

## Principal's Greeting

It is the end of the year and at only eight weeks, Term 4 was very short indeed. Over the course of the year I have seen our students grow and mature in their attitude to learning. Students have been learning about learning and I am so proud of the way our students are taking responsibility for their work, whether that be the need to take notes to study for a test or doing their own proofreading and editing in any of their written work.

Many, many thanks to all who have contributed to our school over the past year. Special thanks to Papa Orometua for teaching Maori and ukulele to our students. You are very missed. Thankyou to Mr Neale for stepping in to teach Maori. Thanks to our teachers - Mrs Nano, who did an excellent job of teaching James and Henry their letters and sounds, and Ms Maeva and Mrs Fiftieth for their classroom and student support. Thankyou to Admin staff who do a great job maintaining our school grounds and this term, building new garden beds. Thanks are also due to Will Rowe for his IT expertise and technical skills. Thanks to Mr Marconi and all those on the School Committee. A very special thankyou to all the families and Community for the wonderful ways you have supported the students and our school throughout the year. And finally, heartfelt thanks to the students – I feel privileged to be your teacher.

To all teachers, students, families, Community and all those that support our school from afar, please have a wonderful Christmas and New Year wherever you may be.

## Journal Writing

We have continued the students' journal writing into Term 4. Topics covered include introducing themselves, dreams, important people in students' lives, and favourite activities, places, books and music. An important part of any written work is the ability to edit and proofread their own work, checking for any mistakes and clearly expressing

their thoughts and ideas. These skills are transferred to PACE work and literacy class and there is no doubt students' abilities in this area have improved immensely.

## Writing Workshop

This term Captain Elana Connor from SY *Windfola*, a professional writer, ran a writing workshop for all our students. After a discussion of students' previous learning in the use of language and ways of making stories "come alive" Elana had students demonstrate their abilities by writing a story on an interaction they had with an animal. It was a fun lesson and all students participated, practicing and showcasing their skills in story writing then sharing their stories with the rest of the class. It was exciting to see James and Henry use their knowledge of letters and sounds to write a story and read aloud their work.



*Capt. Elana Connor's writing workshop*

## Art Project

Students have been learning about plastics in the environment and sustainability. This term all students created a piece of art using plastic collected from the beach last year. Students were asked to think about sustainability and what it meant to them in order to create a piece of art reflecting their ideas. These works are prominently displayed in our classroom for all to admire and reflect on.



*Joy, Ray Charles, Tamatoa, James and Deon working on their Sustainability art project outside.*



*Tamatoa and Deon drawing their diagram*



*Madeenia, Henry and Robert making their art project from recycled plastic.*

## Water Workshop

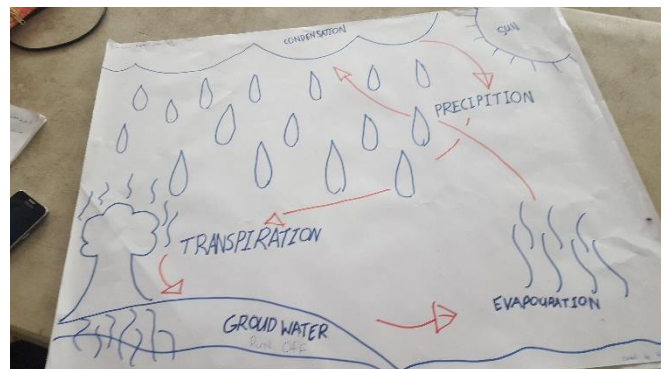
Our students participated in a workshop on water security for our island run by Papa Tauke. This term, students have been learning about both the water cycle and the carbon cycle and how climate change and global warming are linked to these processes. On the first day of the workshop, students drew a diagram of the water cycle and explained the different parts of the cycle to community members. It was a great opportunity for students to showcase their knowledge on this important subject.



*Robert drawing and explaining his diagram*



*James and Henry presenting their information*



*Robert's diagram of the water cycle*

## Reward Star Chart Auction

In order to motivate students and encourage good work and behaviours, throughout the year, our students were awarded stars placed onto the class reward chart. In the last week of term students' stars were converted to (play) money which they used to bid on prizes – the more stars, the more money they had to spend. Students had between \$170 - \$220 to spend. The auction included boogie boards, snorkelling gear, bags, jewellery, headphones, model aeroplanes, science kits and much, much more. It was a fun activity with all students agreeing they wanted to continue the reward system next year.



*Students with their star chart reward money and items they bid on.*

## Student Awards

In order to be awarded a trophy, students must successfully complete 50 or more PACEs.

### Trophies

Most PACEs ABCs: HENRY

Highest Average ABCs: HENRY

Most PACEs Intermediate: MADEENIA

Highest Average Intermediate: MADEENIA

### Certificates

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize ABCs: JAMES

Certificate of Recognition: DEON for Leadership

Certificate of Recognition: RAY CHARLES for Most Improved Learner

### Josh and Melissa ~ Bicycle

For most PACEs over 50, excellent attendance and behaviour: MADEENIA

Congratulations to all our Trophy, Prizes and Certificate Winners.



