

Te Awa Times

Newspaper of Karori West Normal School

Evidence of rare native fish in our stream

By Caterina Aduso

Traces of the Shortjaw kōkopu a threatened, native fish, were recently found by the Friends of the Waipahihi Karori Stream group (FOWKS), using eDNA testing, in the local Waipahihi stream.

The species is classified as Nationally Vulnerable, in gradual decline, facing a high risk of extinction in the medium term.

The Shortjaw kōkopu is nocturnal and secretive. It feeds mainly on invertebrates and is unique to New Zealand. It can grow up to 35cm, but is more often 15-20cm. Its smooth, scaleless skin is a grey olive colour, covered with black or blue splotches.

Shortjaw kōkopu are capable of climbing up steep slopes in rivers to make their way relatively far inland from the sea. They live in bouldery rivers, with streamside vegetation cover and small dark areas to hide in. Their decline is mainly due to deforestation of riverside vegetation.

“The main thing we need to do is to try and protect their habitat by reducing pollution so they have places in the stream to live,” says FOWKS coordinator Joanne Davidson.



The fish was detected in the Waipahihi stream using environmental DNA (eDNA). This is a way of specifying the traces of organisms that are present in a sample of river water. The water is filtered to capture tiny pieces of genetic material (e.g. from skin or scales) and comparing it to a DNA database.

“It tells us which species have been in the stream within about 10km of where we take the sample. We found it in the tributary that comes down from Long Gully to meet the main stream near the end of South Karori Rd,” said Joanne.

Did they know/suspect they were in the stream? “No, we didn’t, but the eDNA test results mean that now we have a reason to do more mahi to find out how many there are and how far upstream they are. We will probably do this with some night-time spotlighting with help from

regional council staff or Mountains to the Sea staff who help us out.”

Two years ago, the part of the stream that runs through KWNS was also tested using eDNA testing by the KWNS Eco Club. The Shortjaw kōkopu was not found to be present in this part of the stream, but the testing showed that both species of tuna (shortfin and longfin eel), a couple of species of Bully, freshwater jellyfish and crayfish were.

FOWKS member Anya Pollock said freshwater sampling kits and sequencing services were provided by Wilderlab. The results can be viewed on the Wilderlab website here: <https://wilderlab.co/explore>

FOWKS was founded by the chairperson of the Karori Residents Association Andrea Skews after learning of the stream’s poor water quality.

“I thought what if the community got involved in their own local wai, rather than just sitting moaning about it?“, she said.

In addition to testing water quality, the group has started a restoration project by the path between Karori RSA and Karori pools. This will mean a lot of clearing weeds and planting. Volunteers are welcome.

The Awa Times reporters are the New Zealand correspondents for Newsy Pooloozi, a news and current affairs podcast for children around the world. Here are our latest podcasts from Elena Murphy and Jessica Graham.

Former New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has written a book about her time in politics. Let's hand it over to our team in New Zealand, this time Elena Murphy is reporting. Welcome to the team Elena, over to you!

Thanks guys. That's right, Jacinda Ardern has written an autobiography called *A Different Kind Of Power*. It's about her life before, during and after her career as PM from 2017-2023.

But the main take-away from the book is: Jacinda is a very empathetic woman. People are calling it her superpower.

She has led New Zealand through tough times, including the horrible terrorist attack in Christchurch on the Muslim community in 2019 that left 51 people dead. She responded strongly and empathetically, and took practical actions like passing stricter gun laws and speaking out about hate content online.

But I think her most impressive achievement was taking care of us during COVID-19.

She decided to "go hard and early" with a strict lockdown that saved many lives. Only about 3000 people died of COVID in New Zealand. Although ultimately, her zero-COVID strategy was overwhelmed by more infectious variants.

It was all too much for Jacinda, who famously resigned in 2023 saying she just didn't have any fight left in her.

Jacinda talked a lot about her 'imposter syndrome' - that's when you think your successes are due to



luck or chance, rather than your own abilities and you will be eventually exposed as a fraud.

Sharing your anxieties is pretty brave for a world leader, and it made people like her even more.

Dame Jacinda now lives in Boston as a fellow at Harvard University.

This is Elena Murphy in Wellington for Newsy Pooloozi!

