

Karetu Konnection



IN THIS ISSUE...

Writing Workshop

Kauri's News

Kahikatea's News

Manuka's News

Kowhai's News

Cup Cake Fundraiser

Working Bee

Tour de Reading

Shear-a-thon

N.C. Cricket
Competition

Gemma McCaw

Banquer

Amazing Art

Kapa haka

Flower Show

Sport Canterbury

and much more . . .

Writing is a Winner!



Author - Heather McQuillan

Wonderful Worthy Writing Workshop

By Amelia Green

Don't you just love a good book, the way your mind takes you to unknown places. But do you know the work behind getting all these books written, published and on the shelves? On the 20th March four keen authors, Gwen Jones, Lily Cook, Liam Murphy and Amelia Green, headed to the Rangiora Library to listen to a talented author - Heather McQuillan. Heather has written both children's and adult books. She talked to those attending her workshop about her teaching and writing experiences and her journey to becoming an author. She says that she was originally a teacher who wrote, but now she is a writer who teaches!

The students got a chance to write a couple of short stories, play some games and even draw too.

Gwen's thoughts on the writing workshop were, "It was fun and I learnt quite a lot about writing."

Over all everybody who attended had a blast, learnt lots and were quite inspired to continue writing in the future.

Since the workshop some students have sent further work to Heather. She will critique the writing and maybe even send it to a publisher where it may be chosen to be published in the 'Write On' magazine.

A Snapshot of Happenings from Kauri Camp

This term Kauri and Kahikatea were lucky enough to visit Staveley for their annual camp. This is situated near Methven and is a wonderful site for a school camp. Even though the weather wasn't the best this didn't stop our children and adults from having a lot of fun.

Experiences included: archery and air rifles, outdoor cooking, working with a compass, team building exercises, a visit to the Methven Heritage Centre (definitely worth it if you ever get the chance), orienteering and a stream study. Unfortunately because of the rain the stream went from a nice ambling stream on day one to a raging torrent on day two so only one group had the opportunity to complete this activity. All in the all, we had a fantastic three days. Many thanks to all the parents who stayed with us or transported us there and back. Without your support we would not be able to do this.



Hunter, Tate, Cooper, George, Archie and Mikey winning a team building exercise.



PJ, Ben W, Elstin, Sarah, Cate, Harry, Penny, Sophia, Annabelle and Micah enjoying the outdoor cooking.

Swimming

This term our P.E. focus has been swimming. Many of us are very good swimmers and some qualified for the Tri-Schools Swimming Sports. In this competition we were up against swimmers from Loburn and Ashley Schools.

Eliza, Henry, Lily and Katie were our real stars as they also qualified for the Rakahuri Zone Swimming Sports, plus Eliza qualified for the Canterbury Schools' sports.



Our Rakahuri swimmers: Eva, Lucy, Sophie, Meadow, Lily, Eliza, Katie, Charley, Finley, Harry and Henry.

Flower Show

Earlier on in the term we had our annual flower show. During the morning Kauri made miniature gardens. As usual there was huge support from our families. It is always great to see such a variety of exhibits being displayed. Many thanks to all our parents for their help.



Daisy Jones' handicraft for the flower show.

Kahikatea In Action!

Flower Show

At the beginning of this term we held our annual flower show. We had beautiful art work on display, yummy cupcakes and gingerbread men, amazing craft work and vegetable creatures of all kinds. The judges were impressed with the wide variety of artistic creativity on display! Well done Kahikatea!



Elijah's spider!

Garden to Table

We are so lucky to be able to offer our children the Garden to Table experience. They all embrace it so enthusiastically and when we sit down to eat, it feels like we're one big family!

Both the gardening sessions and kitchen sessions are wonderful experiences creating rich conversations amongst our children. We want to say a huge thank you to the lovely Mrs Webb, Cherry, Rachel and all the parent helpers for making this possible.



Enjoying the fruits of our labour!

