

# Waimairi Week

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## Kia Ora,

### Term One parent information evening

The New Zealand Curriculum: What it offers your children, and why this really matters in a changing world.

Dr. Lester Flockton.

New Zealand's national curriculum document is internationally respected, yet relatively unknown to many kiwi parents. Lester has passion for helping parents understand, in plain language, what learning in New Zealand schools is all about. Come along for an informative and fun evening.

Dr. Flockton, spent 17 years as a founding director of the National Education Monitoring Project at Otago University, working in its educational assessment research unit. He has vast experience as a teacher, principal, school inspector, and researcher and curriculum designer.

Wednesday 4 April, 7:00pm. Waimairi School Hall.

## Next week

**Tuesday:**

North Zone  
swimming at Jellie  
Park

[Full calendar of  
events for the year](#)

Cross Country  
The next school  
wide event is the  
Cross Country  
which is being held  
at St James Park on  
Thursday 22 March  
More details to  
follow closer to the  
date, but put it in  
your diary now.

## School renewal update.

We are currently reviewing a draft project timeline which may have a November construction start date. Exciting times.

Today we used a full size mock-up of the new admin' area. We tested the cafe, reception, offices and staffroom. Our user feedback will allow the architects to refine the plans in coming weeks.

Final geotechnical testing will be taking place on our site on Thursday next week. The children will be well separated from the workers and their equipment. The firm undertaking the work are experienced at working on school sites.

Remember Easter Tuesday is a holiday

Unusually Easter falls during term time this year. So do note that school is closed on the Tuesday after Easter, as well as Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Have a great week

Mike



## ICAS Australian Schools Competitions 2018

These formal tests are for Y4-6 students who like to extend themselves. For some students this is a very challenging experience. Please see the attachment for more details about tests, dates and costs. Please return the entry form to the school office by Thursday, 29 March at the latest. Digital copies attached to this newsletter. To get more information go to <https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>.



### Stay in touch

**Web:** [www.waimairi.school.nz](http://www.waimairi.school.nz) is full of school information.

**Facebook & Twitter :** Every day we post information about school events on our [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#) pages. Check them out for the most up to the minute school information.

**Tiqbiz:** Get alerts direct to your phone with the Tiqbiz app for Apple & Android.

**Text:** Telecom & 2Degrees networks only: text follow waimairischool to 8987 for free txt alerts.

**Phone:** 03 352 9208

**Email:** [admin@waimairi.school.nz](mailto:admin@waimairi.school.nz)

## Author visits

We are excited to host TWO top fiction authors to Waimairi School on Monday 12 March. Local writer, **JAMES NORCLIFFE**, is coming to talk to the seniors about his novels, including 'The Loblolly Boy' which is one of the literature study books the year 5/6s do.

**JAMES RUSSELL** flies down from Auckland for the tour, and he is a picture book writer who has cleverly taken the heroes from his first 3 books and moved them into a 'novel' situation (excuse the pun!). James' books are extra special because they can be read alongside a free app 'AR Reads' which brings the books to life! He will be speaking to our juniors.

## Books for Special Situations

As well as our 'adult' books about parenting, we also have a selection of picture books and books aimed at the child reader, covering sensitive topics and special situations. Whether it is death of a family member or beloved pet, an illness in the family, the birth of a new baby, or perhaps when parents split up, there will be a book.

Other topics include bullying, self esteem, manners, anxiety ... a simple story can sometimes go a long way to allaying a child's fears and worries.

These have a special shelf in the library, so please see Fran if you would like to browse them.



## Environment News: Kaupapa Taiao

Did you know, that rubbish that doesn't make it to the rubbish bin, blows out to sea? Many marine creatures think rubbish is food and eat it. This is killing many of our sea animals. There is so much rubbish already in our seas but there are also so many marine creatures. Every time you pick up rubbish you can think of the one you saved.

## Sports news & results

The next school wide event is the **Cross Country** which is being held at St James Park on **Thursday 22 March**. More details to follow closer to the date, but put it in your diary now.

## The Patricia Paul School of Dance

Your local dance school, is currently giving Jazz and Ballet lessons in your area. The school's director is teacher, choreographer & ex-ballet dancer Patricia Paul A.R.A.D. (London). Ballet lessons from 3 years through to Advanced, and all levels in Jazz and Hip Hop starting from age 6. For all enquiries please phone 372-9191 or email [info@studioone.co.nz](mailto:info@studioone.co.nz)

## Community notices

### Kids triathlon and duathlon coming up!

On the back of a very successful Weetbix Tryathlon we would like to share the next exciting event on the Canterbury calendar, the Sea2Sky Challenge on Sunday 18th March.

Held at the beautiful Scarborough Beach we have both Duathlon and Triathlon events for all ages and abilities. We encourage children from 9 years to have a go and to bring Mum, Dad and the rest of the family to race too or to share in the day.

Please go on to our website and have a look at the different races available:

[www.sea2skychallenge.com](http://www.sea2skychallenge.com)

We hope to see many of Canterbury's children and families there.