Mission to solve one of aviation's great mysteries

Researchers from Purdue University are reopening the investigation into the disappearance of Amelia Earhart, 88 years after she and Fred Noonan disappeared on a flight around the world.

Over to Jessica Graham, who hopes to become a pilot, in Wellington New Zealand for more. Welcome to the pod Jessica!

Thanks guys. That's right! Amelia Earhart, famous for being the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932. She was one of the most celebrated aviators of her time.

On July 2nd 1937, Amelia, then 39, set out from Miami with her navigator Fred Noonan in an attempt to become the first woman to fly around the world following the equator. That's the longest possible route - 40,000kms or 25,000 miles.

They were last seen on the island of New Guinea, north of Australia, about 35,000kms into their mission. They then took off across the Pacific Ocean heading for Howland Island in their Lockheed Electra aircraft, never to be seen again.

Exactly what happened to Amelia and Fred remains one of the great aviation mysteries. For years, investigators have believed the pair ran out of fuel and crash-landed in the ocean.

But what's this? Her plane might have been found! Yes, satellite pictures have shown a possible image of the aircraft on the shoreline of an uninhabited island called Nikumaroro, 1600km or 1000 miles from Fiji. The Purdue researchers are planning to visit the island in November this year. "We believe we owe it to Amelia and her legacy at Purdue to fulfill her wishes, if possible, to bring it home."

Sadly, other researchers who went to the island in 2017 say it might only be a (very boring) coconut tree.

Despite the expedition, Amelia Earhart will still remain an amazing role model for many. Could this be a historical moment or a coconut comeback? Who knows, we'll have to wait and see!

In Wellington, this is Jessica Graham, for Newsy Pooloozi!

Speed limit changes around the school coming

By Minu Sutherland and Cullen Connor

Have you ever been walking to or from school and had a car whiz past you in seconds? The Wellington City Council has noticed and is planning to do something about it.

The roads, Hathaway Ave, Allington Rd, Thurleigh Gr, Makara Rd, Karori and South Karori Rd and Woodhouse Ave will have the speed limit changed from 50kmph to 30kmph during school times.

These rules are required to be implemented by July 1, 2026, and will affect the Karori West and Karori Normal school regions.

We interviewed Deputy Principal Danielle Doyle: "I think that anything that encourages people to be aware that they're driving past a school is a good thing.

"Yes, I think it [the change] is necessary. I am often on road patrol duty in the mornings and afternoons.

"I don't think it will affect the school too much. People do stop around the crossing. I think the problem is about the parking by the school gates.

"I think it's a really good idea for students to gain confidence to walk to school."

The reason the council decided to create this rule was primarily to protect children going to and from school each day. The hours these rules would be put in place are 8:20am to 9:10am for drop-off and 2:40pm to 3:30pm for pick-up.

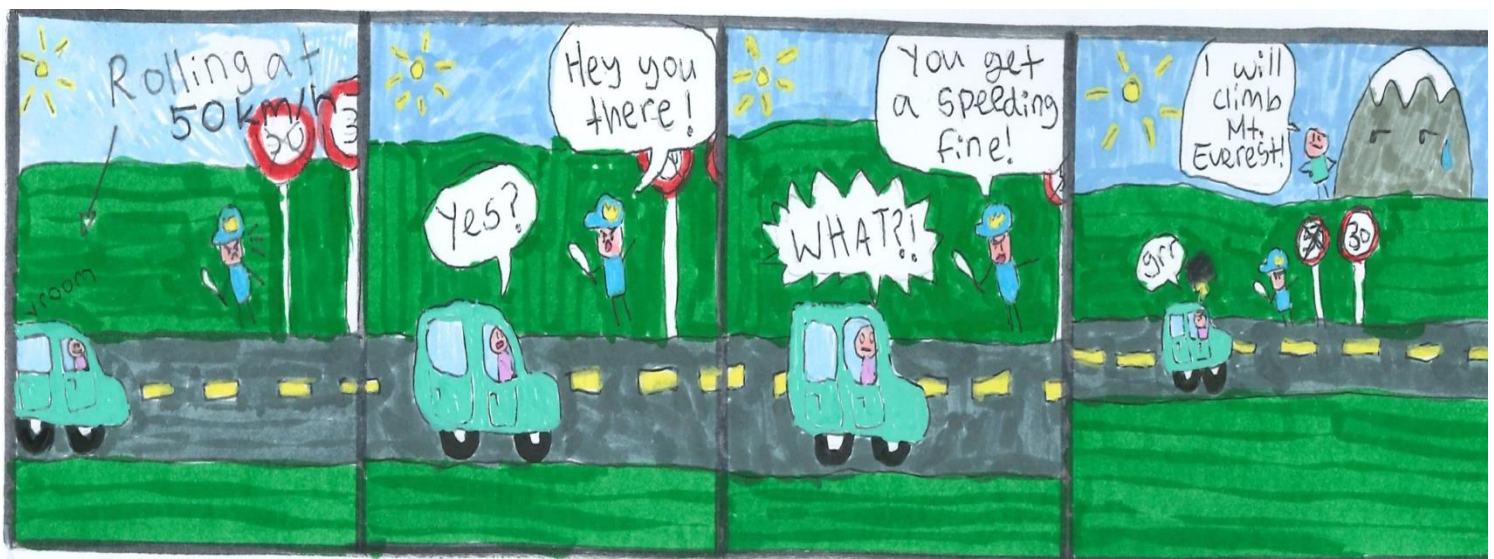
The change will be shown in one of two ways: A static (still) sign, or an electronic sign. The static sign would be shown with the speed limit and times that they are applicable below.