Summit Climb - Mt Grey

In Week 2 the Year 4 to 8 children climbed Mount Grey as part of our Summit Challenge launch. We had a perfect day for it as we started off from Lake Janet in the morning. We stopped for morning tea at the look out then headed up to the summit for lunch. It was amazing to see the children's perseverance and determination to get to the top! Well done Kahikatea for making it to the Summit!! Thank you to Mrs Hughes for organising this fantastic Mt Grey climb.



We made it!

Camp at Staveley

In Week 8 Kauri and Kahikatea headed to Staveley for their annual camp. We set out on Wednesday morning to the Methven Heritage Centre and were immersed in the local industries and tourist attractions - crop farming, dairy farming, sheep farming, skiing and hunting to name a few. There were interactive activities for the children, which proved extremely popular.

At Staveley camp the children experienced all sorts of activities, from orienteering to archery and rifle shooting and outdoor cooking. We had a fantastic time and want to thank the wonderful parent helpers who came to support us.



Team building exercises.

A Busy Term in Manuka!

Making Music

This term we have been exploring making sounds into music. We watched a few 'Stomp' clips where music was made using newspaper, brooms, rubbish bins and other things that weren't actually instruments. This inspired us to make some music of our own. Here we are exploring all the different ways we can make sound with paper. We then made it into a 'composition' and performed it at our weekly assembly. We were jolly proud!



What sounds can we make?!

Garden to Table

Again, we have been very fortunate to be part of the Garden to Table programme. We tend our gardens, plant, harvest and prepare food for ourselves and our helpers. This term we had a particularly yummy cous cous salad and a delicious vegetable curry. The muffins, however, are always the biggest hit!



Lily tending the basil.



Erin preparing the salad.

For one of the Garden to Table sessions we were VERY lucky to have a visit from James, the 'Bee Man' from Natural NZ Honey. He brought along with him some queen bees for us to look at as well as some full frames that were dripping with honey. We had so many questions about bees and making honey! The best part however was being able to scoop out the honey straight from the frames! We got ourselves in such a sticky state, but boy was it fun! *What a treat!*



Making Shapes

Shapes, shapes everywhere! We became 'shape hunters' earlier in the year as we explore the geometry around us. We learnt all about 2D (flat) shapes and 3D (fat) shapes. We started spotting shapes of all sizes around us during the day. We even had a go at being shapes ourselves!

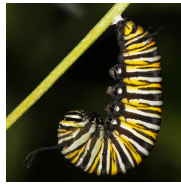


Oscar, Tom and Connor being a triangle.

Clever Kids in Kowhai!

Caterpillars

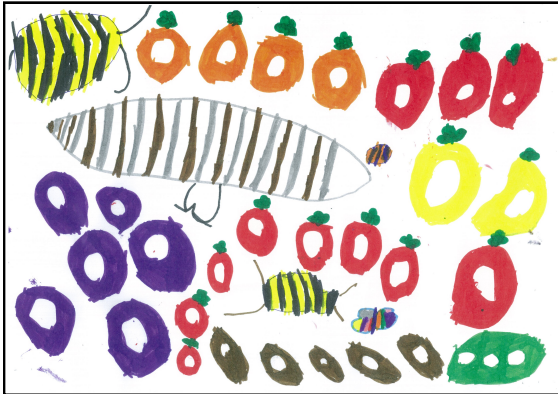
We are excited to have monarch caterpillars in our class. We have watched them eat and eat and eat and change.



Fergus Webb made this great picture to show the life cycle of the caterpillar.



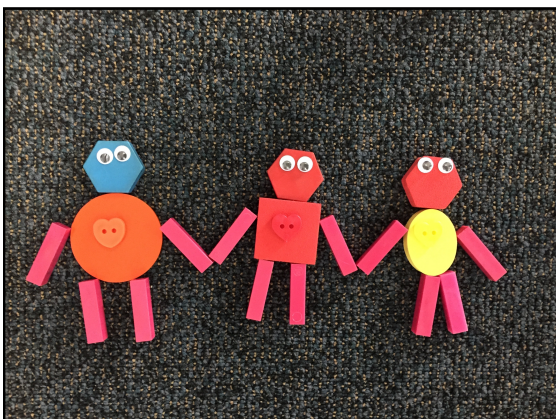
Lenie Stegehuis drew this picture. Do you know the famous picture book she is thinking of?



