

LEESTON LEARNERS - Legends in the Making

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

Thursday 15th October 2026



Ko e 'umu'imu'a 'e 'uli e tāpangai *"In unity, there is beauty and harmony"*



Tena koutou

Welcome back for our final school term, and a special mihi to all our new families who have joined us this term! I hope you all enjoyed a well-deserved break and are feeling refreshed for another busy and exciting term ahead. Term 4 is always a busy energy filled term, as we wrap up the school year with learning, celebrations, and special events.

It is lovely to be back at Leeston after taking my sabbatical leave last term. My grateful thanks to Mr Paton for stepping into the principal role in my absence and leading the school so capably. Thank you also to Ms Davison, Acting DP, and to all our amazing staff for supporting Dean and each other throughout the term. It was very reassuring to know that school was in such capable hands.

We are currently practising for our upcoming Athletics Day in week 3 and we are looking forward to another great opportunity for students to challenge themselves, support one another, and have fun together. I look forward to connecting with many of you there, and again at our EAST club event later that week!

Nga mihi nui
Lynda Taylor
Principal

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

Sophia Hazelwood, Bianca Fenemor, Hayley Gargett, Gage Seymor, Millie Morris, William Morris

PTA CALENDAR ARTWORK

All children will bring home their order form with their own unique code to place an order. Please place your orders online by **Monday 19th October**. Prices are on the order form and examples of the products are displayed in the office should you wish to look at them prior to ordering.

HEALTH EDUCATION

On Wednesday 21 October (week 2, term 4) we will be holding a health meeting to discuss some aspects of the Personal Health and Physical Development curriculum. Every two years we need to consult with the community and ensure we are meeting the needs of the children. During term 4 students will gain some knowledge and understanding relating to physical health and development. Students learn about body

parts, pubertal changes, and physical development. Each syndicate will present an overview of what is being taught. We will also have a health questionnaire which can be filled out by parents. We will also email the questionnaire out to parents.

Health Education Meeting

When: Wednesday 21 October (week 2, term 4)

Where: Leeston School Staffroom

Time: 6.30pm

Parents and guardians are welcome.





BAKERS MIXED BERRY JAM FUNDRAISER

Thank you to a member of the BOT for organising a delivery of Bakers 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.

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.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REMINDER: BIKES & SCOOTERS

High Street businesses have noticed a few close calls recently with children riding quickly along footpaths outside shop fronts. Please chat with your children about slowing down around pedestrians, riding carefully in busy areas, and dismounting their bikes or scooters before using pedestrian crossings. We appreciate your support in keeping our streets safe for everyone!

HELP REQUIRED FOR SWIMMING POOL DURING THE COMING SEASON

We will **require a minimum of six helpers** who, in exchange for your time will receive a free pool key for the season. Ideally it requires 2 helpers each shift, rostered weekly (six weeks apart) in the evenings to put the vacuum cleaner in the pool and put the cover on each night. During the holiday period the covers would also need to be removed each morning. This generally takes about ten minutes, and training will be provided. This is for the duration of the swimming season (November - March). If you have any questions or are able to help please email Megan at admin@leeston.school.nz. Without this assistance, **the pool will be unable to be open outside of school hours**. We would really appreciate your offers of help.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

Issue 7 of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club is now available. Book online with the current issue number 7 – www.mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz. Orders close **3pm, Thursday 22nd October..**

ATTENDANCE

We are continuing to focus on student attendance this term.

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be tricky. If you are still unsure, get in touch with us and let's work together to support your learner.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us.

If you are finding it hard to get your child to school, please talk with us so we can work together. Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school.

Our school continues to build a culture that fosters attendance every day by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and family.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who you are, where you come from and what you value.
- A school whānau that takes all practical steps to make sure your child is at school and progressing in their learning.
- A school that is safe and welcoming for everyone in our school community.

If you have any attendance queries and issues, please contact us so we can work together.

SWIMMING POOL CLEANING

We greatly appreciate the time and effort put in by the Leeston Volunteer Fire Brigade, with a special thanks to the Long family and Heidi McMaster for their dedication to helping to empty and cleaning our school pool in the holidays. Your support means a lot to our school community – roll on summer, we can't wait for the pool to open!



LEESTON SCHOOL CAR SHOW

Thank you to everyone who came out last Sunday for our car show. It was a fantastic day with amazing weather! Thank you to Darfield Collision Centre for sponsoring the event. We raised \$1800 towards our fundraising for Leeston School.