The electronic sign would turn on during the times seen above and show the 30kph speed limit. Outside of the time, it would be off.



When the zone is not activated, the electronic sign looks black so as not to confuse motorists.

Sophie Liger's take on the new speed limits.



Sophie Liger

Our Kapa Haka leader Lena Going has left after 10 years to be closer to her parents. She had a korero with Abby Kilpatrick.

After 10 years at KWNS Lena Going has moved to Matata School near Whakatane in the Bay of Plenty.

“I’m moving there to be closer to my parents, as they need my support now,” she said. “I plan to do casual relief teaching initially, so will no doubt be teaching across all the year levels in a number of different little country kura.”

Lena hopes to be involved in Kapa Haka. “I will certainly be looking for opportunities to be involved in some way, somewhere!”

“There is no question that I’m going to miss KWNS. I’m going to miss the people, both staff and students, very much. And Friday staff morning teas ... and Lalita (Erueiti-Satish) yelling my name across the playground!”

Principal Simon Flockton says, “Lena has left a lasting, positive impact on the school. She was a champion of Te reo Māori, Matauranga Māori and, of course, Kapa Haka. She was also an excellent colleague, and a strong teacher. She easily formed strong relationships, and was a great source of positivity and optimism in the staff. She was great.”

A new Kapa Haka leader will need to be found. Mr Flockton said: “This is yet to be determined. The school is looking to recruit a new Kapa Haka kiako - which is not a straightforward exercise. We are very fortunate to have the amazing Lalita to lead Kapa Haka for the remainder of the school year.”

Lena’s whakapapa
I te taha o tōku pāpā,
Nō Whinarana (Finland) ngā tūpuna,
Ko Paratika te moana,
Ko Kemi te awa,
Ko Viitakangas te whānau.
I te taha o tōku māmā,
Nō Aotearoa ngā tūpuna,
Ko Kaipono te puke,
Ko Motu te awa,
Ko Davis te whānau.



Karori West Kapa Haka in performance.

By Lily-Raema Aikman and Maia Martin-Elwell

Karori West’s Kapa Haka team, KWK, bused over to Wellington college with their poi, taiaha and brave spirits to attend Whakanui Ahurea, the Kahui Ako Cultural Festival. On that August day, six other kura joined and each performed their own sets of waiata, each equally stunning and well-rehearsed as the last.

For months, KWK had been practising under the guidance of Lena and Lalita, learning new waiata and flourishing actions all for the big day. And finally, after all that effort, that day came.

“I really enjoyed the Karori West Kapa Haka performance [and] it was awesome to see everyone working together and showing what kapa haka is all about,” said Lalita, who recently took over KWK as group leader. “The actions were strong, the singing was loud and clear, and you could tell they worked hard.”

Preparation for this performance started months in advance, straight after the 2024 festival. The new song, Tenei au, was special to Lalita with the purakau it represented and the poi and taiaha actions that went along with it. “Lena had a couple of songs in mind and we started learning and teaching them as soon as we could. There were definitely some interesting moments, but I think that all the work was worth it,” said Lalita.

