



LYNFIELD
COLLEGE

NEWSLINK

NEWSLETTER 2 | 21 FEBRUARY 2025

From Tumuaki Cath Knell

He aha te mea nui o te ao

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

What is the most important thing in the world?

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.

Kia ora koutou

It has been awesome to see our students actively demonstrating our school value, ***whanaungatanga tika*** - ***we are caring*** with lost items being handed in daily, including a number of AT Hop cards. Please help us in reuniting these items with their owners by ensuring that they are clearly named.

Engagement in learning

The first of our engagement reports for 2025 were available last week. These are a valuable conversation starter in support of ensuring that students have all the equipment they need to participate in class activities and are engaged in their learning. At the stage that these were issued students had not yet completed a complete run through of their 10 day timetable. The next report will be issued in Week 6 by which time they will have completed two full cycles.

Student numbers

With new students continuing to enrol our class sizes are growing. Extra classes will need to be added to help balance numbers across the option lines. There will be some timetable changes made over the next couple of weeks as a consequence. Please be assured that these changes are being made with the best interests of students' learning in mind.

House Sports Day

Today's House Sports Day must have been one of the best ever with student and staff participation being exceptionally high! Students did a wonderful job in dressing in house colours and demonstrating House Spirit. Keep an eye out for the photos and results from the day in the next NewsLink.

Connecting with whānau

Next Wednesday we look forward to seeing our fields awash with colour again, this time as we welcome our Year 9 students and their whānau to a BBQ and picnic evening.

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COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 25 February

Voices of Hope

Wednesday 26 February

Year 9 Whanau BBQ 6-7.30pm

Thursday 6 March

PST Conferences 1 – 7pm

MORNING CLASSES TODAY

Friday 7 March

PSTs 9am – 12.30pm

NO CLASSES TODAY

Tuesday 11 March

NCEA and Scholarship

Information Evening

Thank you to our volunteers and sponsors

Providing opportunities for our students to experience success is often dependent on volunteers giving their time and sponsors who make our participation possible. The latest big event that was made possible by volunteers and sponsors was the **VEX Robotics National Championships** hosted at Lynfield College last weekend. Having parents and past pupils volunteer their time over the weekend judging, supervising the pits or manning the BBQ made it possible for the event to run so smoothly. Your contributions are so very much appreciated. We will send out further information on how more of our community can help through volunteering / proving sponsorship over the next few weeks.

Nga mihi nui

Cath Knell

Tumuaki | Principal

Scholarship Results 2024

15 Scholarships were awarded to 1410 Lynfield College students across 7 subject areas for 2024. Students who gained Scholarship were:

Evan Huang in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Statistics

Frank Wu in Calculus, Technology

Michael Yu in Calculus, Physics

Melissa Ashley in Biology

Haoyuan Li in Calculus

Zara Qureshi in Biology

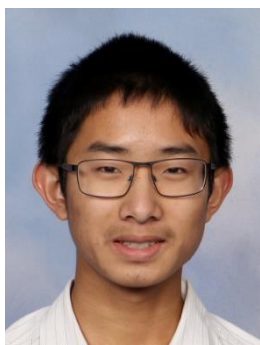
Seethalakshmi Veerappan in Biology

Nandana Syamaprasad Nair in English

Skye Totton in English

Rina Zhang in English

Congratulations to all our Scholarship students and especially to Evan Huang, who gained Scholarship in 4 subjects. Students who gained Scholarship are given a monetary award for their university study. The College is extremely proud of these students. The school also recognises the work done by the teachers to prepare and tutor these high achievers.