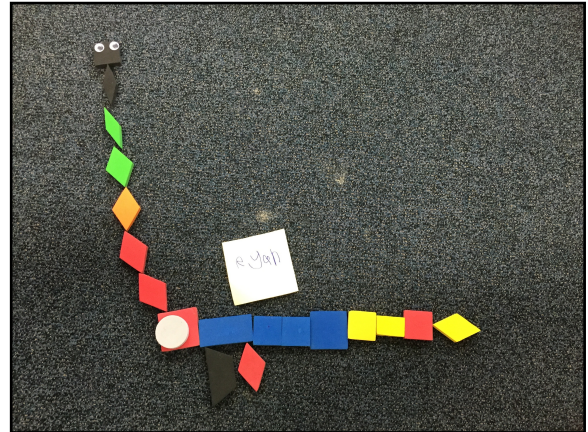
Geometry

One of the topics we have covered in Maths this term is Geometry.

Nevaeh Edwards made these cute friends out of shapes.



Ryan Townsend used lots of shapes to make this dinosaur. He called it "Longneck-o-saurus"



Flower Show Fun

We had a fabulous time creating and baking for the Flower Show.

Findlay Bennett made this beautiful sand saucer which smelt as good as it looks.



Fynn Aileone made a gingerbread pirate ship, complete with delicious treasure.



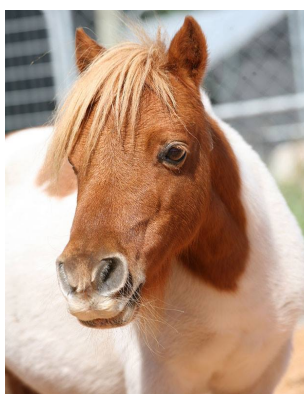
Creative and Colourful Cupcakes

By Ella and Amy

Four students from North Loburn School - Sophie, Ella, Amy and Hayley, sold one hundred cupcakes for a fundraiser for the Mini Haha Rescue Haven. The Mini Haha Rescue Haven rescues ponies and horses that have been mistreated and had hard lives.

The cup cake sellers set up in the Karetu Hall kitchen before school on 19th March and they sold almost all of the cup cakes during the morning tea break. The couple of left over cakes were given to Jen, the lady that looks after the ponies.

The girls raised \$185.60 which bought two pony covers. Jen brought two of the rescued ponies to school. Nemo and Archie were both affected from a grass sickness (laminitis) when they were rescued. The students of North Loburn School could pat the horses, if they wanted to, while Jen spoke with the students about what she does at the Mini Haha Rescue Haven.



Archie



Nemo

Wonderful Working Bee

By Tali and Jacob

Thankfully it was a sunny day for the school working bee on Sunday 18th February. About half the school turned out between 10.00am and 12.00noon to do gardening and maintenance jobs around the school before winter.

Jacob picked up the cabbage tree leaves and sticks from around the school.

Tali walked around the school pulling weeds out of the ground.



Terrific Tour de Reading

By Gwen

This past term the class of Totara have been biking through France!

During the holidays Mrs Pettigrew set up a "biking" track around the classroom and she challenged the children to read their way around the course. She has all sorts of obstacles for them to negotiate as they cycle round the track. Prizes will be awarded to the people who have the most reading points (minutes) in the class.

Mrs P said, "I set up this track to encourage competition amongst the students, while getting them to read regularly."

Calvin said, "It is a good challenge for kids and it is good because kids who don't normally read will try."

Harry said, "It makes reading fun because you are doing it for a reason."



Super Sheep Shear-a-thon

By William

Mark Herlihy and a group of shearers organised a 24 hour Shear-a-thon to raise money for mental health awareness.

The whole community helped by donating food, getting the sheep into the pens from their paddocks and donating prizes for an auction. It was held at the Hawke's shearing shed on Whiterock Road. It was great to see lots of people supporting their efforts.