This year, the hard decision was made for Kapa Haka to be only for the senior school.

But is this the end of this year's KWK journey? No! Weekly practices are continuing and Lalita has plans for the future, but her lips are sealed. All she’s noted is the potential of new outfits, exciting songs and maybe an end-of-year performance, so keep your eyes out for more!

Science a major focus for Term 3

By Archie Calder

Students of KWNS have been looking at an exciting new inquiry topic in Term 3: Science!

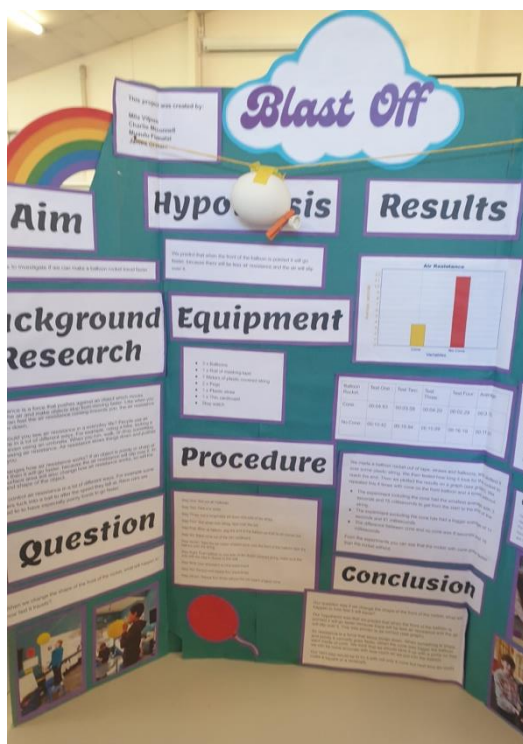
From fun experiments in class to a piece of work to be placed in the science fair, plenty of work has been done in class around this topic. From Kahikatea's (Year 3-4) Wild Weather Topic to Matai's (Year 5-6) Carnival Games!

"In Te Whānau Nīkau (Year 1-2) we are learning about light and sound. We are exploring everyday examples of light, sound and waves, and building towards demonstrating a simple understanding of what light is and how it works, and what sound is and how it works," says Sophie Weren (Ako 10 and Nīkau Team Leader).

"We are doing lots of experiments to explore ideas like volume, pitch, sound waves, how shadows teach us about light, and how light and sound travel. We are supporting the students to think like scientists by wondering, asking questions, predicting, experimenting, exploring and making connections."

Light and sound are two key components of our everyday lives, and the science behind them is certainly an interesting topic to explore. Their display consisted of many different things, including 'sound waves' made from string and quotes from students as they talked about the fascinating science they had been learning. Sophie has also shared these fun facts on the topic!

"Light always moves in a straight line, unless it strikes an object, at which point it might refract (pass



through a surface and change direction) or reflect (bounce off the surface and move in a straight line in a new direction)," said Sophie. "Sound travels in waves, and the size and frequency of the waves determines the volume (size) and pitch (frequency)."

Year 5 student Ella Perkins-Smith shares some of the exciting learning that she has been doing in Ako 18: "We are making carnival games based off our learning about friction and other forces. We have made some tables to record data about our experiments.

"There are going to be multiple carnival games that will be open for people to play. We have been testing how far a ball will roll in different liquids. I am currently part of a group called Rollin' Thunder!"

Te Whanau Matai has been working hard to create these carnival games, and what they produced was absolutely amazing! There were heaps of games, each demonstrating some amazing science.

In Te Whanau Kahikatea, the learning in class has been on wild weather,

with lots of fun experiments regarding tornadoes, rain, wind and the science behind them.

Their final product was posters, displaying some of their learning. As well as this, they created some epic experiments, ready to be displayed, like a vortex experiment involving two bottles and some water, and a display of the water cycle in some plastic bags. Here's what Will Calder (Akomanga 14) says about it:

"We did lots of things. My group was doing tornadoes. We first made a plan and then we started publishing. Then we cut out our publishing and stuck it on a coloured piece of paper and then we drew some pictures to match the topic.

"My class is displaying weather posters. We have been learning about different types of weather and how they are formed. We put this information on our poster."

In conclusion, there have been many exciting science endeavours this term, and lots of fun activities surrounding the science inquiry. This made for an exciting science fair.