Evan Huang



Frank Wu



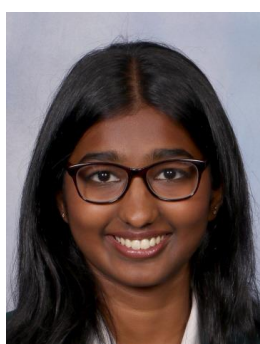
Michael Yu



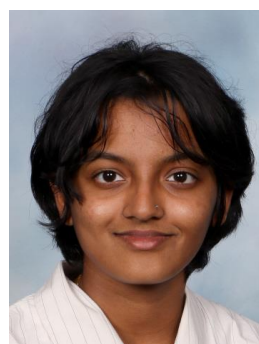
Melissa Ashley



Zara Qureshi



*Seethalakshmi
Veerappan*



*Nandana Syamaprasad
Nair*



Skye Totton



Rina Zhang



Haoyuan Li

Scholarship Breakfast

On Friday 14 February, the school held a celebration breakfast for our 2024 Scholarship winners and their families. Lynfield College is extremely proud of these students and acknowledges the extra effort they put into their studies to achieve these results. We and wishes them well for their future studies. Thank you to Mrs Van Niekerk for your support in making the event a success.



NCEA Results 2024

Our 2024 provisional results are as follows:

Year 12 Level 2: 74.3% Year 13 Level 3: 65.1% UE: 49%

These results show an improvement from 2023 with highlights including:

94.5% of our Year 13 gained the Literacy and 97.9% the Numeracy corequisites by the time they had left Lynfield College at the end of the year

Level 2, UE, and Merit and Excellence endorsements were above national achievement levels

29.4% of Year 12 students achieved certificates endorsed with Merit and 15.2% with endorsed with Excellence

32.6% of Year 13 students achieved certificates endorsed with Merit and 12.6% endorsed with Excellence

LEVEL 1 NCEA

In 2023 the school made the decision not to enter Year 11 students into the NCEA Level 1 Certificate. Instead, Year 11 students began their journey to achieve Level 2 over 2 years. Our students have gained an excellent head start with:

91% of Year 11 students earned some Level 2 credits

61% of Year 11 students earned 10+ Level 2 credits

Congratulations to our students on their success.

Student Action

VALENTINES DAY



Have you downloaded our SchoolBridge App yet?

This gives you easy access to report an absence, see attendance, results, ability to pay any fees, see sports draws, and report. Information about the app and login details can be found [here](#)



<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/schoolbridge/id1563090571>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.inboxdesign.SchoolBridgeApp>



VEX Robotics V5RC NZ National Championships 2025

This year the VEX Robotics NZ National Championships were held at Lynfield College in both our Gyms the weekend of 15 & 16 February.

74 New Zealand High School teams competed for eight qualifying spots to the World Championships in Dallas Texas. One of our four competing teams did extremely well, winning the NZ National tournament and the Robot Skills section of the NZ Nationals. They have qualified to compete in the World Championships in early May this year. Another of our teams also did very well, just missing out on qualifying for the World Championships, being knocked out in the semifinals with a loss of only three points. Our other two teams represented the school well, and all the students competing enjoyed the competition over the weekend.

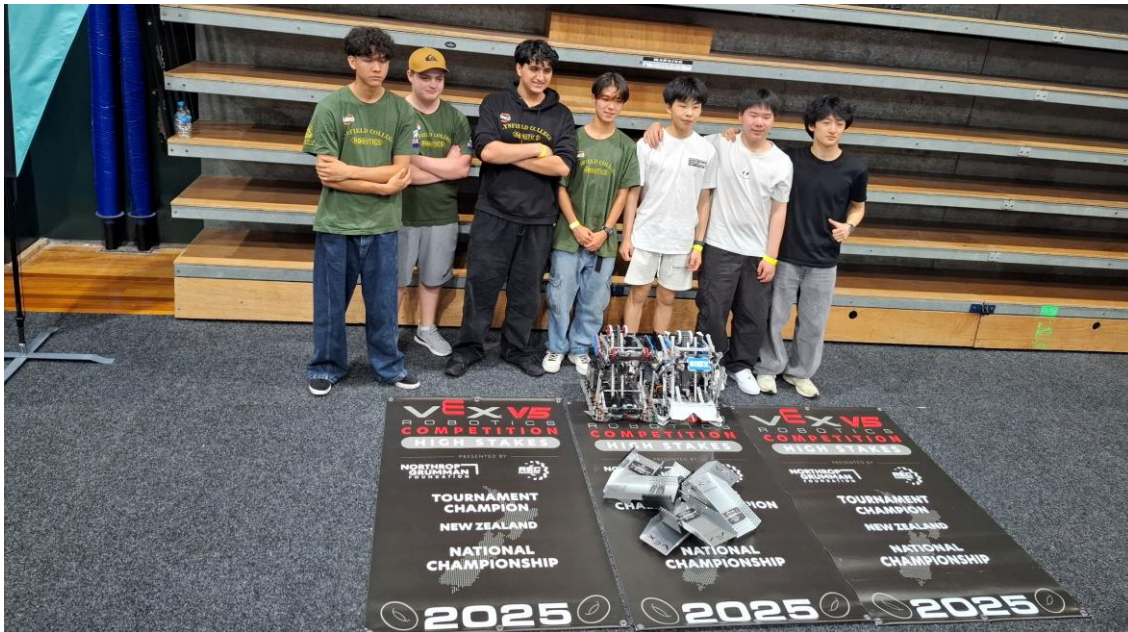
Our Lynfield College teams came away with the Tournament Champions Award, Robot Skills Award, Semi-finalist Award, the Inspire Award and the Think Award. Lynfield's teacher in charge of robotics, Mr Yearbury was presented with the Teacher of the Year Award.

