



Dinah Wallis

Tēnā koutou, ko Dinah tōku ingoa.

I have taught for many years in Aotearoa and 10 years in Lyttelton. Currently team-teaching in Kōwhai, Team Lead for Takaroa, co-lead for the Gifted Learners working group, one of the Enviroschools leaders, and working to implement the next level of PB4L. I love this profession, working with people is rewarding.

I come from a large family in the Auckland and Wellington Regions. My family, my two children, and my grandchild are a huge part of my life.

I believe visual art, performance, and craft to be important forms of expression. For my own pleasure, I enjoy getting away to the West Coast, exploring wild places, and getting my hands dirty. This has led to my interest in sustainable practices and conservation.

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Beccy Shirley

Kia ora, Ko Beccy tōku ingoa. The children call me Whaea Beccy. I have been on the te reo Māori learning waka for 9 years now and this is my passion. As co-leader of the cultural responsiveness team, I am responsible for teaching te reo Māori and supporting the kaiako and tamariki to be kaitiaki of this taonga.

I grew up in Southland, started my hairdressing career in Dunedin and finally ended up owning a hairdressing business in Cashel Mall, Christchurch for 12 years.

I began my teacher training in 2007 at the University of Canterbury. After working at a variety of Christchurch schools, I finally found my niche here at Lyttelton Primary School.

In my spare time I love to garden and be in nature, improve my home, watch movies, and spend time with friends and family. I am an avid traveller, with more than 40 countries stamped in my many passports. I am super excited for a fantastic year in Kōwhai again.

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Lyttelton Primary School

Kōwhai Year 3 – 4



Literacy

In Kōwhai, your child will learn to read longer texts using deeper comprehension skills to aid their understanding of more complex texts. To work out words they don't know they will use knowledge of spelling rules and make connections to their growing vocabulary. The stories they read will have a variety of sentence and language structures. They will be taught more complex punctuation with a focus on how it guides the way we use expression, and how it can alter meaning. Your child will be bringing home both fiction and non-fiction books.

They will learn more about writing in different genres - this might include instructions, explanations of what happens and the way it happens, descriptions of people, objects or things and will often connect with our inquiry topic. They will learn about more complex types of punctuation and how to use a wider range of connecting words (eg "for", "but", "so") to join sentences together. They will be encouraged use more creativity in their writing by using such devices as picture prompts and other visual stimuli.

Maths

In Year 3 and 4 your child will use their growing understanding of number, algebra, geometry, measurement and statistics to solve realistic problems. They will learn forward and backwards counting sequences and use place value knowledge to know how many ones, tens and hundreds are in a number. They will be solving problems by using basic addition, subtraction and simple multiplication and division facts. Some of the strategies they use will be solving problems by using their knowledge of doubles, breaking up numbers and moving them around, and using words, diagrams, and symbols to show their understanding and interpret maths problems.

Inquiry

Our school wide Integrated Inquiry has an overarching theme each year. In Kōwhai we will look at the inquiry process and offer topics of interest for students to explore. It involves a range of experiences and opportunities to extend their curiosity. They will show their learning across areas of the curriculum such as Science, Social Studies and The Arts.

Stationery

Please ensure your child has their own pencil case and that they have adequate pens and pencils throughout the year.

Wheke Time

In Kōwhai, Wheke Time is a process based on design/planning, doing, and reflecting on the learning successes and challenges. We then share our outcomes with the class and if able through Seesaw to our whānau.

Home Learning

The expectation is that students read every night. This should be an enjoyable time to engage your child in reading, either through you reading with your child or to your child, or your child reading to you. As well as reading, such things as retelling the story, and talking about connections you or your child can make with the book are also important components of the reading process.

Seesaw



Seesaw is an App we use to send you informal examples of your child's learning. As the year progresses, your child will begin to become more accomplished using more apps and in aspects of Seesaw. This is a fantastic way for you to stay in touch with what your tamariki is learning and their abilities. In the event of home learning needing to take place, this is the platform we will use.

Hero Reporting

HERO is the app you will need to log into to receive your child's school reports. These are written in Terms 2, 3, and 4. Please ask at the office if you are unsure how to log in.



School Newsletter

Please ensure the school has your correct email address so you can receive our fortnightly newsletter. Our tamariki share their work, learning outcomes and celebrations in the newsletter and it contains important school information.