



From the Desk of the Principal

Tena koutou katoa, Greetings to all.



The colder mornings are bringing a regular visitor into the school. Missy the little cat who lives across from school is waiting at the door when I arrive and she makes a beeline for a warm office and a comfortable chair. The students adore her and she loves the attention she gets from them. Animal therapy is great for our students.

On Wednesday our students enjoyed a visit to Bowl Line and a lovely BBQ lunch prepared by Andre Ytsma, husband of Gill. As always our students were well behaved and a pleasure to have out and about in the community. After lunch the senior group and some of the Karamu students watched the movie, Matilda, and enjoyed ice blocks and a small treat. A very big THANK YOU to Andre and to Ivy, one of our wonderful volunteers, who also helped out with the food preparation. This day was funded by the Horse Manure fundraiser.

Currently we have an application in to Bendigo Valley Foundation for money for iPads, desktop computers for the library system and for assessment kits for the therapists. Any grant we receive we must match so hopefully we will be successful in being able to get the things we need.

My few days in Wellington last week were spent in many professional conversations with the members of my Professional Learning Group. While we didn't solve all the issues that schools are currently having, we certainly talked long and hard about our special schools and the changes we are seeing.

Next week Gary and Byron from the Ministry of Education will lead our staff meeting. We will be discussing aspects of behaviour, the reasons why a person behaves in the manner they do, strategies for managing the behaviour and how we can change behaviours to ensure positive interactions. This is a follow up to our staff only day at the beginning of the year.

This week we have spent time at Z Energy in Mosgiel and Green Island as part of the Good in the Hood promotion. Child Flight is once again one of the charities so hopefully we will get 3 or 4 flights from each station. We are also supporting Autism NZ this week in Green Island.

Raewyn

Ten Pin Bowling at Bowl Line on Wednesday



Karamu Newsletter Term 2 2017

Greetings from the Karamu class at Bathgate Park School.

Students have been creating self-portraits with sentences about what they like to do at home and at school.



This term our topic is 'Maori and Pacifika Art and Culture'. We have been taking part in Maori Waiata - learning songs and dance including swinging the Poi and using Rakau in Maori stick games.



From Ross, Ruth, Aaron, Julia ,Shaun, Julie and Kay