

27th September 2018

Dear parents, caregivers and community,

Another end of term that has come around quickly. A big thanks to all our teachers and support staff for their efforts this term. I hope everyone has a well deserved break and is recharged for a final term, with highlights of camps and trips, swimming and summer sports to look forward to. Cheers Christian.

Farewell Flynn – Flynn and whanau are moving south. We wish him all the best for his new home and school.

Looking Ahead:

*Final property projects being done over the break: LED lighting into veranda classrooms, fire/security system extension and archgola over admin entrance.

*Our Pool improvements are continuing as well, all set for a new swimming season starting 12th November.

*Environment for Learning – this final phase of our school renewal programme being run by our Board is taking shape. Classrooms have fed their thoughts in and a short parent survey will be out early next term to gather thinking to add to the mix. We view our outside spaces as our largest classroom for learning and want to improve our grounds to maximise the benefits of the outdoors for our pupils.

CLASSROOM REPORTS:

Kahikatea (Yr 7/8) – The end of another busy term with the students completing their speeches on their sustainability topics - they all did well despite a lot of nerves and the standard was universally high, the culmination of a term's work. We hope to now encourage the students to “take an action” on their chosen topic and it will be interesting to see what form this takes. They have also been busy finishing their 3D Cityscape drawings...John Fitch

Tōtara (Yr 5/6) – The past few weeks have tested our Tōtara students' ability to manage themselves towards a deadline with our Sustainability inquiries and speeches, while still fitting in the various other obligations the school timetable places upon us. It certainly is one of the key elements within ‘Learner Agency’ and has given rise to many discussions in our journey about goal setting, timelines, planning, achieving baby steps, making the best use of our time, emotions we feel when we feel on top of things compared to out of control..... sustainability of our mental wellbeing! The sharing began last week and it has been so very pleasing to see the final product so many have come up with and the whole-class post-presentation discussions we have had, constructively critiquing the presentation and quizzing our new-found ‘experts’ further on their area of learning. Our topics have covered a wide variety of topics such as:

- Renewable energy sources (solar, hydro, biomass, geothermal, wind),
- Fairtrade and ethical trading
- Feedback/Food wastage

- Plastic and rubbish pollution
- The Great Pacific Garbage Patch
- Tui Restoration
- Even sustainability of te reo Maori wonderful learning for us all!

Presentation *modes* have also been put under the spotlight with us questioning what we are trying to achieve (inform and persuade) and if one more slideshow amongst many, is *really* the most memorable way to make a message stick. This has been part of the formative work and it is awesome to see, at the final presentation stage, some more inventive methods of message delivery coming through; for example, product displays, demonstrations, models, songs and plays.

We have loved having Tracey Wright in with her crew of tuakana leaders to teach us ukulele. Tracey has been using the learned Kahikatea students to work alongside our Totara students in a Tuakana/teina* model of teaching/learning. We are sounding quite musical in just 3 lessons!!...Di Cameron and Anna Lopas

Matai (Yr 4/5) – Our Life Ed topic was aimed around teamwork. We explored our individual personality traits and explored the ways in which we all can contribute to an effective team. We discovered how different we all are and which of the 4 personality types we identify with most. Some of us are **Beavers** (studious, detail-oriented, rule followers), some were **Lions** (confident, outgoing leaders), some were **Otters** (fun-loving, optimistic entertainers) and several were **Labradors** (easy-going, empathetic, morally just). We learned about the natural strengths and qualities of each personality type and how all are needed to form an effective team! We tried to imagine what a team would be like if it was made up of all Lions - everyone would want to score and no one would want to defend, or all Otters - they'd have fun but wouldn't get the job done! Through different challenges and activities we learned that teams (and life) need a balance of different people and all of us can be leaders in our own way!...Tara Sutherland

Ti Kouka (Yr 2/3) – Our Life Ed topic was focused around our topic ‘Sustainability’, Breathing Clean Air. The students were amazed by all the Harold facts about the body. They made lungs and explored the circulatory system. They investigated our basic needs and why is it important that we look after each of these. They loved the new Body Bot - interactive body app - to look inside the human body and investigate major organs.

