

Kimi News, Week 8, Term 4, 2016



Recently Evans Bay held a Science Fair to showcase learning they have been involved in this term. It was attended by children from St Patrick's Primary School and Evans Bay Intermediate. Tim, Morgan and Nando from the Naenae Science Group also attended, and hosted their own experiments based around bubbles.

The event was a huge success. It was interactive and engaging for all of the students who attended. I am sure you have seen evidence of some of the interesting experiments that your children have been involved with throughout the term! What a great vehicle to motivate and engage students in their learning!



Congratulations

to our most recent cup winners!

Telehia for accurate communication of her likes and dislikes using the PODD.

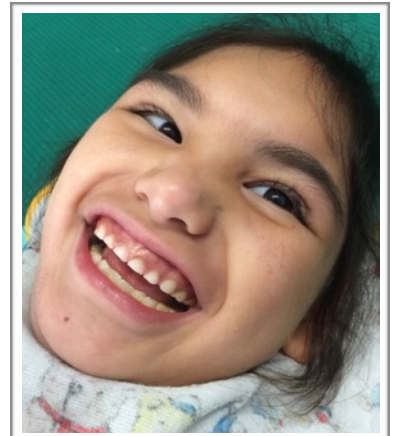


Anna for eating all her lunch with her fingers, fork and spoon.

Tane for awesome participation in PE at the Tamatoa Unit, Rongotai College.



Te Au Māire for great balancing when sitting and engaging in activities.



Shuai'b for fantastic listening and following instructions to complete his exercises.



Everyone's Adventure wants to make outdoor adventures free for as many Wellington families as possible this summer. You can help them reach the target buy booking a fun kayak or bike experience for your family (child size available!), or buying vouchers for family and friends for Christmas.

Here's how it works:

1. Make a booking at The Boatshed - Days Bay, The Bike Shed - Pencarrow, or Cycle Rimutaka, or buy a voucher for someone else to enjoy an adventure. Every dollar spent there counts - including drinks, ice creams and snacks.
 2. The owners have calculated how much it'll cost to safely operate those businesses over summer, and pay staff - it's \$300k.
 3. Once the business' \$300k summer costs are reached through your purchases, gear hire is FREE for everyone, for the rest of summer - til Easter weekend 2017.
- If Wellington families get behind Everyone's Adventure now, adventures will be free by the end of the summer holidays!

Below is information on a project that will be commencing in the Wainuiomata Lower Hutt Valley area for Maori whanau.

This project is a directive from the Ministry of Health to work along side Maori whanau.

The poster has a background image of hands holding a white bowl. In the top left corner is the 'CARE MATTERS LEARNING & WELLBEING' logo with the website 'www.carematters.org.nz'. The main text is in green: 'Nau mai, haere mai', 'CARE MATTERS IS INVITING YOU TO COME TOGETHER TO KORERO FOR CARERS OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.' Below this, in black, is the aim: 'The aim is to grow leadership, share our experiences, explore an alternative way of "Getting a Break" and to influence change in areas important to you and your whanau.' Further down, it says: 'During our time together we will look at how we can be more creative with our current supports. A meet and greet Hui is planned in Wainuiomata at The Hub Queen St Friday 9th Dec 9am- 11am. Come join our roopu to build strength and leadership in your community.' At the bottom, contact information is provided: 'Contact Wendy Isaia by text/phone on 0272456010 Freephone 0508 726 769 or email wendywooz@xtra.co.nz to find out more and become a part of your local Kitchen Table.'



At the end of this term we farewell some spectacular staff members who are moving onto embrace new opportunities. We would like to thank them for their awesome input into our students' lives and the Kimi Ora community.

Lynne Birch has been part of our Outreach Team of teachers who work in mainstream schools for the past five years. Lynne is heading into retirement at the end of this term.

Leanne Dean is also a part of the Outreach Team, and was previously the teacher in Kowhai Class. Leanne is finishing at the end of the term to have her second baby.

Sarah Robinson, Pukeko Class teacher, will start maternity leave at the end of this term to have her second baby. We will look forward to seeing her back again in the near future!

A huge thank you to Raph Millen who stepped into Totara Class this year to cover Jess Hall's maternity leave. Raph has done a stunning job of helping Totara students gain more involvement in the community.

Katie Woodhams has been a Teacher Aide in Pohutukawa Class this year. Katie has done an amazing job of working alongside students in learning to use their communication devices, she is in particular a whizz with the PODD. Katie is going to be training to be a Speech Language Therapist next year.

