

LEESTON LEARNERS - Legends in the Making

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

Thursday 6 November 2025



Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou

“Seek learning for your wellbeing”



Kia ora et te Whānau

There have been some wonderful celebrations of learning and achievement here at Leeston over the past two weeks. While I was off site for our school athletics, I heard from many of you how much it was enjoyed by children and spectators alike - a huge thank you to Carol Davison for the organisation that went into this event, and to staff and parent helpers for ensuring it ran so smoothly. EAST club was another highlight – thank you to Lesley Stoliker and her committee for ensuring this was another day to remember. And a huge CONGRATULATIONS to our Jump Jam team who competed in the 2025 South Island Jump Jam Champs last Saturday – their performance was a joy to watch and I was so proud of their efforts – a massive thank you to Mackenzie Scott for her energy and positivity in coaching this group.

At the end of last month, Mrs McClure and I were very privileged to be able to attend the Positive Schools Wellbeing Conference in Brisbane. Over a full three days, we explored the latest research and practical strategies to support the wellbeing of children and staff in schools. A recurring theme was that true wellbeing is about creating a

caring, connected environment where everyone feels they belong and have a voice. We heard from a number of speakers about how to help learners manage anxiety through consistency and predictability

and the importance of building strong relationships. We were also encouraged to balance the use of technology with connection and play, and were reminded of how important it is for staff to look after our own wellbeing too. It was an inspiring three days, and it was very affirming to see how much of what we do here at Leeston aligns with what speakers were saying about positive wellbeing in schools. Go Leeston LEGENDS!

Nga mihi nui

Lynda Taylor
Principal

SCHOOL GATES

For the safety of all students, please ensure that **all school gates remain closed during school hours**. If you need to enter the school during school hours, **please report to the office and sign in**. Thank you for your cooperation.

SWIMMING POOL

Thank you to the families that have come forward to assist us with the school pool over the summer season ensuring that we are able to open it for our school community outside of school hours. We greatly appreciate your commitment. While the pool is still being prepared for opening, keep an eye on your emails and we will advise you as soon as pool keys are available to be purchased.

SUN HATS AND SUNSCREEN

- Hats must cover the face, ears and neck (no caps) and are compulsory in term 1 and 4 - children that do not have a hat will be asked to play in the shade under a tree during break times. Hats are to be in plain blue or red with no advertising or logo labels. Please remember to NAME your school hat. Hats are available to purchase through NZ Uniforms - <https://www.nzuniforms.com>
- Please ensure you apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school. There are two sunscreen stations at school so children can re-apply sunscreen prior to going outside during the day if needed. These stations are located outside the junior block and another outside Mrs Taylor's office.

CASUAL CLOTHES DAY

In support of Fonterra's generous offer to match our tinned goods donations, we'll be holding a Casual Clothes Day on **Friday, 21st November**.

Please bring along a tinned item or other non-perishable food to support the Ellesmere Food Bank.

Thank you for your kindness and support — and a special thank you to Fonterra for their generosity and commitment to our community!





LATE NIGHT UNIFORM SHOPPING

We're opening late on Friday, 5th December for
Leeston Consolidated School students and whānau.

Plus, we'll have extra uniform consultants in-store on Friday, 5th
December and all day Saturday, 6th December to assist with all
your school uniform needs — including fittings.

When:

Friday 5th December 2025

Saturday 6th December 2025

Open:

**9am-5pm - normal hours,
5pm-8pm - late night with extra
uniform consultants**

**9am-4pm with extra uniform
consultants**

We look forward to welcoming you instore!



455 Blenheim Road, Sockburn

P: 03 5955766 | E: christchurch@nzuniforms.com

LEESTON SANTA PARADE- Friday 5th December

Leeston School will have a float in this year's Leeston Santa Parade! We have 10 spots available for Year 3–Year 6 students who would like to join in the fun. Come dressed in your best Christmas attire and help spread some holiday cheer! If you'd like to take part, please email the school office to register your interest. Spots are limited—only 10 available!

SCHOOL FOOTWEAR

Just a reminder that **Crocs are not considered appropriate school footwear**. Children may wear sport shoes, black/navy leather shoes or sandals.

