



**LYNFIELD  
COLLEGE**

# NEWSLINK

NEWSLETTER 3 | 7 MARCH 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 lovely to have so many families come onsite for the **Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences** over the past couple of days. The conversations held in support of the goals the students have set, and how well set-up they are for their learning, have been incredibly rich and greatly valued. There will be another Engagement Report issued in Week 9 which will also include a grade for academic progress.

Those who attended their conference this morning were also invited to pop-in and join the **Parent Coffee Group**. This new initiative is being run by parents, thanks to Aunty Pele, for parents. Today was their first session so the students were able to be included as well. We will look to offer this initially on a monthly basis, due to limitations with space, so please do keep an eye out for the next date which will be later in the term.



### Whānau engagement

Another highlight was speaking with families at the Y9 Whanau BBQ. Warmth was felt by those attending whether it be from the heat of the sun, the much commented upon welcome from our student leaders, or the temperature of the sausages from the BBQ!

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.

### Polyfest and Culture Day

There is so much activity at the school at the end of each day with Culture Group Practices adding to the sports fixture and trials being held. The **Lynfield College Culture Day** is scheduled for **Saturday 29 March** and we warmly encourage those that have not previously experienced this event, including Culture Group Performances and Food Stalls, to join us.

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## COMING EVENTS

**Tuesday 11 March**  
**NCEA & SCHOLARSHIP**  
**INFORMATION EVENING**

**Saturday 29 March**  
**LC CULTURAL DAY**

**Monday 31 March**  
**WHANAU HUI 5.30 – 7.00PM**

**Tuesday 1 April**  
**TALANOA EVENING 6 - 8PM**

**Wednesday 2 April**  
**JAZZ COMBO**  
**FUNDRAISER CONCERT**

**Wednesday 9 April**  
**SUMMER SPORTS PHOTOS**

**Friday 11 April**  
**END OF TERM 1**

**Monday 28 April**  
**TERM 2 BEGINS**

Our **Kapa Haka Group**, the largest it has been since before COVID, will be using the day as a dress rehearsal for Polyfest which runs the following week.

***It is official! Team 2915E has qualified for the 2025 VEX Robotics Worlds Championship***

With the official invitation coming through last week from the Robotics Education & Competition (REC) Foundation, fundraising is underway, with further fundraising and sponsorship opportunities being sought, to get the students and their robot to Dallas, Texas USA. If you can help the team in making any connections here please email Craig Yearbury [cyearbury@lynfield.school.nz](mailto:cyearbury@lynfield.school.nz).

***Thank you to our volunteers and sponsors***

Donations to help us continue to offer lunch and care packages to students and families in need through Kowhai Kai and Kowhai Care have been gratefully received. Thank you! It makes such a difference.

Nga mihi nui

Cath Knell

**Tumuaki | Principal**

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## ***Badges Assembly***

On Thursday 20 February, we came together to celebrate the outstanding leadership achievements of many of our students here at Lynfield College during our annual badges ceremony. This provided us with the opportunity to highlight the student leaders who have earned their positions through hard work and determination and most importantly, through the trusted votes of fellow students and teachers. As mentioned during the assembly, while we may be divided by portfolios and titles, we stay united with our shared commitment to the school's vision. As a team, we are excited to work alongside a group of talented and driven young leaders who are determined to make a lasting impact at Lynfield College in 2025.

We were also privileged to have Mrs Kristelle Varney, a former Head Girl of Lynfield College as our guest speaker. Kristelle, who now serves as a Board member for our school, is also the proud mother of one of our current student leaders, Danyon Varney, who is the Cultural Ambassador, a new and important leadership role introduced this year. We are thankful for Kristelle's inspiring words and the wisdom she shared, which will most definitely guide and motivate us as we move forward. John Mahe, Ateliana Manuha'apai, Bill Xie, Jessica Sor & Aziz Mookhtiar



*John Mahe*



*Ateliana Manuha'apai*



*Jessica Sor*



*Bill Xie*



*Aziz Mookhtiar*

*John Mahe*

*Arlia Potauaine*

*Lupe Fetuani*



## House Sports Day



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## 3ESS Geology Trip

On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 3ESS went to Takapuna Beach for a Geology field trip.

Putting their classroom learning into practice, they examined the rock features on the cliffs at the southern end of Takapuna Beach to appreciate how they formed, and the techniques geologists would have needed to use to determine their age.

They will have now returned to class and started on their first NCEA assessment, worth four credits, to discuss the geological processes involved in the formation of the rocks, and explain the scientific methods used to date what happened when.



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## *Year 9 Whānau Evening*

We were delighted to welcome our Year 9 students and their whānau to connect with the Hui mai teachers, student leaders and other staff last week. It was a beautiful evening on the field, and families enjoyed the casual atmosphere in meeting each other and making new connections. Our student leaders provided a warm welcome, from giving parking advice, to working the barbeques and answering the many questions that came their way.