Steph Mentor has been working as a Teacher Aide in Kea Class. She is an integral part of our Ukeladies group and will be well missed, especially for her musical ability to enhance learning sessions! Steph is going to train to be a Teacher next year.

Swimspiration - bulk deal!

If you are interested in a \$10 discount for some swim pants for the summer. Go to www.swimspiration.co.nz and decide upon which swim pants would suit your child (refer to the instructions below if you are after board shorts too).

The black swim pants are a much more generous size (particularly around the thighs) than the board Shorts. I recommend that they go by the size of the swim pants measurements for correct size, then up size by one size for board shorts.

Please email your order to suep@kimiora.school.nz by Friday 9th December.



Board Talk

We held a board meeting on 18 October, 2016 in the staffroom at Naenae. Ministry of Education (MoE) Officials, David Wales, National Manager of Special Education and the Regional Services Manager, Deborah Hughes were unable to attend at the last minute.

Special Education Review

We had written to the Acting Secretary of Education outlining concerns with the Cabinet Paper presented by the Minister of Education in July. In the letter we covered: the review of the ORS system, the apparent intention to cease funding through ORS of pupils between the ages of 18 and 21, and the government's view of the future role of Special Schools in the pre-school, primary and secondary education systems.

We have subsequently, at our Board meeting this past Tuesday had the opportunity to discuss these issues with the Head of Special Education and the Regional Manager and I'll cover that discussion in the next Board Talk.

Update to the Education Amendment Act

Alex Matheson (Rosie's Dad) discussed parts of the proposed amendment that might impact on Kimi Ora:

- It could reduce the powers of Board of Trustees (BOT) including changing the processes around school's leasing of buildings etc.
- The MoE would make decisions regarding off campus accommodation rather than BoTs.
- Introduction of a system of 3-4 year operational/strategic plans to be aligned with the National Strategy and no longer having charters.
- It may give power to force BOT's to amalgamate and overall indicates an overall plan to centralise control.

The Board requested that Alex draft a submission for the select committee, which he did. Alex and I presented at the Select Committee hearing on Wednesday, 30 November.

School Operations and Policy

The new van has arrived and is being used and enjoyed. A new physiotherapist has been appointed, Yazmin Higham and will be starting in Term 1, 2017.

A child protection policy has been developed by the Leadership Team. If anyone would like a copy please contact your child's teacher.

We have approved the use of a space available at Laura Fergusson Trust for next year. This will be a pilot for a period of one year which will support some of our older students to be in a more community based setting and to access a greater range of experiences. We will be charged for cleaning and a small koha. The Board has asked that a memorandum of understanding be drawn up so all parties know what their responsibilities are. We will evaluate the use of this space at the end of the year to see if objectives are being met.

Seclusion Rooms

The use of seclusion rooms was in the media at the time of this meeting. Shirley assured us that we do not use seclusion rooms. We have a chill out area (library), sensory room and students can go outside to play. Students are free to come and go from these areas. Any issue we have with challenging behaviour is discussed with parents and a plan is put in place. Also, if outside agencies are to be involved this is also in discussion with parents.

Shirley assured the Board that we are open with how we support challenging behaviour and strategies are put in place to enable a student to access learning and their environment. These strategies are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Roll Growth Update

It was noted that the MoE policy in our region continues to be different to the national policy around special school roll growth and satellite classes.

Shirley had a meeting with the regional manager of special education where she was informed that we can have 3 extra classrooms at Naenae to accommodate our current students but a cap has now been put in place to keep our overall roll will be 58. These new classrooms have now been announced through the media. We have been advised that no new section 9's will be signed off. We are contesting this.

The availability of two classrooms at a local school was discussed at the meeting as an alternative to having three new classrooms but Shirley was once again informed there will be no satellite classrooms due to the planned development of a national strategy.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is on Tuesday, 13 December at 6.30pm at 12 Veronica Street, Brooklyn.

Board meetings are public, which means all parents are welcome to attend. The Board is responsible for school governance and the Principal for school management. If you have any issues you think are governance issues, contact Shirley or myself, pwood.nz@gmail.com or 021 1655329.

Nga Mihi,

Philippa



hot, *wera*

Place right fingertips on chin. Turn hand quickly to palm down while moving hand forward, stopping with stress.

Signs we
are
learning...



cold, *makariri*

Form fists with both hands. Place at sides of chest. Move formation in quick, short sideways movements, several times.