, *Screamin' Beans Coffee*, right in our staff carpark. Just text your name and order, between 7:50 am and 8:50 am to 022 396 4092.

Once you've dropped the kids off, you are welcome to pop into the school library for a coffee catch-up with other parents, pre-schoolers, and community members. It's the perfect way to fuel up for a Thursday!

LEESTON SCHOOL DUATHLON (YEAR 5 AND 6 STUDENTS)

We have had to change the date for the School Duathlon. Unfortunately, we have a number of staff away on Tuesday so we will run the duathlon on **Friday 21 March**. Starting time 9.10am Participation first and then the Competitive race. The parents who originally offered to help let me know if you are still available. We are also changing how we monitor the bike ride for the races. Mrs McClure and Ms Davison will inform the competitors next week about what this means.

See you on Friday!

Ms Davison

WAIWHIO PICNIC TO WAIWHIO AWA (Irwell River)

A morning of discovery involving macroinvertebrate sampling to assess water quality, trail walk and picnic lunch.



BOARD BUZZ

We hope everyone has had a settled start to the year. This is our first Board Buzz for 2025, and it's hard to believe we're already halfway through this term!

Reading, writing and maths.....It might be of no surprise that our main focus this year is the rollout of Structured Literacy in our Year 3 to 6 classes, along with the implementation of a structured approach to teaching mathematics.

At the start of the year, our teaching staff were introduced to the fundamentals of the iDeal learning approach (Individualised Diagnostic Explicit Approach to Learning), which we are using to support our Structured Literacy instruction. iDeal is an online learning and resource platform designed to help schools implement a structured literacy approach. This is a significant undertaking for our staff, and we are incredibly proud of the way they have embraced the teaching of iDeal. To learn more about the iDeal programme, visit [iDeal Learning Approach](#)

For our structured approach to mathematics, we have chosen the Numicon programme. All necessary resources have now arrived, and we will begin implementing the programme in Term 2, as our focus this term is on Structured Literacy. To learn more, visit <https://www.numicon.co.nz>

Our 2025 Strategic Plan has now been finalised and will be available on our website in the coming days. With a fresh new look, it's designed to be clear and easy to follow — we encourage you to check it out!

This year's major property project is the repainting of our school, which will continue throughout this term and into Term 2. As part of this project, some of the older wooden windows in our middle school classrooms will be replaced with double-glazed aluminium. Work is progressing well.

Our amazing PTA is hard at work organising a variety of fundraisers that not only provide much-needed support for the school but also bring the community together. One exciting event is the Leeston Consolidated School Classic Car Show, happening on Saturday March 29th, from 10 AM to 2 PM. It promises to be a fantastic day for the whole family so please come along and support this great event!

The school pool has been very well utilised by our community over the summer period (even with the cooler than usual temperatures!!) and I'd like to thank CD and the team of volunteers for ensuring the pool is being maintained to a high standard.

Finally, our 2025 Board of Trustee elections will be held in September, and we will share regular updates in the coming months, including key dates, deadlines, and the application process. We encourage you to consider whether this is something you'd like to be part of. Serving on the board is a great way to give back to the school and play a role in its exciting future, especially as the district continues to grow and the Ellesmere College rebuild brings more families to the area.

Ngā mihi

Dan Rollo

Board of Trustees Presiding Member

WOW WEEK



ECO WARRIOR NEWS

The Eco Warriors had great fun out in the garden cleaning out the pea bed, eating some and giving the rest to our hens. We also harvested our potatoes. Luckily the ground was soft and we could just dig them up with our hands. We found some small, large and interesting potatoes!

We will be harvesting some more this wed (1.30-2pm when our Eco Warriors usually meet).

We will delay the cooking of them until the seniors return from camp. We have yet to decide how to cook them... but mashed is looking like a favourite option!

If you would like to come and help with our Eco Warriors in the garden or any other cool activity, please let us know you are always welcome to come and join us!



THE PTA PANTRY NEEDS YOU!

DONATIONS REQUIRED.....

The Leeston Consolidated School PTA is in need of donations for our compassion pantry/freezer.

Items that you could donate are:

- Frozen Meals
- Tinned Food
- Packet Biscuits
- Frozen Baking
- Frozen Meat
- Preserves
- Packet pasta

Anything that belongs in your pantry or freezer is gratefully accepted.



LEESTON LEGEND

Isla Mulvena

Isla shared some of the horse ribbons she's earned through her skills and dedication at horse events.

It was wonderful hearing about your passion Isla.
Keep up the great work!



Has your child accomplished something outside of school that you're really proud of? Share the details with us – we'd love to celebrate and highlight their achievements in our school newsletter!

Email admin@leeston.school.nz

LEESTON CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL PTA PRESENTS...

CLASSIC



CAR SHOW



\$15

PER CAR/STALL

SATURDAY

MARCH 29TH 2025

10.00 - 2.00PM



LEESTON CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

18 SELWYN STREET, LEESTON, 7632

GOLD COIN ENTRY - UNDER 10'S FREE

LIMITED ON THE DAY BOOKINGS FOR CARS

CARS. ● MARKET STALLS. ● COFFEE. ● BBQ ● ICE CREAMS.

For guaranteed car bookings, and stall holders please email:

wfs@leeston.school.nz

or call Russell 0274929855



LOST PROPERTY

These sneakers have been sitting in the junior block for weeks. Small size, collect from the office if they belong to your child.

It is our experience that things that are named are quickly returned to the owner. Please name all children's clothing.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Refer to our website for further term updates

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 14 March | Whole School Assembly |
| 21 March | School Duathlon World Down Syndrome Day - Wear odd socks, gold coin donation |
| 27 March | Newsletter Whanau Hui |
| 29 March | Classic Car Show |
| 1 April | PTA Meeting 7pm |
| 2 April | Waikekewai Stream Trip TBC |
| 3 April | Canty Swimming |
| 7 April | BOT Meeting 6pm |
| 8 April | Padder Tennis |
| 9 April | Learning Conferences 2.15 - 7pm |
| 10 April | Newsletter Learning Conferences 2.15 - 7pm |
| 11 April | Term 1 Finishes at 3pm Whole School Assembly 11am PTA Non-uniform Day - please bring a food item |
| 28 April | Term 2 Commences |
| 29 April - 6 May | Life Education |
| 1 May | Newsletter |

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Now is the perfect time to secure the Before and/or After School care that you need for your child/ren in Term 1!

We have been planning another exciting and fun-filled programme for your children to enjoy in Term 1, which is open for bookings at the following link:

<https://enrolmy.com/busy-bumbles#/name/%25term%201%25>

Coffee and Play: St John's Church Hall

Need a coffee and a place to chat after school drop-off? Are your pre-schoolers needing playtime? We have new softplay flooring areas, a construction corner and other toys for stimulation while you have hot, bottomless filter coffee (tea available) and a chance to sit and chat before you start the rest of the day.

1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 8.45, in the church hall in Selwyn St .

Her courage

SPEAKS

From Pain to Purpose

EVENT



ROLLESTON

FRIDAY 11TH APRIL
Te Ara Ātea (Rolleston Library)

Vulnerable stories, raw struggles, true strength
Gather your girls for a wine, a night out, and an evening of inspiration that will move and empower you!

Meet our Speakers:



From Wheels to Dancing:
Survival, recovery and reinvention after a life-changing accident

Michelle



The Strength to Leave:
Healing after loving an alcoholic and letting go of unhealthy love

Carol



7-9PM

\$25

PLUS LIVE MUSIC & SWEET TREAT!



TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:
www.hercourage.co.nz