They managed to shear over three thousand sheep in the 24 hour period, starting at 10am on Friday morning and finishing at 10am on Saturday morning. Over forty-four thousand dollars was raised. One of the things that was sold in the auction was a holiday in Rarotonga! Well done Mark and all the people involved in this fundraiser.

North Canterbury's Crazy Cricket Competition *By Charley*

He strides into the crease and delivers...
BOWLED HIM!!!

L.C.C wins the game by 73 runs and are through to the next round.

L.C.C stands for the long-awaited cricket club made up of players from North Loburn, Loburn, Ashley and Sefton. Charley Ward (captain) and Harry Witt represented our school. Mr Ward entered us in a local inter school cricket competition made up of 8 North Canterbury teams.



Our first game took place on 8th February against Ashgrove at Sefton Domain. We lost the toss and were put into bat by Ashgrove, but sadly for Ashgrove we put up a challenging total of 106. Charley scored a total of 8, he was caught at backward point and Harry got 3, he was bowled by their captain. It got even worse for Ashgrove losing both their openers and soon their middle order which put their less able batsman under pressure. Soon after that the game was over, with LCC bowling Ashgrove out for a total of 23. Charley took 4 wickets and 2 catches and Harry took 1 wicket and a catch.

LCC advanced to the next round, but sadly lost to Kaiapoi North, with none of our representatives having a decent game. Woodend School ended up winning our section.

Harry said, "It was a good chance for people to represent their school and play cricket during school hours."



Gemma McCaw makes a visit to North Loburn *By Eva and Meadow*

Gemma McCaw, a previous Black Sticks hockey player, visited North Loburn on the 14th March 2018 in her role as an Olympic Ambassador.

She talked to us about how she became a NZ representative for hockey and how she had to persevere to reach her goals of representing NZ at the Olympics, Commonwealth Games and World Games.

She told us of her lifelong goal which was to get to the Rio Olympics and to get a gold medal. Sadly in both appearances at Olympic level the Black Sticks came 4th. Gemma's main message was that you have to be trainable/teachable to get anywhere - if you are not open to learning then you will not reach your goals.

Gemma showed us some highlights of the Rio Olympics and videos of past games.

Gemma McCaw has now retired from competitive hockey but she still likes to play non competitively.

At the end of her talk she answered some of our questions and signed hockey sticks and other memorabilia that students had brought with them.



Gemma (McCaw) Flynn competing against Germany at the Rio Olympics.

Buzzing Banquer Brings Banking to Kids

By Campbell

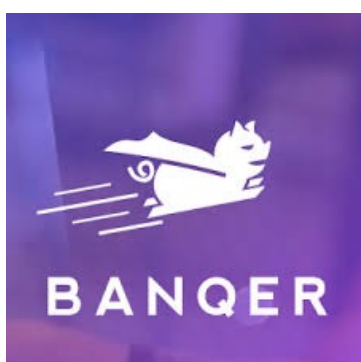
At the start of the term Mrs P introduced the students of Totara to Banquer - a Financial Literacy teaching programme. It is sponsored by KiwiBank. Each student was given an online 'everyday account' and they are given an income each week. This income is for; respecting others, wearing the correct uniform, having a good attitude to learning, being ready for marking, having work ready to hand in on time, keeping the classroom tidy and trying your best.

Expenses are deducted from the everyday account each week. These include; rent for desks, chairs, wifi, power, and cleaning services. Further expenses can be deducted if you leave your property lying around or you are not ready on marking days! During the first few weeks of the term each student was given the opportunity to start a Savings account. The students can transfer money into their savings account and interest is earned on this money each Wednesday. This interest is cumulative, which means interest is earned on top of the previous interest. Everyone likes to get interest because all we have to do to earn it is have money in our savings account! We have learnt how to calculate interest on money during maths time.

During the last few weeks we have now started paying tax on our income. We negotiated a 10% tax rate and for this, Mrs P has agreed that, we get at least one game a week!

Mrs P also hands out Banquer Dollars for good answers to questions, extra special help around the classroom and for showing our school values.

Eva claimed, "Banquer is a good way to learn about banking and how to deal with money."