It's a time of big decisions as our Year 8 students end their time at KWNS and prepare for secondary school. So, how did they choose their next school?

Wellington College

By Lachlan Ranger

I chose to go to Wellington College mainly for its extracurricular activities. Having a uniform and being a single-sex school are also a plus.

My friends that have gone to Wellington College have raved about the school. The sporting opportunities are superb. Personally, I am excited for the ability to join a strong cross-country and athletics team.

Academically, I am excited for debating, politics club and the mock UN. In Year 9 I am excited to try out a new bigger school, give new opportunities a go and explore all the fun and exciting activities.

I am also looking forward to meeting new people and widening my friend group.

Wellington Girls' College

By Abby Kilpatrick

I want to go to Wellington Girls' College because it teaches you independence. I think uniforms are a smart idea and they have a variety of options to choose from.

Firstly, as we all grow up we need to learn to be independent. I believe Wellington Girls' College has the right foundation for me to grow and be independent. For instance, learning how to get on a city bus by myself is an important skill and will be accomplished while attending the school. They also have a large campus and getting from class to class takes time management which is used all the time in adult life.

Next, I think the uniform is a smart idea because it saves resources on buying clothes. Instead of buying clothes, why not have a uniform? In my opinion it's a cheaper and smarter decision because you're spending less money in the long run and using less fast-fashion. In the mornings you just put on your uniform and go, no need for choosing clothes.

Lastly, a wide variety of options to choose from allows me to become whoever I want. Wellington Girls' has anything from computer science and programming to music and performing arts. I feel it allows me to achieve anything I want.

In conclusion, Wellington Girls' feels like the right school for me. Due to their encouragement of independence within students and their uniforms, which could save hundreds of dollars, and their variety of opportunities. This community seems like the best place for me. I hope one day you join it too!

See our December issue for more from our school leavers on choosing high schools and their memories of their time at KWNS.

Keeping track of success

Three KWNS students are representing Wellington at the Primary and Intermediate Schools Inter-Regional cross-country championships in Christchurch on Friday.

Teams from Canterbury, South Canterbury, Tasman, Nelson and Wellington (City, Hutt Valley, Wairarapa and Kapiti Coast) will take part.

Liam Keane will be in the Year 5 boys and Hugo Thirkell and Lachlan Ranger, Year 8 boys. Lachlan has been named as Wellington's boys' captain.

Lachlan, Hugo and a Northland School runner, Reuben Small, recently won the Wellington Under 14 boys' road running team title.

Friends of the School is a group of parents and teachers who support the school and arrange fundraising. Hazel Wisker and Meg Pryor report.

We first interviewed FoS chair Lisa Marsh.

What does your organisation do for the school?

The key objective of the FoS is to fundraise to enable the school to purchase supplies and make enhancements to the school. The Ministry of Education gives the school a certain amount of money each year. They need to budget that money to keep the school running.

We top that money up and help the school to buy items that they otherwise could not afford. But, FoS is also a really good way for people to meet each other and to organise events that bring the school families and community together to have some fun.

How does FoS help the school?

Our fundraising money has purchased new chairs for the hall, new PE uniforms, football goals, levelling of the basketball court, new kapa haka uniforms (on order), supplies for the library and money to help support the school camps.

Our next ideas are to buy the school new sports equipment and some lights for discos and other events.

How long have you been running FoS?

The FoS has had a bumpy journey and struggled to maintain members. I have been involved in helping with different fundraising activities since my first child started in 2015. It wasn't until 2018 that I coordinated the first school fair and then by osmosis I started organising more events and became the unofficial leader.

In May 2023, we got our own email address and started having a more organised structure and then last year we became a Charitable Service and got our own bank account. Becoming a charity meant that we do not need to pay tax on the fundraised money and we can manage the money ourselves working with the school to decide how best to spend it.

Do you enjoy being in FoS?

Yes, being a member of the friends of the school means that I can help others and make new friends at the same time. We have had a really great team over the years and I have met many parents and students.



The winning quizzers

Photo: Mariela Porrini

We then asked treasurer Rachel Connor why she joined FoS.

Because I wanted to meet new people and help the school where I can.

How does it help the school?