*Henry and Madeenia with their trophies and Madeenia's bicycle prize (Photo Julianna)*



*James' Certificate Award (Photo Julianna)*

## Student Presentations

Tamatoa and Robert were required to undertake projects associated with their PACE work. Robert completed two projects to a high standard – a “Volcanoes” booklet and a Powerpoint presentation titled *Birds of the Cook Islands*. Tamatoa similarly completed a Powerpoint presentation, *The Cook Islands Flag*.

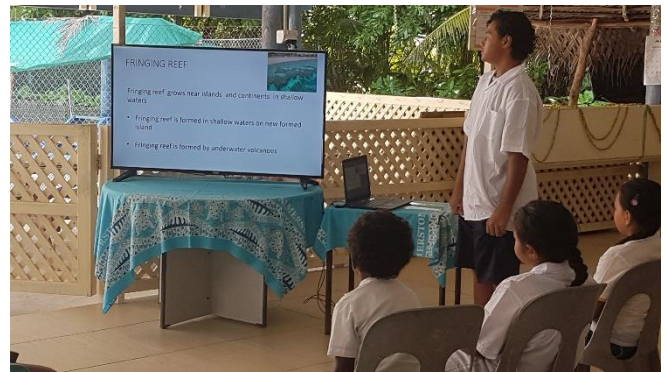


Tamatoa presenting “Flags of the Cook Islands” (Photo Julianna)

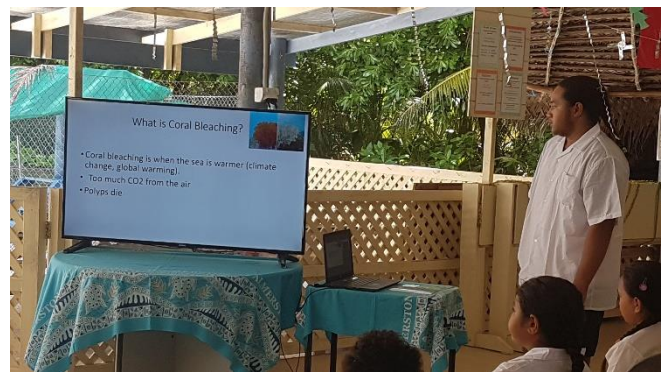
In literacy class all students undertook a research project on coral reefs culminating in a presentation. As a skills based unit of work students learned how to carry out internet and book based research, create a bibliography, take notes of key ideas, become proficient in the use of Powerpoint or posters to communicate, and finally, present their findings to an audience.



Joy presenting “How Coral Gets Its Colour”



Ray Charles presenting “Fringing Reefs”



Deon presenting “Problems Affecting Coral Reefs”



Madeenia, Henry and James presenting “How Can We Look After Corals?”

## School Sale

Much of our school equipment was no longer required or in need of repair. With no storage space it was decided to offer it for sale to the community. In keeping with our focus on teaching about sustainability, this equipment will now be recycled sending an important message to our students. The school raised \$192. Many thanks to all those that helped us raise these funds. Your support is greatly appreciated.



*School sale of no longer required equipment*

## Student Gardens

Students again have their own garden beds. Students worked with admin staff to get their seedlings planted out. Students are growing bok choy and capsicums and are responsible for their twice daily watering.



*Madeenia, Tamatoa, Ray Charles, Joy and Henry attending to their garden.*

## Citizen Science Clam Monitoring and Survey Project

Students again this term undertook the clam monitoring survey. We have streamlined our methodology and now have reliable baseline data on which we can build. Thankyou to all the students for a job well done.



*Briefing before going into the field*



*Clam survey team*

## Picnic BBQ at the Motu

Our end of year event was a picnic BBQ at Tom's motu. Despite a lot of rain it was a fantastic day for students, families, Admin staff and community members. Students read, relaxed, played, snorkelled and enjoyed a wonderful kai kai. Thankyou to all who came and contributed – organising, preparing the site, ferrying everyone in their boats and providing the wonderful food.



*Picnic area at Tom's*



*Ray Charles, Robert and Tamatoa playing*



*The Community*



*Students: Robert, Madeenia, Henry, James, Joy, Ray Charles, Deon and Tamatoa*



*Julianna weaving for the kai kai*



*Henry, Joy, James reading*



*Joy and stingray*



*Madeenia and Henry*



*Kai kai*



*Mehau, Stella, Bury and Deon in the new cookhouse*



*Teacher, Mrs Nano and school Chairperson, Mr Marconi*



*Robert eating crab*

## Holiday Book Reading ~ Letter to Students and Families

Studies have shown that good readers make good learners. Reading is an interesting and fun activity that helps with learning, creativity, imagination, spelling, comprehension and writing.

Each student has been given a book of their choosing to read during the holidays. All students will be expected to finish the book by the first day of term, 2020. Each student has signed a contract agreeing to complete reading their book during the holidays.

Please encourage your children to read their book and regularly ask them questions about what they are reading. You can ask about the setting, where the story takes place, who the characters are, and what happens to them at different stages through the book. Students should give you as much information and detail as possible.

We sincerely hope you will ensure students complete their book before the beginning of term next year.



*Mehau, James, Madeenia and Joy*



*Students with Mr. Marconi*