Once again, the very competent Amanda delivered a fantastic programme. The Life Education Trust programme continues to be extremely valuable, and a real asset and support to the classroom programme. Long live Harold!...Andi Cochrane & Maria Couper

THANK YOU to Bruce King for popping in and doing an extra tidy up of our grounds now and then – we do appreciate it!!!

Kānuka (Yr 0/1) – The children thoroughly enjoyed their visits to Harold and Amanda in the Life Education truck last week. We talked about foods that make us “Go, Grow and Slow”. This is an update on the Food Pyramid - children were encouraged to Eat LOTS of food from the ground, SOME food from animals and a LITTLE BIT of food from ingredients. The children really seemed to understand this concept and we were able to consolidate and extend on it back in the classroom.

This week, we have invited parents to join us for our Book Launch/afternoon tea. The children have all authored a book based on the structure of The Very Hungry Caterpillar and will all read aloud to an audience over two afternoons...Ruth Pannett

School Term Accounts, Reports and a Term 4 Upcoming Events Calendar are all coming home this week ☺

Miniball - Term 4 – Miniball (Junior Basketball) is on offer next term to Years 3 & 4. Registrations will be taken Week 1, with Practices starting from Week 2 - Thursdays 3-4pm at the Hall, coached by Roriana & Fiona M. Any questions contact Serena 021-329241.

Lost – School fleece size M labelled WW in neck tag. Please ring Ali 3290-907.

Wairewa and Little River Health Hui

September 29th, 2018 Little River Community Hall, Time: 10am – 12pm

A Health Hikoī into your community. We come as a collective to demonstrate to the community the various Health supports that you may wish to utilise. Podiatrist, Pharmacist, Oral Education, Screen South, Nurse Maude, Rapuora Nurse, Cate Grace, Bikes, Kidney Health NZ, The Arthritis Foundation. We hope the health benefits will be of use to you and enable community members to bring their families to support their health and well-being needs. Our Mobile Pharmacist suggested that whanau members that come to see him are they able to bring their medication. Brendan can do a check and oversee that the medication is appropriate. Also, Brendan does blood pressure checks and can also administer flu vaccinations to people over 18 years of age. Other services include diabetes checks, kidney health checks. Contact details: Christina Henderson <mailto:christina.henderson@cdhb.health.nz> Mobile: 021 537097 or Kirstin Dingwall-Okoye: <mailto:kirstind@psusi.org.nz>, Mobile: 027 5577372.

AN IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE FROM KIWIRAIL – From October 2018 freight trains are operating day and night on the Main North Line between Christchurch and Picton. This is in addition to work trains and other high-rail vehicles that use the line to help with the Kaikoura earthquake recovery. From December 2018 the Coastal Pacific passenger service will also resume with daily trains running throughout the summer season. You may have become complacent around the tracks and level crossings since the earthquake in November 2016, but please take extra care to ensure you and your family stay safe. Trains can come at any time, from either direction.

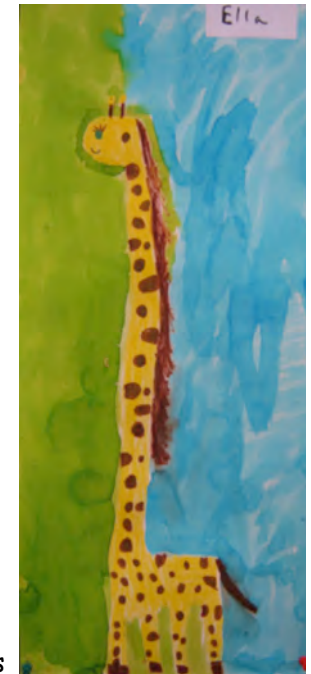
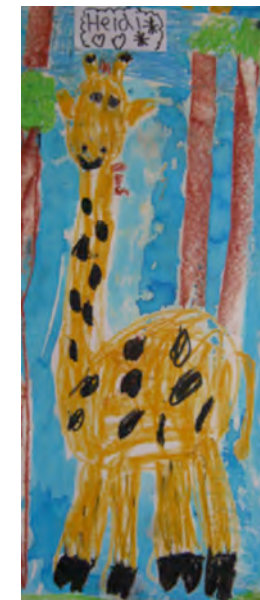
LITTLE RIVER SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

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Just a few of Ti Kouka's wonderful 'Harold' drawings



The Life Education Trust
mobile classroom, by Cooper