

# Coatesville School Newsletter

“Aim! Strive! Achieve!”

[www.coatesville.school.nz](http://www.coatesville.school.nz)

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2rd June 2021

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Dear Parents/Caregivers

*Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa*

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Thank you to the entire school community for their support over the past week.

There are a number of our school community members who knew Lee and Phoenix very well and attended the funeral yesterday. All staff members (except those new to the school) were also in attendance.

We hugely appreciate the help from parents/caregivers with many children being able to be picked up early.

I had the difficult task of sharing my memories of Lee and Phoenix - from myself as a principal and as a person who knew them very well. But the service itself was very apt and the love from those present was very apparent.

It has been an extremely difficult time for family, friends, colleagues, teachers and parents but the support of the whole community has been wonderful. Thank you once again.

## **School Assembly**

We will have an assembly this Friday 4 June. It will be a normal school assembly with merit awards and other regular features. I will also speak briefly about our wish to remember Lee and Phoenix within our school. I will share any initial ideas we have and will then let other people know how to share their ideas.

Staff, students and parents have had opportunities to pay their respects and share their feelings over the past week - which many have participated in.

So our assembly will be focused on the way in which we can now remember both Lee and Phoenix.

## **Home Learning: Review**

We are currently undertaking a review of this topic. There is an [online survey opportunity](#) for parents/caregivers to give feedback on how 'Home Learning' can best support your child and your family.

There will also be a **discussion forum for parents/caregivers** focused on 'Home Learning' on Friday 4 June straight after assembly in the school staffroom.

## **Coatesville School Cross Country - Friday 11th June - 1:30pm Start.**

**This is a whole school event for all children** and is held in the Coatesville Reserve.

The afternoon will start with the 10+ year old girls and finish with the 5 year old boys.

The students will be sitting together with their Whanau between races to participate in fun warm up/warm down activities to earn points towards winning the Whanau Shield for this event! Students are therefore strongly encouraged to wear their Whanau colours on this day

**We do require a number of parents to help as course marshals or with the determination of place-getters.** If you are able to assist in either of these roles then please contact Caleb Rosamond ([crosamond@coatesvilleschool.nz](mailto:crosamond@coatesvilleschool.nz)). Please note that if we have plenty of volunteers, these jobs can be shared across the afternoon so that you are still able to see your child(ren) finish their race.

## **Structured Literacy Information Session - Tuesday 15th June 7 pm**

Come along and hear the **Kiwi Team** talk about **Structured Literacy and how we are using this approach to support all learners to read and write.**

We will share background information about the Science of Reading, what structured literacy looks like in the classroom, our literacy progressions and how you can support your child at home.

### **ICAS Exams** (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools)

Registrations for the 2021 ICAS exams are now open. Every year some Year 4-6 students from our school participate in Science, Spelling Bee, Writing, English & Mathematics ICAS exams. ALL exams will be sat online. If you would like to find out more about what is involved please visit [this link](#) and scroll down to the subjects.

**Who are the exams for?** They are very challenging exams, designed for above average achievers. If you or your child are interested but unsure please talk to the classroom teacher. They may have a view on whether ICAS is a good choice for your child.

### **2021 POSSIBLE ICAS SITTING DATES**

Writing - Monday 9th - Friday 13th August

English - Monday 16th - Friday 20th August

Science - Monday 23rd - Friday 27th August

Spelling - Monday 23rd August - Friday 27th August

Mathematics - Monday 30th August - Friday 3rd September

**Preparing for exams** Children can expect school based practice sessions to start a week or more before the exam. This will include accessing the online practice test so they become familiar with how to navigate the assessment. However, the majority of the exam practice will be completed as homework. Students will be given 4-5 old exam papers to work through independently at home. Students are welcome to collect more papers if they want. Online practice papers are also available to purchase through the ICAS website. Please note that the exact sitting date for each exam will be set closer to the time.

**Registering for ICAS** If your child is interested in taking part in the exams [please fill out the registration form](#).

All ICAS exams will be ordered and paid for via the ICAS Parent Portal this year. **NO MONEY IS TO BE PAID TO THE SCHOOL.** The Parent Portal can be accessed [here](#). You will need to enter our school access code which is **DEL779**.

Please note that each exam has a strict closing date for payment, therefore no late entries can be accepted.

All this information can also be found on our school website under 'Special Programmes' and then under ICAS'

## **Teacher Only Day: Tuesday 8 June (this is next week!)**

**Kahui Ako Conference - all day in Albany**

**Tuesday after Queens Birthday weekend - a 4-day weekend for students.**

School is closed for the day.

Thank you for your support once again.

*Ka kite ano. Hei konā mai.*

***Richard Johnson***

Richard Johnson – Principal