LEESTON LEARNERS - Legends in the Making

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

Thursday 12th November 2026

Ko e ‘umu‘imu‘a ‘e ‘uli e tāpangai

“In unity, there is beauty and harmony”





Kia ora koutou

We are certainly racing through this term! Mr Paton and I enjoyed an amazing evening of music last week at the Christchurch Lions’ Music Festival. A huge congratulations to our choir for their amazing contribution, and to our three legends (Aoibhinn, Frankie and Ellie) who made it into the representative choir, performing over four nights last week! I am so proud of you all.

We are continuing to work around the ever-changing Canterbury weather to make the most of our outdoor learning and activities. I loved watching the children perform at our recent zone athletics competition at Southbridge, and watching the junior school at their ‘Run, Jump, Throw’ event earlier this week. It was super seeing our leaders, sports captains and ambassadors running the activities, and demonstrating the manaakitanga, leadership and care that we value so highly here at Leeston – thank you!

A special thank you to CD for the amazing work he has been doing painting the school pool in preparation for the upcoming swimming season. CD your hard work is very much appreciated.

Nga mihi nui
Lynda Taylor

BAKERS MIXED BERRY JAM FUNDRAISER

Thank you to a member of the BOT for organising a delivery of Barkers mixed berry jam so the PTA can raise funds for the school. Each squeezable bottle will be sold for $4 each. You can purchase the jam on the MyKindo app. Thanks for your support for our tamariki.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Photo codes have been sent via email from Photolife. Please check your **junk, spam, or promotions folders** in case the message was filtered. Orders can be placed with your photo code using the following link: https://photolifeonline.co.nz/ordering/access

Please note: Free delivery is available for all orders placed before **MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2026**.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

Issue 8 of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club is now available. Book online with the current issue number 8 – www.my book club.scholastic.co.nz. Don't forget to tick the GIFT option if you want to collect your order from the office. Orders close **3pm, Thursday 26th November**. Please note the quick turn around is so the books will arrive in time prior to the school holidays.

TERM ACCOUNTS

All term accounts have been emailed out and we would appreciate payment before the end of the term.

We would like to offer the following options for payment:

- **Cash paid into the school office**
- **Direct bank deposit**
- **Weekly / Fortnightly or Monthly Automatic payment instalments**
- **Ezypay via Edge App**

Our bank account details are as follows: **Leeston School 020860-0074771-00.** Please include your child's name as the reference. If you are setting up an automatic payment, please advise the school office.

EAST CLUB LUCKY WINNERS

The EAST committee had some wonderful prizes donated by Westgold, two Easy Yo Yogurt makers with yogurt mixes. We put all the EAST club entries into a random number draw.

Congratulations to our lucky winners....
Akirah Davis
Hannah Terras



Link to order Croissants

SPORTS UPDATE

Ellesmere Zones Athletics

We had a fantastic day at the Athletics Zones last week. The weather was perfect for athletics, with temperatures that were neither too hot nor too cold. Leeston School achieved some excellent results, and we are very proud of all the children who represented our school so well. We have 14 children qualifying for Canterbury Athletics, including two relay teams. Congratulations to everyone who took part, and we wish those going through to Canterbury all the very best!

Thank you to Mrs Ley for running the long jump and Bill Whelan for starting the sprint races. Thanks to all the parents who came and supported the athletes…it is always lovely to see lots of people cheering on the children. Leeston Legends!




















LEESTON
LEGENDS




LEESTON
LEGENDS

WAITATARI RUN JUMP THOW AFTERNOON













Eco Warrior News

Our amazing Eco warriors have been busy in the gardens, and with the help of CD have planted lots of wonderful plants into their gardens.







Eco Leaders sorting out garden groups.

Nikau garden growing well despite some hail damage.







WOW Week - Wheels Day













DATES TO REMEMBER

Refer to our website or Edge App for further term updates

13 November	Canterbury Anniversary Day - Show Closed
16 November	Cohort Entry
17 November	Cohort School Visits (2027)
19 November	Waitatari Quail Island Visit
23 November	Leaders speeches
24 November	Cohort School Visits (2027) Year 6 visit to Ellesmere College
25 November	Canty Athletics
26 November	Year 6 Leavers Dinner Newsletter
27 November	Whole school assembly - 11.30am
30 November - 4 December	Year 6 Water Skills
30 November	BOT Meeting 6pm
2 December	Waiwhio Grandparents Day
3 December	Starting School parent evening
4 December	Waiwhio Class Xmas Party and Pool Party Year 5 Beach Education
7 December	Final Assembly at Leeston Rugby Football Hall 6pm Road Patrol Training
8 December	Class transition session 9.30am School wide water fun session 12.30pm Junior Kapa Hala performance for Day Club 11.15am
9 December	Service Assembly 9.30am 10.30am Parent Helpers Morning tea in Library Waitatari Xmas songs and shared lunch Waikekewai class Xmas Party
10 December	Class transition session 11am Waitatari Pool party 1-3pm Newsletter
11 December	Waikekewai Pool Party 9am Term finishes at 12 noon
Monday 1st February 2027	Term 1 2027 Commences

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Dear Santa, Love Ellesmere! 🎅 🎄

Santa's making his list, checking it twice… and we know Ellesmere has made the Nice List!
The Ellesmere Echo is creating a special float for this year's Santa Parade, and we'd love local children to be part of it!
Come along and add your **name and a Christmas wish** to our giant Santa's Nice List, then see if you can spot your name on the float during the parade!
Where to sign Santa's List:

- **Saturday 14 November** – Anglican Church Grounds, Leeston, 9.30am–12.30pm.
- **Thursday 19 November** – Twilight Market, Anglican Church Grounds, Leeston, 4pm–8pm.

Keep an eye on the Ellesmere Echo Facebook page for other opportunities to join in.
Let's fill Santa's List with a little Christmas magic from Ellesmere!









ELLESMERE PROMOTIONS TRUST - Christmas Fun coming up

Leeston Santa Parade and Movie in the Park - Friday 4 December, 5pm onwards, High St and Anderson Square Leeston

Ellesmere Twilight Christmas Market - Thursday 19 November, 4-9pm, Anglican Church Grounds, Leeston
This is the second time we've run this event. Included in the event is a Children's Market (4-6pm) for the young entrepreneurs

Morning Tea with Santa - Saturday 5 December, 10am-12pm, Anglican Church Hall. This is a new event for this year. It is free (donations greatly appreciated), but you do need to register. Please register here: https://bit.ly/MTWSBooking

Jones Family Farms Cheese Fundraiser - This is a great chance for you to purchase some lovely cheese for Christmas (perhaps as a gift for someone). $20 will get you 360gm (3 x 120gm blocks) of Jones Family Farm A2 sheep's milk cheese. Orders close 4 December (at Santa Parade) and cheese will be delivered before Christmas. Orders can be placed here: https://raised.nz/f/ept-cheese-2026



151st COURTENAY A&P SHOW

21 November 2026
Kirwee showgrounds

Join us for a great family day out!

CHILDREN U16 FREE
ADULTS $15
Cash and Eftpos available at the gate



Join the fun in the Hobby Horse competition!

- Two classes - best dressed horse & rider, and obstacle course, split by age groups.
- Classes will be held after the pet lamb judging - around 11:30am.
- Bring your hobby horse & dress up - unicorns and dinosaurs most welcome!
- Register online or entries taken on the day.



Pet lamb at home? Bring them along!

- A chance to win cash prizes, ribbons and trophies.
- Age based classes.
- Judging begins at 10am.
- Let us know you are coming by registering on Showday Online or enter on the day.

www.courtenayshow.org.nz