It is now crucial that we do everything possible to get our qualifying team of four students to the World Championships so that they can take advantage of the opportunity they have worked so hard to achieve. Currently, we are looking at an approximate cost of around \$7000 per student to enable them to travel and stay in Dallas, compete in the Worlds, and do a little sightseeing while they are there.

If you own or know of a company that may be able to help with sponsorship, please contact Craig Yearbury, the teacher in charge of robotics at Lynfield College, at cyearbury@lynfield.school.nz for more information.

We would like to thank New World for their donation of the sausages, bread and sauces that we used at our fundraising BBQ at Nationals.





Young Māori
and Pacific Pride
Leaders present...

IPU TI

WEDNESDAYS

WEEKLY ACADEMIC WORKSHOP

Open to all students!

- Unfinished work?
- Due dates looming?
- Need help?

3.15 PM - 4.30 PM
JOIN US IN I2/I3 (END OF CORRIDOR IN THE UPPER GYM)

9IL Newsletter

The last two weeks, students worked on their Cultural Passport, where they had to write about themselves, their favorite books or movies, food from their culture, a cultural festival, a childhood story, and a family treasure. They then shared their Cultural Passport with one of the IL teachers to get it printed. Once printed, the students started assembling their booklets, carefully gluing their information onto each page and decorating them creatively.

Throughout this activity, students developed key skills such as managing themselves by meeting deadlines and organising their work efficiently. They also strengthened their connection with their culture by reflecting on their heritage and sharing meaningful aspects of their identity. Additionally, the task encouraged communication skills, as they had to articulate their ideas clearly in writing and through discussions with peers and teachers. Goal setting played a crucial role, as students planned and worked steadily to complete their booklets on time. This activity not only enhanced their literacy and presentation skills but also fostered a sense of pride in their cultural backgrounds while building confidence in expressing their identities.

Week 3 & 4 for 9IL has come with a great start!

Written by 9IL students.



Please Help Support Kowhai Kai

Kōwhai Kai is a student wellbeing programme that supports Lynfield College students and their whānau going through hardship. At the start of lunch time, kai is provided in D12 for students who do not have the means to bring lunch to school. If you want to find out more, you can contact Mr Dye, Deputy Principal edye@lynfield.school.nz. This has been able to operate thanks to the generosity of our community. We would love to make connection with new corporate sponsors.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO: LYNFIELD COLLEGE, 12-3049-0248027-00, REF: KŌWHAI KAI

Voices of Hope School-Wide Talk

On the 25th February Genevieve Mora, Jazz Thornton and their team are coming into school to share their message of hope. Parents/Caregivers you may not be aware but Jazz and Genevieve are big on social media – Jazz was on Dancing with the stars and Young New Zealander of the Year 2023 and both were awarded 2023 Forbes 30 under 30.

