

Ko Rāpare te ra iwa o Whiringa-ā-rangi: Thursday 9 November 2017

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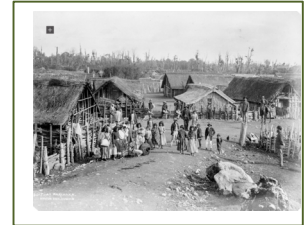
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Parihaka: Our New Zealand History!

***"Though the lions rage still I am for peace...Though I be killed I yet shall live; though dead, I shall live in peace which will be the accomplishment of my aim."* Te Whiti o Rongomai, 1881**

Tohu Kākahi and Te Whiti o Rongomai were the leaders of one of New Zealand's first peace movements. Emerging from the turbulent years of the Taranaki land wars (1860-65), Tohu and Te Whiti could see that the only way forward for their people was to lay aside their weapons and **fight for their rights through peaceful means**. They established a settlement at Parihaka between Mount Taranaki and the sea. From here they engaged in a programme of passive resistance against the New Zealand government's land confiscation plan.

Our teaching resource tells the story of Parihaka which in 1881 had more than 2000 inhabitants. It developed as an industrious and self-sufficient community. The two leaders of the settlement had a philosophy of encouraging their whanau to live their lives in a peaceful way.

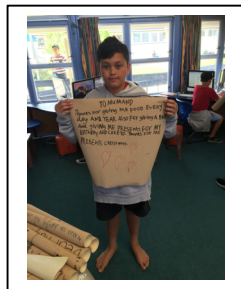
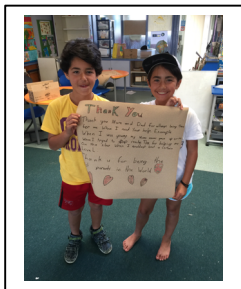


***'He aroha ki te tangata ahakoa ko wai'* – love towards people whoever they are.**

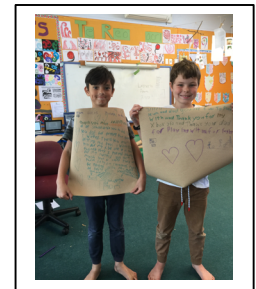
The government of the day however had promised to allow the people of Parihaka 'adequate reserves' of land in return for non-engagement in future land wars; it was not to be. On 5 November 1881, Parihaka was invaded and in the subsequent years many men were arrested and sent to various parts of New Zealand.

The peaceful manner in which the people 'protested' became well known. Te Raukura: The Albatross Feather became a symbol of peace and pride for the people of Parihaka. The white feather became a sign that all nations through the world would be one; black, red and all others who are called human beings. This feather became the sign of unity, prosperity, peace and goodwill.

In 2003, Parihaka was visited by an international delegation of representatives of Martin Luther King Jnr, Mahatma Gandhi and Daisaku Ikeda (from a Japanese peace movement). They came to posthumously recognise the contribution of Tohu and Te Whiti to the cause of peace. **That's why we should know about Parihaka – it is our history!**



Awesome writing and a bunny visit!



Getting Organised for 2018...

The last few weeks have been very busy for us as we prepare for next year.

We have appointed our teachers and congratulations go to Manu Bennett, Rod Davis, Megan McKenzie, Chad Prior and Kerri Vickers who will be staying at our school. We have also been looking at classes for next year and how best to use the skills and experiences of our teachers. As a result of our considerable deliberations there are a number who will be moving levels and classrooms. Rooms and levels will be confirmed as soon as we have finalised class lists which are changing every day.

On this note, we have also been steadily enrolling students, however it makes life a bit difficult when we are trying to plan 2018. If you know of anyone who is intending to enrol their children with us next year (at any time) could you encourage them to let us know? This is particularly important for five year olds. This helps us to make sure we have the right people in the right place!

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

Chicken Pox

...is still doing the rounds at school. The following information is from the Ministry of Health website.

The illness starts 10–21 days after being exposed.

Chickenpox is contagious from 1–2 days before the blisters appear. Children need to be kept home from school and early childhood education centres for 1 week from the appearance of the rash until all blisters have dried.

Remember: chickenpox is serious for pregnant women and people who have a reduced immune response (eg children with cancer).

The chickenpox virus is spread through the air by infected people when they sneeze or cough.

- *Always turn away from others and use tissues when you cough or sneeze.*
- *Always wash your hands after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.*

Chickenpox can also spread through touching the blisters and then touching objects or other people.

- *Wash your hands often, especially if you're the caregiver of a child with chickenpox – and make sure they do the same.*
- *Discourage children from scratching the blisters.*

Pride of the School Awards

It seems that there has been a bit of confusion about the 'Pride of the School' award and the pizza lunch. Our school has been divided into areas of responsibility and each week a class has an area to keep clean and tidy. At the end of each week our caretaker lets me know which class has done the best 'job' and they win the 'Pride of the School' certificate for the week. At the end of the term all the winning classroom numbers go into a 'hat' and one classroom is pulled out. It is this classroom that gets the pizza lunch. Last term Room 7 won the pizza lunch. Unfortunately, we don't do a pizza lunch every week!!! Sorry for the confusion and I have been around and explained the process to the little people who didn't understand.

Festival on the Field is coming....

Friday 24 November is our annual Festival on the Field. We will have a mini concert including performances from our Band, Choir and Kapa Haka groups as well as lots of other great items. The evening will start at about 5.30 pm and there will be heaps of food available for purchase. More details next week.

Kapa Haka at Western House

Late last week our Kapa Haka group were invited to perform for a group of Russian visitors at Western House so on Wednesday evening at 6.30 pm we performed and what a performance it was! I'm sure we have gone viral in Russia's equivalent of Facebook! Thanks so much to all of the parents who brought their children along and stayed to watch the performance – many tears of pride were shed.



End of Year Trips...

As some of you will know, a few classes were hoping to go to Kapiti Island or the Zoo for their end of year trip. However, in looking in to these options further, we have decided that the costs for these at this time of year are not realistic for many of our families. We have made the decision to reschedule these for 2018 when we have time to follow due process and fundraise properly. These classes affected will be looking for another 'fun' experience that is affordable **for all** in our local area.



Twilight soccer has started – thanks to everyone who is supporting this....



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