We would also like to acknowledge Trade Assist and Madinah Butchery for their contributions to the event.



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## *Payment by Direct Credit for sports fees, camps and other charges on the KAMAR Portal*

All Banks have now started implementing Confirmation of Payee (COP):

This is where banks match the Bank Account Name to the Bank Account Number as part of the AML Anti Money Laundering legislation.

If you have saved Lynfield College as a Payee in your banking website, please check and update our account name to Lynfield College Board to ensure your payment is accepted by your bank.

Young Māori and Pacific Pride Leaders present...

# I P U T I

## W E D N E S D A Y S

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)**



### *NZ Olympiad in Informatics Summer Camp*

Lynfield College Year 13 student Nicolas Martens attended the summer camp for the New Zealand Olympiad in Informatics. This was held in Christchurch from 4th to 12<sup>th</sup> January.

Nicolas gave up a week of holidays for an intense programme of study and made the final training squad of 9, from which 4 will be picked to represent New Zealand at the International Olympiad in Informatics later this year. He was one of only 3 students who were from the Algorithms group to make the squad (the rest were in the Experienced category), so this is a fantastic achievement. There will be 2 more contests used for selection purposes, in February and March.



### *Lynfield Community Early Childhood Education Centre visits Marae*

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb Lynfield Community Childcare centre visited the Māori department to watch our Kapa haka rehearsal in the lead up to Polyfest.



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## *NCEA and Scholarship Information Evening*

**TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2025**

This will be held on Tuesday 11 March in the Hall with a start time of 5.30pm for Year 11 and 6.30pm for Year 12 and 13.

Academic Advisor, Mr Neil Waddington will take you through our programme for Year 11 and information about NCEA Level 2, 3 and Scholarship.

Faculty Leaders, our Literacy and Numeracy Coordinators and our Careers Advisor, Mr Russell Christie, will be available on the night to answer any questions about NCEA for specific subject areas.

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## *Goethe Certificates 2024*

Massive congratulations to Izak van Niekerk, Chante Luiters, Markus Maertzschink, Ethan Sutherland, Callum Harty, Tehillah Hubert, Maren Capps and Abdul Baasith on achieving level A1 or A2 of the Göthe Certificate late last year. This certifies that candidates are independent users of the German language and it corresponds to the particular level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Fantastisch!



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## *Annual Wellbeing Survey Weeks 7 & 8*

Lynfield College has been running the Goodspace Wellbeing survey for three years now. Based on the well-researched HEeADSSS Assessment used with Year 9 students by Te Whatu Ora in schools with a funded nurse, it captures an important snapshot of our young people in our school and the challenges that they may face (both in school and in the community). From this information we as a school have the capacity to adapt where there is a need and plan our resources in a way that is equitable and meets the most need.

It is a personal survey and therefore asks quite personal questions. Because of this the survey is confidential with only the counselling team being able to connect survey with student. This is to manage any concerns the survey may highlight. There are six areas that are explored. These are; school life, belonging, selfcare, home life, sexual identity, and mental health.

The survey will be open for two weeks. Time will be made in Hui mai for students to complete their survey.

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## Senior Dance Masterclass Workshop

The Senior Dance Class had a Masterclass workshop with members of Footnote Dance Company. They had a muscle and bone warm up, learnt some repertoire and were given choreographic tasks to inspire their own movement ideas. The sequences they were taught came from the current Footnote show, Modern God, which examines the role of social media influencers. The students had a wonderful experience and will use the skills they have learnt to develop their performance skills.



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## Year 9 Innovative Learning Newsletter

Over the past two weeks, IL students have been engaged in a range of exciting activities!

In Science, students explored the animal kingdom, learning how to classify various animals and understand the key differences between animal groups, including their digestive systems. They also visited the Science Room to learn about health and safety rules and how the digestive system functions. In PE and Humanities, students studied the Atlas to identify countries around the world and locate key cities in New Zealand.

During English and Technology classes, students wrote blog posts to learn more about different countries, and in Food Technology, they had hands-on experience making delicious Italian pizza rolls!

Ka pai, IL! Keep up the great work!





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## Year 10 Soft Materials

This term students in Year 10 Soft Materials are learning about fast fashion. Students have been looking at clothing brands they own and finding out about how ethical the brands are and what the sustainability rating is on 'Who made my clothes'.