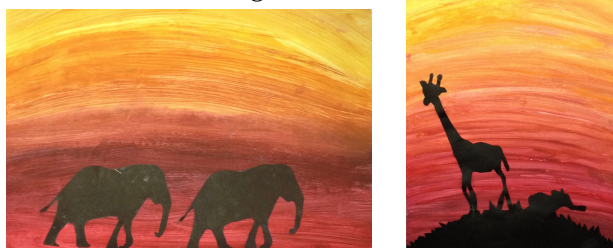


Amazing Art By Finley and Jack P

In Totara we have been exploring arts from around the world. We have been creating artworks in the afternoons. The countries and continents we have been to so far are Australia, Africa, Egypt, China and Japan. For Australia we made Aboriginal dream paintings. We used cotton buds to dip in the paint then we dabbed it on the paper making our patterns in dots.



For Africa we did a Tanzanian silhouette, with a display of an African animal such as a giraffe.



For China we did Chinese totem masks. The early Chinese thought that the masks would protect them from disasters and diseases. We started with a mask made out of papier mache then painted it using different colours to show the type of character values we wanted.

Red = loyalty, courage, bravery and intelligence.

Purple = justice and sophistication.

Black = integrity and impartiality.

Blue = stubbornness and fierceness.

Green = violence and impulsiveness.

Yellow = evil, cruelty, slyness.

White = evil and hypocritical.

Gold and Silver = mystery and spirituality.

Then we made Japanese fish kites out of tissue paper. These were hard to make because the tissue paper ripped very easily. We drew scales on the fish, cut it out, glued the edges together, then put a cardboard ring in to make a mouth and air hole so they can inflate and fly.



Ka Pai To Kapa Haka Kids!

By Harry

Every Monday morning from 11.00-12.00 o'clock the fantastic Matua Maaka comes to North Loburn to help us get even better at performing Kapahaka. It is fantastic and all the hard work we put in pays off when we get up on the big stage at Horncastle Arena. Each year Maaka challenges us with new waiata (songs) haka and poi. We learn them to perfection, and then take them to the Canterbury Kapahaka festival in the first week of September.

Liam said, "Kapahaka is fun and you get to learn about Maori culture, which is very important when you are a New Zealander. Lucy said, "I think it's a great education programme and you learn a lot of Maori."

Flourishing Flower Show Fun on the 26th February

By Gibson

What is the reason for the flower show?
Well, it is to show the artistic creativity of people with hands on flower decorations and other resources like rocks and sand. There are other entries too though, like lego creations and hand crafts, as well as cakes and biscuit decorating.

Who enters it?

Everyone! Everyone can enter in the flower show and everyone can make some cool creations and delicious ones too.

When is the flower show held?

The flower show is held every year but for some reason it is going to be changed, so sadly I won't have one again.

How does it work?

We all bring all of our equipment needed to school at the start of the day, create our entries and name all of our entries with a certificate. Then in the evening we come back to school for every one to see what the judges have scored our entries on our certificates, a BBQ tea and the silent auction of produce and baking.



Super Sport Canterbury

By Jack and Liam

"Over here Liam, pass the ball," shouted Harry.

Every second Wednesday the school have two sports teachers (Liam and Jesse) come to our school and teach the students different sports skills.

This term the school have done fist ball and some team building activities. In team building the pupils had to guide someone through a mine field whilst they were blindfolded and cross a lava pit using a few spots as safe footsteps. In fist ball everyone learnt how and where to hit the ball. The students also played a proper game of fist ball and learnt how to serve at the beginning of each point.



Lucy serves to start the game of fist ball.

Tactile Technology

By Calvin

Every week on Wednesday Totara goes to technology at Rangiora Borough School and does one of 4 things: woodwork, fabric, visual design or baking.

Every week in baking we make some food that we get to take home at the end of technology.

In visual design we make crafts on the computer and put them on a USB stick. In fabric we do sewing and make things like t-shirts and pencil cases.

Finally in woodwork we make wooden crafts and take them home at the end of the woodwork term.

