



LEABANK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2025

Greetings, Tena koutou, Kia orana, Talofa Lava, Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Malo e Lelei, Namaste, Hola, Ni hao, Xin chao.

Dear Parents/Caregiver

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME MESSAGE

Tēnā koutou katoa,
I te taha o toku pāpā, no te tai tokerau
Ko Ngāti Manu te hapū, ko Ngāpuhi te iwi
I te taha o toku māmā no te rohe o Matātua
Ko Ngāti Rua me Ngai Tama nga hapū
Ko Whakatōhea te iwi
Ko Caroline toku ingoa.



We have had a great start to 2025 here at Leabank School. I was really proud of the manākitanga our learners and staff showed at the powhiri for new staff. We were warmly welcomed and it set the tone for our first week at Leabank. I enjoyed meeting some of our whānau at the family picnic and everyone had a great time.

This year, one of my jobs is to find ways to improve attendance.

Children coming to school regularly is so important for their development. Not only do they build academic skills, but they build friendships, life skills, resilience and problem solving skills. If you ask teachers why they got into education, most will say 'because we want to make a difference'. We can only make a difference when our tamariki are at school. It is now a requirement that all schools send daily attendance reports to the Ministry of Education, and we will be working closely with them to support our learners to attend school. I look forward to meeting more of our whānau over the year.



FAMILY PICNIC & FUN NIGHT 2025

What a fantastic turnout! The pools and the water activities were very popular in this hot weather and the popsicle worked as a treat. It was great seeing families and children taking part in the activities, having fun and just relaxing in the shade.

Congratulations to the six families that won the Hamper Raffle. We hope everyone had a great time and also had the chance to meet your child's teacher.

Here are a few photos from our fun evening. More photos will be uploaded on our school website and Facebook page.



FAREWELL AND WELCOME

At the end of the 2024 school year, we farewelled three of our amazing staff members.

Thank you!
AND FAREWELL

Principal, Mr Maddren who is now retired.
Mrs Thomson from Room 7, is now retired.
Mrs Gray from Room 4, moved to a new school.

We are pleased to introduce and welcome aboard our new staff members:

Principal Whaea Caroline

Ms Bala who is teaching in Room 4.

Mrs Ah-Ling who is teaching in Room 7.

Mrs Barrogo who is teaching in Room 9.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our two student teachers Selwyn and Charlotte.



CAUGHT BEING GOOD ASSEMBLY

Today we held our first Duffy Caught Being Good Assembly for Term 1 2025 and the following children were selected from their class to receive this award. Congratulations to the students listed below.

Room	Name	Room	Name
1	Toa Finas	13	Divine Balbuena
2	Dennis Maynard	14	Tiah Laulua
4	Tekaha Tetai-Rosieur	15	Onyx Walsh
7	Amreen Kaur	16	Brian Cheung Fook
9	Skye Craig	17	Ashanti Fenton
10	Avaya Naidu	18	Jason Chen
11	Kiani Katoa	19	Patrick Maynard
12	Lameko Tapuai	21	Adonai Uaita



SENIOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AWARD

These are this week's lucky 5 recipients from the Senior School who received the Attendance Award.

Sai B, Fontayn W, Susitina F, Cypris C and Mysha B.

Great job being at school every day so far.

Miharo 🏆

LATE ARRIVALS & EARLY PICKUPS

It is concerning how many students are arriving late to school each day. Our school hours are 8:55am to 2:55pm. Please ensure your child/ren arrives at school before school starts at 8:55am. Students disrupt class when arriving late and also miss out on valuable learning time.

School finishes at 2:55pm and we regularly see many children being picked up as early as 2:00pm. Early pickups should only be for urgent matters and unavoidable situations. There has been an increase in people wanting to collect students 10 to 15 minutes before the end of the day which is very disruptive to classes and time-consuming for office staff. We do realise that emergencies occur but must ask that you stick to normal pick-up times so your children can get a full day of learning without any disruptions.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB WITH JOSH THE SWIS

“Friendship Club” will be back on this term starting next week! Sessions will be held at the school hall during lunchtimes on Thursday and Friday. This will be an opportunity for the students to come along and develop meaningful connections with one another through activities such as board games, puzzles and visual arts. Throughout the sessions, our students will be encouraged to mingle amongst each other, develop healthy peer relationships with one another and grow in their self-confidence, sportsmanship as well as listening and leadership skills.

Thursday sessions will be strictly for Senior School students.

Friday sessions will be held for our Middle School students.

There will be a sign-in sheet upon entry for each session, allowing for only up to 20 students at a time to join in.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me 027 652 2565.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Caroline McLeod
Tumuaki