

Contact Us



Rachel Cummins

Kia ora I'm Rachel and I teach Year 7 & 8 in Tōtara.

I am Team Leader of Rākinui and share responsibility for leading Gifted Education and EnviroSchools. I have a degree in Psychology and Education from Canterbury University and a Teaching degree from Auckland College of Education.

Before teaching in Lyttelton I have taught in Auckland, Tonga, Wanaka, The Catlins and Vanuatu. We moved to Lyttelton in 2009 and I have taught at Lyttelton Main and Lyttelton West! The best of both worlds. I am a mother of two boys aged 22 and 20.

In my spare time I love to travel and explore new places, walk with my dogs, or escape into a good book or movie. I live in Lyttelton and love this Port Town.



Nikeisha Clarke

Kia ora whānau, I'm Nikeisha and I am teaching Years 7 & 8 in Tōtara.

I share responsibility for the digital technology and cultural curriculum areas and will continue running kapahaka and the digi tech club this year.

I am passionate about te ao Māori and have enjoyed engaging with Ngāti Wheke during my time working in the Lyttelton community. I whakapapa to the Catlins area and

In my spare time I enjoy exploring nature, travelling around the South Island, playing netball and taking my dog to the beach!

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Lyttelton Primary School
Tōtara Year 7 – 8



Literacy

Reading in Tōtara will involve exploring and responding to a range of texts and using relevant digital platforms to present their new understandings.

Students will engage in a variety of written, oral, practical and visual tasks to meet their diverse needs. They will be involved in targeted teaching workshops to develop specific reading and comprehension strategies to support their progression as well as engagement in our online reading programme, Reading Plus.

In writing your child will increase their accuracy and fluency in writing a variety of texts across the curriculum. They will become more independent when selecting writing processes and strategies, and the range of texts they write. They will write more complex texts and select different strategies for different writing purposes. Topics will reflect learning across all curriculum areas to ensure tasks are authentic and relevant.

This year we will be continuing to engage in the smart words programme that supports students to develop their spelling and grammar skills.

Maths

Mathematics in Year 7 & 8 will build on the knowledge and skills gained through the previous year, including basic facts, place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and ratios and proportions. A larger focus in Year 7 & 8 is around the strand areas of the curriculum including geometry and measurement, algebraic thinking, statistics and probability. The students will be involved in daily workshops which are teacher directed as well as independent tasks which will help cement their knowledge including using e-ako and other digital links which are able to be accessed at home as well.

School Newsletter

Please make sure the school office has your correct email or contact address so you can receive our fortnightly newsletter. A lot of important information is passed on this way.

Digital Learning

We use technology daily to help engage and challenge our students. This year they will use a range of different tools to research, create and share their learning in creative ways. Seesaw will be used as our main communication platform for sharing learning with home. BOYD devices are strongly encouraged and will help minimise disruption to your child's learning. Headphones are required this year for all students.

Inquiry

We have three major Inquiries over the year as our focus across the school. These drive the learning for our place based curriculum. The overarching theme this year is Mana/Power.

In Tōtara we will explore how our footsteps from the past guide the future. Students will develop an understanding of a range of concepts including space, Māori history and participate in a school production.

Technology & Languages

Year 7 & 8 students travel to Christchurch East on Monday afternoons to learn hard tech, soft tech and cooking. During Term 2 & 3 Cashmere language teachers will be coming to school to teach Japanese & French.

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.