Leeston Consolidated School

SELWYN STREET

Leeston



Waikewai & Waiwhio Athletics Sports 2026

Dear Parents,

The School Athletic Sports will be held in week two, on **Tuesday 27 October** at **Leeston School**.

The postponement date is Thursday 29 October. The Waitatari Syndicate will hold their own event at school on Tuesday 10 November. The long distance run will be held **Wednesday 21 October** on the school grounds before the School Athletics Day.

Remember children will compete in their **YEAR LEVEL GROUPS**.

Organisation for the Athletics Day

- The year 3, 4, 5, and 6 groups will start their first event at 9.30am.

	Middle & Senior Syndicate
<i>Start time</i>	Events will start at 9.30am however the children will assemble at 9.20am on the courts.
<i>Morning tea</i>	No actual stop for morning tea, children are to snack between events.
<i>Completion of events</i>	House Relays 2.00- 2.10pm (approx time)

NB: Times are approximate and will vary due to the size of each age group

If you would like to take your child/children home at the conclusion of events please ensure they are ***checked off by their class teacher***. ***Bus children*** will also need to ensure they have ***signed off the bus list***. ***No lunch orders*** for the day either please.

Year 3 – 6 children (Waiwhio & Waikewai Syndicates)

The children will be competing in their events between 9.30am – 2.20pm (they will be required to assemble at 9.20am). There will be no official morning tea break however they will carry their bags around their events, enabling them to snack as they go. Children should also have a drink bottle – preferably water.

- Children will be competing in High Jump, Long Jump, Discus, Shot Put, and Sprints.
- Children will compete in their year levels.
- Boys and girls will compete separately.
- Equipment will be modified depending on the age group.
- Children should stay until the completion of ALL events.
- The sprint finals will be completed within the timeframe of the activity.
- All children need to bring their lunch.

Gear and Clothing

All children in years 3 to 6 will carry their bags around the events with them. This is so the children can snack and drink when there is time available.

All children will need to be well prepared for the day. They will need to bring:

- Suitable sports clothing, including a warm jacket or track suit for between events.
- Sports shoes, although they may be taken off for Sprints, High Jump and Long Jump.
- Sunscreen and sun hat. It will be their responsibility to ensure they reapply their sunscreen and keep their sunhats on when they are not competing. Sunscreen will be made available to the children during the day.
- Substantial morning tea, lunch and a large drink.
- Medication, such as inhalers kept in their school bag.

Programme of Events 2026

TIME	YEAR 4 (54)	YEAR 6 GIRLS (26)	YEAR 3 (54)	YEAR 6 BOYS (30)	YEAR 5 (45)
9.00am to 9.30am	Children assemble on the BB court at 9.20am Hats, bags & drink bottles				
9.30am to 10.20am	Discus	Sprints	High jump	Shot Put	Long Jump
10.20am to 11.10am	Sprints	High jump	Long Jump	Discus	Shot Put
11.10am to 12.00pm	High Jump	Long Jump	Shot Put	Sprints	Discus
12.00pm to 12.50	Long Jump	Shot Put	Discus	High Jump	Sprints
12.50 to 1.40pm	Shot Put	Discus	Sprints	Long Jump	High jump
	Pack up gear				
2.00pm to 2.15pm	House relays				
2.15	<i>After the completion of the house relays children will line up with their classroom teacher and walk back to class.</i>				

NB: Times are approximate and will vary due to the size of each age group

Request for Parent Helpers

To enable us to run the Athletics Sports we require at least 2 extra helpers at each event, for Year 3 to 6 children, especially for the sprint races. Please indicate, on the following return slip, if you are able to assist or email c.davison@leeston.school.nz

Please return to the office by Wednesday 21 October. If you have any further questions please see Carol Davison.

We are looking forward to a fantastic Athletics day. **It is an expectation that children stay until they have finished their events.** Hopefully the weather will be fine. We hope to see you there.

Kind regards

Carol Davison

**Please complete and return to the School Office by
Wednesday 21 October.**

Name:	Phone number:
Child/ children's names:	Room/s number:

Year 3 - 6

Please indicate where and at what times you are available to assist

	9.00 - 11.10am	11.10 - 1.40pm
Sprints		
Long Jump		
High Jump		
Shot put		
Discus		
If you are willing to help at all events but would also like to follow your child to each of their events please indicate this below by circling 'YES' YES NO (please circle)		
Available on Postponement day Thursday 29 Oct Yes No (please circle)		