Liam was asked what his favourite topic was. He said, "Woodwork because it is fun and I like doing it."



Spectacular Surfing *by Lucy*

Surfs Up!! On the 13th February Totara went to Waikuku Beach for a surfing lesson for the Year 7/8 REACH programme. The instructors taught us how to get on the board and stand up in the water, while catching a wave. There were four instructors in total with the two main surfing helpers, called Hayley and Jordie, sorting out some fun games and activities too .

I asked William Hassall if he enjoyed surfing and why.

He replied, "Yes, it was exciting when you stood up on the board while taking on a wave."

I also asked Amelia Green if she enjoyed it and why.

She replied, "I enjoyed it because it was a great experience and lots of fun when you got the hang of it."

The Art of Perseverance!



Up!



Up!



Up!

Eva masters the art of surfing.

Mountain Mania *by Finn and Zac*

It was a beautiful summer morning at Mt Grey. The senior students of North Loburn School climbed the mountain for the day. Even though it wasn't an easy walk it was still so much fun. The climb took about 3 hours to get to the top of the mountain and it was faster to get down because we went the road way back.

At the top of the summit we took photos of everyone and had some lunch. Once we got to the bottom we had a look around the lake until everyone got back to the bottom of the track. Once everyone was safely at the bottom we travelled back to school and then home, tired but satisfied we had made it to the top.



Jumping into Jump Jam **By Regi and Hayley**

"Straighten your back!" "Facial expressions!" "Stronger moves!" Those are some things that Mrs Connelly could be shouting at us on a Tuesday lunch time or Wednesday morning as we practice hard.

The senior students of N.L.S have auditioned to be part of the Strictly Jump Jam team with close to 40 people auditioning.

Unfortunately only 11 people were able to be chosen for the team. Those people were: Regi Upston, Lucy Ilett, Eva Murphy, Sophie Ward-Martin, Eve Belcher, Meadow White, Maddie Jones, Daisy Jones, Lillie Wilson, Lucy Rose and Charley Ward.

Three weeks ago Brett Fairweather came to N.L.S to do a little bit of Jump Jam and to talk to us about his career and why he wanted to start Jump Jam and spread it around the World. We did the song 'Can't Stop the Feeling', which is the song the Strictly Team are doing for the competition. The competition will be held later in the year.

Enviro Leaders Early Term Enjoyment

By Sophie

WOW! Eva, Harry, Charley and I, ventured to Banks Peninsula for Enviro camp on the 22nd and 23rd February. We participated in all sorts of things from jumping off the wharf to paddling a Waka Ama.

Eva said,

"Jumping off the wharf was definitely the highlight of my time at Banks Peninsula."

The students all slept in a big hall at Port Levy on mattresses.

Thanks to Mr Ward who was the parent help, or should I say Principal help, on the camp.

The students learnt about how humans are affecting the blue penguins lives and learnt about the bugs and animals living in the streams. As a result of learning about the streams the students caught a whopping 15 eels!

Harry said,

"If I could describe it in one word it would be EXCELLENT."

The Enviro camp was very successful and will happen for many more years to come, empowering students to look after our planet!

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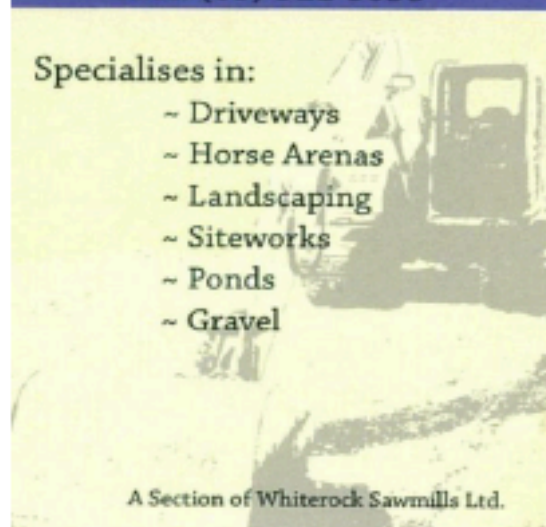
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