Voices of Hope speakers share personal stories of their experiences with mental health challenges, seeking help, and the tools and strategies they used throughout their journey. Our talks focus on three primary areas:

Anti-Bullying: We are committed to promoting a community of kindness and respect, and our talks address the impact of bullying on mental health.

General Mental Health: Our speakers share their own personal lived experiences with mental health challenges, emphasising the importance of seeking help and the tools and strategies they used along their mental health journey.

Encouraging Help-Seeking Behaviours: We aim to normalise help-seeking behaviours and reduce the stigma surrounding mental health issues, encouraging students to reach out for support when needed.

Our talks typically last between 20 to 40 minutes and are tailored to different age groups, ranging from years 7 to 13.

SchoolTV

It's never been more challenging for parents to raise happy, healthy and resilient children. The SchoolTV platform provides schools with an extensive range of wellbeing resources for parents, so they can work together in partnership to ensure better wellbeing for all students.

You can access SchoolTV through the Schoolbridge app and find helpful resources to issues as they come up for your whanau.

Tag Central-North Tournament

On Tuesday 18 February, Lynfield College entered a girls and boys tag team into the Central-North tournament at Moire park. With 5 games each both teams displayed kaha and mana. Special mention to Brooklyn Leaupepe Nickel for being the highest try scorer, Ayla Raki for her defensive efforts and consistency, Angel Leaupepe Nickel and Agnes Wulf for their leadership. All the boys contributed to the wins they had while Michael Langkilde was the stand out player. Both teams demonstrated great sportsmanship on and off the field.

Appreciation goes to the kaiako and whanau who supported our students on the day.



Sports Team Trials

For many winter sports, trials have already gotten underway and for many more, trials will be starting in the next few weeks. It is extremely important that students are checking the daily notices for any messages about upcoming sports sign ups and trials.

Assessment, Achievement and Reporting Events

PARENT STUDENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Our Term 1 Parent/Student/Teacher (PST) Conferences will take place on:

Thursday 6 March (from 1.00 to 7.00pm) and Friday 7 March (9.00am to 12.30pm).

Bookings open on Friday 21 February at 3.00pm.

[Parent Student Teacher Conference Information Term 1](#)

The appointments will be for 15 minutes. The meetings can be either face to face or online. However, all bookings will receive a Google Meet link. Your child's Hui mai teacher will ask which option you plan to use prior to the meeting. The focus of the meeting will be goal setting and engagement in class. Students are expected to attend these conferences with you, and to lead the conversation.

PLEASE NOTE:

MORNING CLASSES FOR STUDENTS WILL RUN ON THURSDAY 6 MARCH

Students will be released at 12.10pm. *The Kiwicoaches bus will depart at 12.20pm and the Titirangi bus will depart at the usual time of 3.20pm.*

THERE ARE NO CLASSES FOR STUDENTS ON FRIDAY 7 MARCH

NCEA & SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION EVENING ON TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2025







This will be held on Tuesday 11 March in the staffroom with a start time of 6.30 pm. Academic Advisor, Neil Waddington will take you through EVERYTHING you ever needed to know about NCEA Level 2, 3 and Scholarship. Faculty Leaders, our Literacy and Numeracy Coordinators and our Careers Advisor, Russell Christie, will be available on the night to answer any questions about NCEA for specific subject areas.













REPORTS IN 2025

Your child will receive a report in Weeks 3,6 and 9 indicating how engaged they are in each subject. A traffic light system will be used (see example below). Cause for Concern entries will be followed up by Hui mai teachers and Deans. This information will be available cumulatively to enable parents /caregivers, deans and Hui mai teachers to see shifts in student engagement and follow up ASAP. On the Week 9 Engagement Report information on academic progress will be included.

