

Ko Rāapa, toru tekau mā tahi o Haratua : Thursday 31 May 2018

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Our teachers spend a lot of time thinking about how we can improve students learning in class and outside of class. **RISK TAKING** is a key aspect of all children's learning. The term "risk-taking" is defined as "a situation where an individual has to make a decision involving choice between alternatives of different desirability; the outcome of the choice is uncertain; there is a possibility of **failure**" (Beebe, 1983, p. 39).

On the other hand, according to some linguists, they define risk-taking as the ability of being **eager** and **ambitious** to experience new information intelligently regardless of **embarrassment** (cited in Hui-An Yu, 2005). **Student risk taking can take** many forms in the classroom.

Taking a risk could mean that students:

- Answer/ask questions more often
- Are more open to feedback given by peers and teachers
- Are able to collaborate with others
- Show perseverance when approaching challenging tasks
- Take more ownership of their learning
- Able to explain their mathematical thinking in more detail
- Take pride in their work more often
- Reflect on their performance and set goals
- Rise above their own personal expectations
- Start to develop leadership skills



For some students, taking a risk is to raise their hand in class. For others, it might be engaging in mathematical conversations with their peers or using feedback as a learning tool. Another student might want to take what was introduced in class and start an enrichment project.

Personal risk is truly determined by the student. To make sure that students take academic risks, they need to feel as though their community supports them. Modelling how to approach risk-taking at **School and Home** is important. Sharing personal stories and continually reinforcing that **making mistakes is part of the learning process**, can help create opportunities for students to take risks on their own.



So how can you encourage risk-taking at home?

- 1. Model failure** - reinforce that it's okay to get it wrong, you learn from getting things wrong. Discuss why it went wrong and how it could be done differently next time.
- 2. Provide risk-taking opportunities** - climbing trees, doing jumps on their bike or scooter, playing music and/or dancing in front of others, making scrambled eggs, trying new foods.
- 3. Minimize the pain of making an error** - remind them it's okay to not be perfect, or for things not to work out straight away. Celebrate that they tried.

Events Coming up

- Year 4 to Year 6 Swimming **this Thursday and Friday**
- Year 4 to Year 6 Swimming Sports **Thursday 14 June**
- School Photographs **Wednesday 6 June** in the school hall



School Photos - PhotoLife

Each child has been given their own PhotoLife order form with their name printed on the bottom. ALL orders need to be returned to the office **before** photo day on **Wednesday 6 June** with payment - or the payment having been made online. If you require sibling photos, you need to complete a separate envelope; please collect one from the office. Thank you.

Sumdog

Our school purchases a number of subscriptions to Websites. Sumdog is our most successful with students. Students like Tutere have solved 15,000 questions, Makere 11,000 and Direll 11,000 questions this year. These students take less than 3 seconds to solve sums. The assessment information we get from these sites gives us a clearer picture of students strengths and weaknesses.

Over the next 2 weeks we are trialling Sumdog Spelling and Reading. We are hoping students will embrace these new options and that spelling becomes more interactive for them - and they take more **RISKS**. Have a go on Sumdog: <https://www.sumdog.com/>



CAMP - FIREWOOD RAFFLE - A CORD AND A HALF OF NORFOLK PINE

- To raise funds for our end of year camp
- Only \$10 a ticket – only 100 tickets – so be in quick!
- Tickets for sale in the school office now

Thank you for your support!

PRE-SCHOOL CLASS - 4 to 5 year olds

Pre-school classes are every Tuesday afternoon from 1.30 pm until 2.45 pm. It is for all 4 to 5 year olds coming to our school.

This is a great opportunity for children and parents to get to know what school is all about with a small number of children. Parents and caregivers also get a chance to ask questions about life at school. This year the pre-school teacher is Mrs (Dagmar) Johnson. Please contact the office or email Gaywyn Shippam for further details - (gaywynn@levinnorth.school.nz).



Science at North

Making learning real. As you may have read in the local paper our school has seized the opportunity of growing trout as part of our science focus. Students will be looking at the life cycle of trout, the effects of water quality on our environment and what makes a fish a fish. One hundred trout eggs will arrive at the end of May and our aim is to ensure that as many as possible survive. A location for release has yet to be chosen. Thank you Mrs Vickers for organising this amazing opportunity for our students. See photos over ...