LEESTON SCHOOL PTA CROISSANT ORDERS

Baker Boys Croissants - \$25 for a bag of 20 frozen unbaked croissants (Instructions on how to proof and bake them will be included). Orders close on 11th November. Orders will be delivered on the 2nd December between 2.30-3.30. Orders **MUST** be collected during this time due to the croissants being frozen. If you are unable to pick up during this time you need to organise for somebody else to pick these up for you. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

Please pay into our PTA Account (NOT the school account). Include your name, child's class and CROISSANT as payment references. LCS Whanau, Friends and School 02-0860-0074659-066

[Order Form Link](#)

MANA AKE PARENT WORKSHOPS

Alana Caunter from Mana Ake has kindly offered to run parent workshops in our school library. The last workshop is on Tuesday 11th November, 9.15am - 10.15am. Please register your interest by clicking on the link. [Link to Mana Ake Parent Workshops](#)

MANA AKE

Mana Ake is an early intervention programme for primary schools which promotes wellbeing and supports positive mental health for students in Year 1-8. Craig Sage from Mana Ake is available to provide support, information, advice and guidance to parents and whanau. Feel free to drop in for an informal chat over a coffee on Tuesday mornings at 10.30am. Please let Megan in the school office know if you are wanting to catch up with Craig. If Tuesdays don't suit, please contact Craig directly on Craig.Sage@sjog.org.nz. For further information take a look at their website <https://manaake.health.nz/>

2026 TERM DATES

We may have previously advertised an incorrect Term 4 finish date for 2026. Please note that the correct Term 4 finish date is Friday, **11 December 2026**. Our full 2026 term dates are listed further in this newsletter below and are also available on our website.

ELLESMERE COLLEGE BUSES

There will be no college buses running on Thursday 13th November due to Ellesmere College having a TOD. Please make alternative arrangements for your child to travel to and from school.

SCHOLASTIC

Issue 8 of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club is now available. Book online with the current issue number 8 – www.mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz. Orders close 3pm, Thursday 13th November. No late orders please.

ZONE CERTIFICATES

Zone certificates will be handed out at tomorrow's full school assembly. 11.30am in the hall.

Leeston School Term Dates

2026

Term 1

Wed 28th Jan – Thurs 2nd April

10 weeks

Term 2

Mon 20th April - Fri 3 July

11 weeks

Term 3

Mon 20th July - Fri 25th September

10 weeks

Term 4

Mon 12th October – Fri 11th December

10 weeks

Teacher Only Days

Tuesday 27th Jan

School Closed

Monday 22nd June

School Closed

Public Holidays - School Closed

Waitangi Day

Fri 6 Feb

Easter Good Friday

Fri 3 April

Easter Monday/Tuesday

Mon 6/7 April

Anzac Day

Monday 27 Apr

King's Birthday

Mon 1 June

Matariki

Fri 10 July

Labour Day

Mon 26 Oct

Canterbury Show Day

Fri 13 Nov

- Please note that there may be an additional 1-2 teacher only days set during the year: We will endeavour to give at least 1 term's notice of any TOD once they are confirmed.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Refer to our website and Edge App for further term updates

7 November	Whole School Assembly - 11.30
10 November	Cohort Entry St Johns Waitatari BOT Meeting 6pm
11 November	St Johns Waitātari Run Jump Throw
12 November	St Johns Lessons - Waitatari
14 November	Canterbury Show Day- School Closed
18 November	St Johns Lessons - Waitatari
21 November	Casual Clothes Day - bring a can for the Ellesmere Food Bank Whole School Assembly - 11.30
25 November	Waitātari Trip to Sumner Children's University Graduation 5.15pm
26 November	Canty Athletic
27 November	Yr 6 visit to Ellesmere College Yr 6 Leavers Dinner 5.30pm
1 December	Yr 6 Waterskills BOT meeting 6pm
2 December	Yr 6 Waterskills
3 December	Yr 6 Waterskills Waiwhio Grandparents Day
4 December	Yr 6 Waterskills Newsletter
5 December	Whole School Assembly - 11.30 Leeston Santa Parade Yr 5 Beach Education
8 December	Waterskills catch up day if needed Final Assembly 6pm at Ellesmere College
9 December	9.30am - 2026 Class transition session 12.30pm - School wide water fun session
10 December	9.30am - Service Assembly 10.30am - Parent Helpers Morning tea in library
11 December	12.45pm - 2026 Class transition session 11.30am - Leaders Lunch Last day for College buses
12 December	Last day of term - 12noon finish

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Kia ora Busy Bumbles families,

Further details about our Before and After School programme, along with lots of other useful information, can be found on our website:

<https://www.busbumbles.co.nz/>

Leeston Santa Parade
PROMOTED BY **ept**
Friday 5th December
the **FREE** fun starts from 5pm...
5.30 Leeston Physio Santa Dash
6.30 Santa Parade
7.30 Prize Draw
8.00 Movie: How the Grinch Stole Christmas
and free entertainment

Celebrating Christmas past, present and future

Past
Present
Future

ept
ellesmere
Erotocone Trust

Leeston Santa Parade
PROMOTED BY **ept**
FREE PRIZE DRAW ENTRY

Complete the fields below and place the ticket in the barrel by the stage in Anderson Square by 6.30pm on 5 December 2025.

Name: _____
First Name Last Name

Prizes will be drawn in Anderson Square immediately after the parade.
You MUST BE PRESENT to collect or another will be drawn.

Be in to Win!!