The report will look as follows:

Key to Engagement in Learning colour coding:

					
Not yet entered	Not enough evidence	Cause for concern	Room to improve	Satisfactory	Very Good

Stage of Year	Term 1			Term 2			Term3			Term 4			
	Early	Mid	End	Early	Mid	End	Early	Mid	End	Early	Mid	End	
Business Studies 2													R Prasad
Engagement													
Academic Progress	At the expected level			Well above the expected level									

The following descriptors for each colour code have been shared with students. Their subject teachers/ Hui mai teachers will discuss steps for improvement if it is required.

Cause for Concern	Room to Improve	Satisfactory	Very Good
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seldom prepared for learning Seldom conducts themselves in a manner that is appropriate to the learning environment Seldom arrives with the correct gear, stationery or dressed correctly for learning activities Seldom prioritises learning activities Seldom punctual to class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes prepared for learning Sometimes conducts themselves in a manner that is appropriate to the learning environment Sometimes arrives with the correct gear, stationery or dressed correctly for learning activities Sometimes prioritises learning activities Sometimes punctual to class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly prepared for learning Regularly conducts themselves in a manner that is appropriate to the learning environment Regularly arrives with the correct gear, stationery or dressed correctly for learning activities Regularly prioritises learning activities Regularly punctual to class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently prepared for learning Consistently conducts themselves in a manner that is appropriate to the learning environment Consistently arrives with the correct gear, stationery or dressed correctly for learning activities Consistently prioritises learning activities Consistently punctual to class

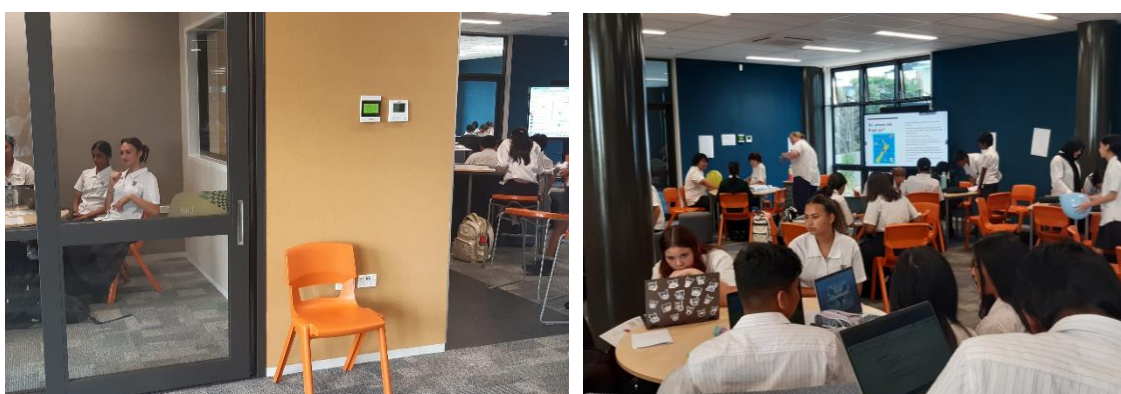
Student achievement and academic progress will also be published on KAMAR and the parent portal when assessments are completed. (Curriculum levels for Years 9-10, Overall, Teacher Judgments, Lynfield Assessment grades for Year 11 and an NCEA grade for Years 12 & 13. In Term 4, alongside their last engagement report for the year, Year 12-13 students will be issued with a NCEA Progress Report. This is a summary of how many credits were **Entered, Still to Sit, Earned and Not Achieved** in each subject area and also indicates if a student had achieved Literacy, Numeracy, University Entrance or their NCEA Year Level certificate.

In Term 4 Hui mai teachers of all levels will write an end of year summary comment for their students on the final report.

Learning in the New Build

The spaces in the new build (C Block) are being used effectively for a variety of teaching and learning activities. The circulation space allows for students to move to different activities or stations, and there is a variety of furniture combinations for students to work comfortably. The breakout spaces are used for small groups to work independently or with a teacher. Teaching spaces have either a projector and whiteboard, or one or two CommBoxes. These interactive screens allow for easy visibility for all students, and an exciting feature is the ability to save whiteboards to either share them on Google Classroom or to come back to them the next day. This means students have access to the ideas and notes beyond the physical class.