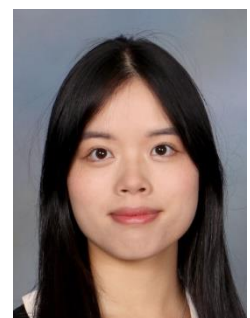
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## New Staff Profiles

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

### Susan Su (Mathematics)

My name is Susan Su. I am a first-year Mathematics and Statistics teacher. If I were an animal, I would be a koala, because my two favourite activities are eating and sleeping (one time, I accidentally slept for 30 hours). To balance out this sedentary lifestyle, I force myself to wake up at 4:45 every morning to hit the gym :DD



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## Please Help Support Kowhai Kai

Kōwhai Kai is a student wellbeing programme that supports Lynfield College students and their whānau who are experiencing 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](mailto: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**

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## Individual Sports Honours

### RAJAL SHARMA

Rajal Sharma, Y12 competed at the Archery NZ North Island Youth Championships 2025 on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March at Randwick Archery Club in Wellington. He won a Silver medal in the U21 Men's compound division and a Bronze medal in the Teams Matchplay. Congratulations Rajal on your awesome performance!



*If your son and/or daughter has achieved representative status (Auckland or NZ) or has competed in such events the Sports Office would very much like to hear about this. Please either ask them to bring proof of the team they made/ level they achieved (eg. certificate, letter of selection etc) so we have the exact wording of their achievement, or email these details to [sport@lynfield.school.nz](mailto:sport@lynfield.school.nz)*

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## Sports Scene

### HOUSE COMPETITIONS

#### HOUSE SPORTS DAY

The House Captains had worked hard to involve all students in the presentation of their House Mascot. They really let their creativity flow as they came up with some interesting ideas, to impress the judges.

With a rotation of twelve 15 minute events in the morning, students tugged, ran, jumped, threw and scrambled to gain points for their house. Teachers were also given bonus point incentives to take part in events and it was awesome to see them taking part in so many activities.

Congratulations to overall winners, Faumuina house who discovered participation was the key to success as the whole house ran, threw or jumped to the max.

Special thanks to Mr Smith and his team of event organisers, Mr Waddington for providing the sound system, Ms Van Nierkerk and her team for providing morning tea for the staff while they were all out supporting their houses and Mr Dye for all his help and expertise in organising the event.

#### Results:

	Bray	Fatialofa	Faumuina	Lewis	Reid	Zoricich
Morning Events	35	40	50	25	45	30
House Mascot	30	35	40	15	25	20
Relays	22.5	17.5	20	12.5	25	15
TOTAL	87.5	92.5	110	52.5	95	65
<b>FINAL PLACING</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>5th</b>

## TEAM TALK

### SUMMER SPORTS

#### *Volleyball*

Our Senior Volleyball teams have had an incredible start to the season. Our Senior Girls have so far gone undefeated but face a tough opponent in their final this week which they're looking forward to. Our Senior Gold Boys are in for a shot at 3rd place in the Central West Boys competition and our Senior Green Boys are playing in their final matches this week too, hoping to take the most out of all games this week.

#### *Cricket*

Our 1<sup>st</sup> XI Boys team is performing extremely well having won all their games so far in the 40 over, 1B grade which plays on Saturday afternoons. This has them in a great position going into the second half of the term 1 season and are looking to keep the momentum up with some tough challenges on the horizon.

The Junior Open LO40 Gold team have also kept a similar pace and are now also unbeaten so far this season. This is very exciting for the team as they are looking to win the grade for promotion into Colts 2 and are looking forward to the rest of the season and the challenges yet to come.

#### *Orienteering*

We have 37 students who are entered into the weekly orienteering competition which takes place each Monday after school. Each week the group goes to a different school to navigate a course set out around the school. And they've improved incredibly after only 2 weeks of competition.

### WINTER SPORTS

Trials for various winter sports are now well underway but it is definitely not too late to trial for any winter teams.

Without your help to manage, coach or transport one of our teams this year, we definitely could not provide sporting opportunities to such a large number of students. Remember, *to manage a team you do not need knowledge of the sport*, just to be a channel for communication between coach and players as needed and help organise (not necessarily provide) transport to games.

**We will not enter a team into a competition unless it has both a coach and a manager!**

If you or anyone you know is able to help us in any way, we would really like to hear from you. There are plenty of openings available!! Please contact the Sports Office 627 0600 ext 595 or email Kieren Chhiba (Sports Co-Ordinator) [sport@lynfield.school.nz](mailto:sport@lynfield.school.nz)

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## *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.

**Please be aware that we do not have the full size range in the second hand items. Proceeds from secondhand uniform sales go to our hardship fund to support students in need.**

### LYNFIELD COLLEGE BLAZER

The Lynfield College blazer is available to all students. The cost is \$260 and it can be purchased from the Uniform Shop. We only have a few available in each size at the moment, but if we have high demand, more stock can be brought in.

## 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.**

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## Community Events

### 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.

