

Ko Rāpare rua tekau o Here-turi-kōkā : Thursday 20 August 2020

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Mr D...

Your time at North has come to an end
Farewell to a leader, mentor and friend
Your jokes, your quips and quite messy ways
memories of you that will always stay

The needs of the children always came first
To listen and talk with them time ideas well versed
Your patience and kindness above all else
At times their needs above those of yourself...

Families that trust you to do the right thing
No job too big , you made many hearts sing
Our TAs will miss you of that I am sure
Daily juggling, kids needs to the fore

Nga Roto the production you researched and wrote
Celebrating our kids and our place - yes we did gloat
Our little people who acted and pushed fear aside
It showcased our singers who sang with such pride

And then to your role as a leader across town
You had us in stitches with tears rolling down
Our faces as we laughed at disastrous jokes
Continuums aside our thoughts you provoked

And behind that jocular face for the world
A man whose words profoundly unfurled
The real things in life no one wants to discuss
You opened our eyes without any fuss

And so to a new page and chapter in life
A home on the west coast where sandflies are rife
Your life's passion to write and fish from the shore
Your hairiness (what kids say) around our town no
more...

And so to an amazing 'old fella' who people just love
whose hats quite distinctive the covering above
The **west coast hippie** your title bestowed
On you our treasured Mr D as you travel your new
road



He's nice. I don't really like his beard because it's kind of long and hairy. I like playing hockey and basketball with him.

- Lavender

He's a great dancer, I saw him dancing at the halloween party. Ikuna He is kind like a king -

Dylan



He has a big heart! -

Harry

He is funny because he tried to sing - Cruz

He is really cool because he is good looking and he has long hair - Phoenix



He is tall like a giraffe

- Noah



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Manaakitanga We value ourselves, others and the environment,

Kotahitanga, We own what we do, we have a sense of being together , we belong, **Manawanuitanga**:Determination to do our best and never give up