Feedback about the building has been very positive from staff and students. We are also very pleased with the way students have been looking after the building and showing Manaakitanga towards the learning of others.



New Staff Profiles

We will be highlighting our new staff over the next few issues of Newslink.

Mohammad Ali (Mathematics, Commerce)

I'm thrilled to be joining the team at Lynfield College as a new teacher, and I'm looking forward to connecting with the students and staff here. I have a strong passion for helping students discover their potential and creating a positive learning environment. Outside of the classroom, I'm an avid football player and enjoy staying active through the sport. I also value spending quality time with my family and friends, whether we're sharing a meal, exploring new places, or simply relaxing together. I'm excited for the opportunity to contribute to the school community and build meaningful relationships with both students and colleagues.



Khusbhu Ali (Mathematics)

I'm excited to be starting my teaching journey at Lynfield College, where I can share my passion for education and connect with students who are eager to learn. As a teacher, I believe in fostering a supportive and engaging environment where every student feels valued and inspired to reach their full potential. Outside the classroom, I enjoy spending quality time with my family and friends, and one of my greatest joys is cooking—whether it's experimenting with new recipes or gathering around the table for a home-cooked meal. I look forward to becoming part of this vibrant school community and contributing to the growth and development of our students.



Johnathon Gee (Health and PE)

My name is Johnathon Gee (a.k.a. Mr. G), and 2025 marks my fifth year living in Auckland, having moved from the South Island. I began my career in engineering but transitioned to teaching after a near-death road cycling accident inspired me to pursue a new path. I enjoy learning about topics such as sports coaching, exercise physiology, continuous improvement, holistic development, well-being, and longevity, which support my teaching in Health and Physical Education. I value the lessons and growth that come from all sports and have personally focused more on endurance sports since leaving school. I also have a keen interest in strength and conditioning, enjoy the outdoors as a member of the Auckland Tramping Club, and am steadily building my running form with the Owairaka Athletics Club. I am excited to contribute to Lynfield College and support the growth and well-being of both our teachers and students.



Mike Landeg (Health and PE)

I am a Health and Physical education teacher starting at Lynfield college in 2025. I use my passion for sport and exercise to fuel my drive for teaching. My main love is football, but I have a deep appreciation for all things sports.



Anna McPhie (Health and PE)

I am very excited about joining the Health and Physical Education Department this year. Auckland is new to me, as I have just recently (in the summer holidays) moved up from the South Island where my family is from. I love the outdoors and keeping active. Football is my passion and is my way of making sure I am active and outdoors. In the free time I do have, I love to travel locally and overseas when possible. My aim is to visit 30 countries before 30! I am looking forward to joining the Lynfield team and get to know you throughout the year.



Jennia Deng (Arts)

Hi everyone! I'm Miss Deng, the new Arts and Photography teacher. I graduated from AUT with a Bachelor's and Master's in Design and completed my teaching diploma at UoA. I love drawing whenever I can - it's a great way to express ideas and unwind. Outside of school, I'm a bit of a homebody who enjoys gaming, but I've also been keeping active lately by hitting the gym. I'm excited to be a part of this wonderful school and look forward to getting to know everyone!



Lucy Zhang (Mathematics)

Kia ora, my name is Lucy Zhang and I am excited to be joining Lynfield College as a Mathematics and Statistics teacher. I am passionate about helping students achieve their best in an engaging way and look forward to getting to know them better. In my spare time, I enjoy dancing, catching up with friends and travelling.



Tony Worth (English)

My name is Tony Worth and I have joined the English Department. I have had an amazing welcome into the school and enjoying the warmth and of the school community I have met so far. I enjoy boating, fishing and walking with my dog Daisy. I am married to Claire and we have two sons. I have co curricular interests in Kapa Haka, enviro group and helping sports teams.



School Policies and Procedures

SchoolDocs is now LIVE!

