

Rāpare rua tekau ma toru o Hui-tanguru: Thursday 23 February 2017

<http://www.levinnorth.school.nz>

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What we are working on this year...

Every year as part of my planning, I look at what we did well in 2016 and what we need to be better at... I need to write a summary (called an Analysis of Variance – bla!) and an Annual Plan. The Annual Plan determines where our limited funding will be spent, as despite what the government will have you believe, schools run on the smell of an oily rag!

This year we are really focussing heavily on literacy which of course is reading and writing in 'National Standard' terms. However, each of these begin with exploring oral language and having experiences to talk and write about.

We are looking at ways of making reading and writing more fun and much more relevant to the lives of our students. On Tuesday at our staff meeting, we brainstormed heaps of ideas and some of these included having sister/brother schools/classrooms, inviting whanau to come to school to share their favourite stories and developing short fun sessions for families to help out at home.

We also talked about inviting people to come in and read with our kids – even just once, and teachers swapping classrooms to share their favourite stories.

We are also having a **BIG writing hui on Wednesday 15 March**. This will be a fun night (of some kind) that will help our community to understand why we do what we do (including moving away from exercise books ☺) and not focussing on handwriting ☺ to name a couple of the 'issues'.

I have included some great examples of writing below; the focus was on 'writing meaningful text: vocabulary knowledge'. This is one of the deeper features of writing (as mentioned last week).



I am feeling like a shaking table on the roof. The sky is colourful, it has an amber and a yellow glow. In the distance of the sky, the day is taking over the night.

By Reign



In the countryside sat a little cottage. There was a beautiful sunset all around the cottage. The clouds were a sort of goldish colour. The night was approaching. The light was making autumn leaves glow with gold.

By Tyler

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Learning Conversations Next Week – **HAVE YOU BOOKED?** Tuesday 28 February, Wednesday 1 March and Thursday 2 March

We have scheduled the above dates next week for our learning conversations to start the year. These are a chance for parents, teachers and children to set goals and talk through expectations. They are held over three days: **Tuesday 28 Feb 3.15 -6.00 pm; Wednesday 1 March 3.15 – 8.00 pm and Thursday 2 March 3.15 – 6.00 pm.** Once again you can book your time online and let's see if we can get 100% turn out again!

Please login to our website www.levinnorth.school.nz , click on the tab **School Interviews** and enter code **uxxyw** to make your booking, or come in to the office and Andrea or Erin will make the booking for you.

Music Lessons

Music lessons will start next week – Nikki will be here on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this year as we have SO MANY 'would-be' Musicians!!! Please make sure you have paid for these lessons as we have to be much stricter about payments than in previous years. **It is \$10.00 per lesson - per week - per instrument.** Weekly payments made to the office are fine too.

EFTPOS is Coming to North

We are investigating having an Eftpos machine in our office so that parents and whanau - who don't carry cash (and to be fair very few of us do!) - are able to pay their donations/sports costs/music lessons easily.

This should be in place in the next few weeks and we will let you know more soon.

Quiz Night
18 March; 8.00 pm
4-6 people in a team
(we keep all proceeds from ticket sales)
Raffles and
entertainment from 7.00 pm
Tickets \$5.00 per person from
Levin North School or Levin Club

now available

**Support our community to
support us!**

Spectacular Sports Word

CRICKET ACADEMY

Our two cricket academy squads continued their tournament yesterday afternoon down at Donnelly Park. Both Team Green and Team Black demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. Both teams played against Fairfield, with one win and one loss. Players of the day were: Ariana and Makere. Well done girls!

SWIMMING

Year 0-3 swimmers continue to bring in your togs please. Next week is our last week of timetabled swimming.

SUMMER HOCKEY

Games for the Year 3/4 (North Ministicks) and Year 5/6 teams (North Blacksticks) begin tonight down at Halliwell Hockey Turf right next to Donnelly Park. All players were given a draw and a team list. Please ensure you are there with plenty of time to spare and with the correct uniform, including hockey stick and mouth guard.

TEEBALL / SOFTBALL

Games continue on Friday after school for the North Eagles. The other two teams have a bye. All players were given a draw and a team list. Please ensure you are there with plenty of time to spare, and with the correct uniform.

And finally... SPECTATING

A friendly reminder that children in schools play sport for fun. It is our job to be role-models and to encourage fair play, positive language and persistence - especially if we are not winning! Comments on the side lines should be supportive of all teams. Our kids are great, and I want them to feel proud of themselves for committing to a team and trying their best.

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'STEPPING UP'

Entering teams into community sporting competitions is very hard when there is little support for them. I appreciate that many of you have work commitments so therefore, if you can't help, please respect and help those who are doing this to support the children, so they can continue to play.

STAFF and WHĀNAU

A continued thank you to Danny, the staff and whānau, who help to support our development of sport in our school.

Ngā mihi nui, Anna Cooper (Sports Co-ordinator)

**PLEASE
RETURN
YOUR
LIBRARY
BOOKS!**

AMNESTY

A word from the Library Team:

Our school library has over \$1000 of borrowed books that are missing. Our books have the school's name on them. If you find any books that belong to the school lurking at home, then please return them to school. There is a Returns cabinet in the library or hand them in to either the school office or the classroom teacher. We would be very grateful to see books returning to the library.

FundFinders

Fundfinders have some very exciting projects on the horizon over the next few weeks. The first of these is to promote **reading at our school** and our **Scholastic Book Week on 13 – 17 March**. Our theme will be '**pirates**' and we will be having lots of other school happenings to support it. The process is that parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles or whoever come and purchase a book from the display - which will be set up in Room 18.

For every book purchased, Scholastic give us money to purchase books for our library. It is a great way for us to have great reading material for your children. So start collecting your loose change in a jar – better than it going through the washing machine ☺!

If you would like to be involved or are able to help in any way, come to a meeting on 6 March after school in our staffroom. More information to come.

Fundfinders are also going to try a **Tupperware fundraiser** just in time for Mother's Day. This event is for all the Tupperware fanatics; for those who want to know what all the fuss is about or just to come and have a good time with some new people! More details will follow.

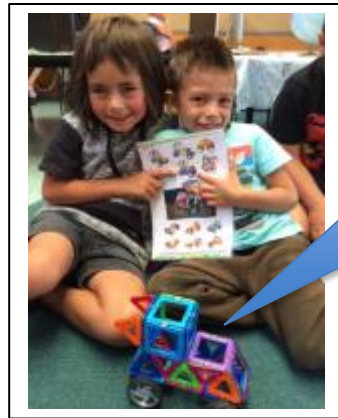
Easter Raffle – they will be having their fabulous easter raffle again – more details to come...

If you would like to meet the crew come along to the meeting on Monday 6 March!

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Farewell to our friends Jayde, Tairawhiti and Te Ariki who are on their way to Christchurch today. We wish you well in your new school!



These two engineers can make anything!
Go Rikau and Te Ariki

A REMINDER THAT ALL CHILDREN ARE TO WEAR SUNHATS AT SCHOOL THIS TERM.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS A SUNHAT IN THEIR SCHOOL BAG!

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