

Rāpare tua tahi o Mahuru: Thursday 31 August 2017

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

<https://www.facebook.com/levin.northschool>

What does success look like for all children?

With the election looming I thought I would share this. It was in the latest edition of Education Aotearoa. Parents were asked what **Education Success** looked like...

One said "Schools can aspire to be what society isn't. They can value every pupil equally, regardless of their ability or social status. Schools can cater to every shade of difference and respond creatively to challenges that these differences pose, because their goal is – or should be - to produce equity."

This parent had three children, two of whom have autism. For all of them, her hopes were exactly the same; that they would leave school with skills and knowledge as well as a sense of self-worth and the ability to relate to their peers. She went on to say that inclusive (those that accept, celebrate and include children with differences) schools are good for everyone.

They are good for forming young citizens into advocates for a more inclusive society as these young people are far more accepting of peers who are 'different'. In my experience as a principal, it is often the adults who are most judgmental, for fear that their child might be 'missing out' or being 'badly treated' by the 'different' child. More often than not the opposite is the case – our different children have a lot to teach us about compassion and empathy; if we let them. Please note: not a mention of National Standards was made by ANY of the respondents!

Out of the mouths of five year olds

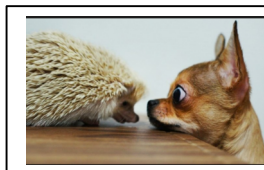
When I grow up I want to be...

A hedgehog so that I can hurt my brother...

A mermaid

A lego maker

What does your child want to be?



ERO Review

Some of you will remember that we had the Education Review Office visit our school last term. We now have the confirmed review and it is available in full on our school website. We are very happy with their findings as they confirmed what we know about our school culture, leadership, teachers and learners. It is worth reading. Some quotes:

- *Analysed assessment information shows most children who enter school at five years of age, require accelerated progress to achieve in relation to the National Standards. Overtime, most achieve well by the end of Year 6.*
- *Parents and whānau involvement is valued and encouraged in a supportive environment.*
- *The school is highly inclusive, developing a wide range of well-considered educational partnerships.*

Levin North School is a positive, caring community, which promotes lifelong learning, celebrates individuality and encourages participation and success for all.



<http://www.newstalkzb.co.nz/on-air/kerremcivor-and-mark-dye-afternoons/nathan-wallis-chloe-wright-love-grows-brains/>

Last week I attended an

Educational Leaders

forum in Rotorua. The event was sponsored by the 'Wright Family Foundation' and you may have seen the current campaign on TV (Love grows brains).

I have included a link above which is an interview with Nathan Mikaere Wallis and ALL of the research points to the importance of the first 1000 days of PARENTING as being vital to developing a child's brain. This link is well worth listening to in terms of our looming election...

Next BOT Meeting

Our next Board of Trustees meeting is in the staffroom on Monday 25 September at 6.30 pm. Although we don't have an election for a while to come, some of you might find the process interesting. It gives an insight in to the roles of the Board of Trustees and how the school operates. Anyone is welcome to attend.

KIA KAHA - AN INVITE: HELP US TO TAKE A STAND

On Thursday 14 September from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm we are inviting you to our 'TAKE A STAND' meeting/hui. The focus of this hui is to involve our community in helping Levin North become a 'bully free' school where every child feels safe and supported. In order to do this, we are running the Kia Kaha programme across the whole school. This programme enables students to develop strategies for respectful relationships where bullying behaviours are not tolerated.



At our hui you will be introduced to the Kia Kaha programme, see the activities your children will take part in and have a chance to explore some home and school strategies that support your child.

It will be a highly interactive evening - less teacher talk more parent voice - so please join us and help make Levin North the safest school in the Horowhenua!

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa
Let us keep close together not far apart

SENSATIONAL SPORTS WORD

Term 3, Week 6

TACKLE RUGBY COMPETITION

Yesterday our tackle rugby team played their second game against Ōhau School. There were incredible improvements on last week's game and the children played very well, scoring plenty of tries. The final result was a win to Ōhau, but again there were some stand-out performances. Tries were awarded to Riley, Onyx, Makaia and Calais.

NETBALL AND HOCKEY

This weekend signals the end of the winter sport season for Netball and Hockey. Most of the children who have participated in these sports have committed themselves for the entire season and should be very proud of themselves. Signing up to a team sport is a big decision but once you are part of one, you have a responsibility to work together. Well done teams!

A huge thank you to Maraea, Sally, Mr Prior, Hannah, Tracey, Joe, Tiffany and all the whānau who supported their children in playing and practising.

NETBALL SPRINGTIME TOURNAMENT

This Sunday (Father's Day) there is a netball Springtime Tournament. A tournament team has been chosen and will spend the day at the courts representing the school. For those of you that wish to support, there will be a whānau kai based under one of the Levin North's gazebos. All positive support is welcome! Best of luck for the tournament girls!

And finally...

SCHOOL APP

Remember to download the school app if you want to get more information about sports or school activities. Contact the office if you want to know more!

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Any uniforms that are no longer being used, please return them to school washed, clean and dry.

"Sports do not build character, they reveal it."

~ Heywood Broun ~

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

anna@levinnorth.school.nz

Levin North School is a positive, caring community, which promotes lifelong learning, celebrates individuality and encourages participation and success for all.