DATES TO REMEMBER

Refer to our website for further term updates

16 October	Yr 6 & EC Wellbeing TBC Whole School Assembly Waitatari - 11.30am All Welcome Te Whare Mauri Ora afternoon 1.15pm - 2.45pm
19 October	BOT Meeting 6pm
21 October	Long Distance Run Health Meeting 6.30pm
22 October	Year 6 Conference
26 October	Labour Day
27 October	School Athletics
28 October	EAST Club
29 October	pp Athletics Newsletter
30 October	Whole School Assembly Waiwhio - 11.30am All Welcome
2 - 6 November	WOW Week
3 November	Cohort School Visits Zone Athletics
4 November	Choir Practise (am) and Choir Festival Town Hall (pm)
5 November	pp Zone Athletics
9 November	BOT Mtg 6pm
10 November	Junior Run Jump Throw PTA Meeting 7pm
12 November	Children's University Graduation 5pm - 7.15pm Newsletter
13 November	Canterbury Show Day
16 November	Cohort Entry
19 November	Waitātari Quail Island
23 November	2027 Leaders Speeches
24 November	Year 6 visit to Ellesmere College
25 November	Canty Athletics
26 November	Year 6 Leavers Dinner Newsletter

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Dairy Women's Network - PiLattes Rolleston

A great opportunity to get off farm for an hour, get a short work out in and have some social time

[Pi-Lattes Rolleston - Dairy Women's Network](#)



The poster is divided into two main sections. The left section has a dark blue background with white and yellow text. It features the Ellesmere Agricultural and Pastoral Association logo at the top, followed by the title 'ELLESMERE A & P SHOW' in large white letters, and 'SCHOOLS SECTION' in green. Below this, it lists the sections included: Floral Art, Technology/Decorative Arts & Crafts, Cooking, and Pet lamb, sheep, goat & calf. It also lists prizes for Home Industry & Handcrafts and for Lamb, Sheep, Goat & Calf. The right section has a colorful, cartoonish background with a rainbow, a girl climbing a ladder to reach a star, a large red arrow pointing right with the word 'FUN!' inside, and three children (a girl in a chef's hat holding a tray of cookies, a girl in a straw hat holding a lamb, and a boy) standing in front of a tree.

ELLESMERE AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL ASSOCIATION

ELLESMERE A & P SHOW

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SCHOOLS SECTION

OFFERING A WIDE VARIETY OF CLASSES FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES TO ENTER

SECTIONS INCLUDE:

- Floral Art
- Technology/Decorative Arts & Crafts
- Cooking
- Pet lamb, sheep, goat & calf

PRIZES IN EACH SECTION

HOME INDUSTRY & HANDCRAFTS

FREE ENTRY
1st \$5, 2nd \$3 & 3rd \$2

LAMB, SHEEP, GOAT & CALF

ENTRY FEE \$2
1st \$10, 2nd \$8, 3rd \$5 & 4th \$2

SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER₂₀₂₆

GATES OPEN 8AM - ELLESMERE SHOWGROUNDS, 1650 LEESTON ROAD, LEESTON

For more info & how to enter go to
www.ellesmereshow.co.nz



Selwyn Disco



≈ OCEAN THEMED ≈

Friday 16th October

Lincoln Event Centre

 @Selwyn Youth  @Selwyn_youth

SNACKS + DRINKS
GLOW STICKS | LIVE DJ | LUCKY DIP | PRIZES +
MUCH MORE!

Guppies 3:30–4:30pm

Suggested age preschool–year 2

Jellyfish 5:00–6:30pm

Juniors suggested age year 3–6

Sharks 7:00–8:30pm

Seniors suggested age year 7–8

\$5
Entry





FREE OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 8TH NOVEMBER, 10AM-3PM

HELD WET OR FINE

BROADFIELD GARDEN, ENTRANCE AT 252 SELWYN ROAD, ROLLESTON

With this property currently for sale as the owner wishes to retire, Friends of Broadfield Garden invite everyone to visit to see for themselves what a very special place it is, and appreciate what an asset it could be for our region.

Parking on site | Dog friendly
Coffee, and icecreams available.

Bring a picnic along to enjoy with friends and family in this special place.

One man's dream - A national treasure on OUR doorstep



FREE
ADMISSION,
BUT KOHA
WELCOME



GROUPS
ESPECIALLY
WELCOME.



[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/BROADFIELDGARDENFORSELWYN](https://www.facebook.com/groups/broadfieldgardenforselewyn)

ENQUIRIES: BARBARA 0212 800 588 | ANNE 0274 365 156

EMAIL: [BROADFIELDFORSELWYN@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:broadfieldforselewyn@outlook.com)