Lynfield College has been working with SchoolDocs to create a website for our policies and procedures. We are excited to announce that the site is now live and available to our school community. The school works on a subscription basis with SchoolDocs to maintain, update, and review our policies. SchoolDocs provides us with a comprehensive core set of policies, which have been well researched and align with the National Education and Learning Priorities. These policies and procedures are tailored to our school, and the school supplies specific information such as our charter, and procedures for behaviour management, reporting to parents, and many more. SchoolDocs updates, modifies, or creates policies in response to changes in legislation or Ministry of Education guidelines, significant events, reviews/requests from schools, and regular reviewing from the SchoolDocs team. Our school board has the opportunity



to view changes/additions and comment on them before they are implemented. We will advise you when policies are up for review and how you can take part in the review.

We invite you to visit the site at <https://lynfield.schooldocs.co.nz> (note that there's no "www."). Our username is 'lynfield' and password 'learn2live'.

Uniform & Stationery Shop

HOURS

The Uniform and Stationery shop is open to all students on site for their uniform and stationery needs during interval and lunchtime Mondays to Thursdays, and on Fridays before school at 8am and interval.

We are not open on Saturday and Sunday, Teacher Only Days or the between term holidays.

Parents can attend the shop at the following times:

Monday – Thursday 10.00am – 12.00pm and 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Friday 8.00am – 11.30am

SECOND HAND CLOTHING

The Uniform and Stationery Shop also sells second hand items. We ask that if you wish to purchase the second hand items, you do not come during student's morning tea or lunchtimes.

We have secondhand uniform items available for purchase. These do not cover the full size range. Proceeds from secondhand uniform sales go to our hardship fund to support students in need.

ONLINE ORDERING

Online ordering is available through our website <https://lynfield.school.nz/shop.html>. Payment can be made by direct credit or credit card and students onsite are able to collect the items from the shop during the above times. Orders are usually ready the next day.

RETURNS POLICY

We require a purchase receipt, tags and the skirt "runner stitch" to still be in garments to process returns. Please be aware that we can only return items up to 90 days from the date on your receipt.

LOST PROPERTY

If your child has lost uniform items, please ask them to check the Lost Property bin outside the uniform shop.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO NAME YOUR CHILD'S UNIFORM.

Community Events

BAYLYNN YOUTH BAND

BayLynn Youth Band (BLYB) is an all-inclusive group based in the Blockhouse Bay area and has been running since 2015 under Miss Zya-Li Teh (former Music Specialist at Blockhouse Bay Intermediate and current Music Teacher at St Peters College). In the past we have had numerous members from your school and we hope to see that trend continue.

Website: <https://baylynniouthband.org.nz/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BayLynnYouthBand>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/baylynniouthband/>

PROJECTS ABROAD

These programmes are designed for students in years 11, 12, and 13 and run in the mid-year break and over our summer holiday. They are ideal for individuals or groups of friends.

Projects Abroad has been running these programmes for over 15 years. They are very popular with students from across Australia, New Zealand, Europe, and North America.

These programmes run in countries such as [Cambodia](#), [Sri Lanka](#), [the Philippines](#), [Tanzania](#), and our most popular program, [Nepal](#).

Students will spend time in hospitals, community health settings, and workshops with local doctors. These projects are a fantastic first step into a career in healthcare within a group of likeminded students. Full 24/7 supervision and care is provided by the Projects Abroad local staff.

In addition to the clinical hours, we arrange activities which give an amazing insight into these fascinating countries. You can view and download more detailed leaflets on these projects [by clicking here](#).

Webinar

There will be a free webinar on the evening of 4 March. [Details and registration can be found on this link](#).

BEACH CLEAN-UP

[The Hirepool Big Clean](#)

Saturday 8 March, 9am

Taumanu Reserve, Onehunga Foreshore

Auckland

[Sign up now!](#)

This is an extra special event because it's happening during Seaweeek, Aotearoa New Zealand's annual celebration of the sea. It's a fantastic way to show the moana some love and make an epic impact on the health of the Manukau Harbour, home to one of Aotearoa's taonga, the Māui dolphin.

This is a family-friendly day with everything provided, including a sausage sizzle (thanks to the Hirepool Sizzle Shack) and ice-cold Phoenix Organics drinks to fuel you up after your efforts.