FoS helps the school buy and pay for things and activities through fundraising. We run sausage sizzles at the discos, sell pies, hot cross buns and tea towels. We put on events like the school gala and quiz night to raise money. FoS fundraising has helped to buy new sports equipment, library supplies, kapa haka uniforms, sports uniforms and chairs for the hall. Fundraising has also been toward the cost of school camps and paying for the new basketball area.

How long have you been in FoS?

FoS started 2 or 3 years ago and was an idea Mr Flockton had. He put a notice in the school newsletter asking for interested people to join the group. There had been a group previously but it had stopped during covid. I went to the first meeting and have been a member ever since.

Do you enjoy being in FoS?

Yes, I really like being involved in planning and running fundraising events and seeing how they help the school. The people involved in FoS with me are all really fun to be around too, so I feel like I have achieved my goal of meeting new people and making new friends. We are always looking for new members so if there are any adults interested in joining FoS we would love to see you.

Making a splash

By Archie Calder

At 5pm on Tuesday, 26 August, Te Whanau Kahikatea set out to perform at Artsplash, a celebration of the arts involving many schools from around Wellington.

They performed at the Michael Fowler Centre, a world-class venue, and sang lots of popular songs. These included *Power in Me*, *Aroha Mai*, *We Know the Way* and *Celebration*.

Throughout the term there had been multiple practices all held in the hall and led by Christiana, preparing the students for the big show.

Here's what some of the students had to say about the performance.

Saafir: "My favourite songs were Power in Me and Aroha Mai, because I liked the beat." Another Ako 14 student Tristan describes his feelings while performing at Artsplash as being "pride and excitement because I was singing in front of lots of people for the first time." Hamu Iva-Julian added: "It was great because it was a fun new experience."



Te Whanau Kahikatea added a splash of colour at Artsplash 2025.

Steyn Viljoen (Ako 21) says that Artsplash was enjoyable because, "I got to sing and do something new." Juan Torres said he liked it because "there were lots of people there."

All in all, it seems that Artsplash was an amazing experience for the students of Te Whanau Kahikatea, enjoyed by many of them.

More Kapa Haka action

Photo: Lalita Erueti-Satish



Harold makes lots of friends at KWNS

By Abby Kilpatrick and Lily-Raema Aikman

The Life Education Trust bus came to Karori West Normal School, teaching our tamariki all about their minds and bodies going through a wide range of emotions and habits.

With the life education bus coming, KWNS was buzzing for a special guest, Harold. He is a magical mascot, helping people get excited about their lessons and making classes fun with dad jokes and educational videos.

A teacher called Emma taught us lots about the body and was helping us understand things about our brains. “I love to see everyone's smiling faces [and] going to all the different schools and seeing all the different children,” said Emma.

And the students loved him too! Minu (Year 7): “My favourite part about Harold was probably the different ways Emma described the parts of the brain. Like flipping the lid and the amygdala was a library.”

Whenever Harold comes, kids always swarm him. They gather around Harold, getting high



Harold was a big hit with our students when he visited.

fives and fist bumps. Karori West absolutely loved Harold and was sad to see him go. The kids even saw him shoot basketball!

More from the Quiz Night fundraiser.



Photo: Mariela Porrini

Focus on books: Lachlan Ranger talks to KWNS librarian Michela Turnbull (aka Shay) about what's hot and what's not.

If you go to the library as a class or during lunch on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays you may have seen Shay working at keeping the library running smoothly.

Shay has been working part time at Karori West since early 2024, and she also works part-time at Scots College as their archivist which means she looks after and preserves the school's history.

Shay says that as a librarian she loves to help people find information or just a good book to read. "I love to organise things and I am also a bibliophile (meaning I not only love reading, but I love books themselves - some are so beautifully illustrated or bound as well as being good to read)".

Shay has many books that she loves, but an enduring favourite is AA Milne's Winnie the Pooh. "I love how he conveys so much in such a simple writing style." Winnie-the-Pooh is just under 100 years old, written in 1926.

Over the years interest in books has changed. Classics like The Hobbit or Harry Potter are loved in the library, but newer books like Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus, Olivia the Pig and Elephant and Piggie are now taking over from Dr Seuss and Roald Dahl.

Some books that are currently gaining in popularity are books about gaming like Minecraft or Pokemon and manga-style comics.

Elephant and Piggie growing in popularity



Librarian Shay

Photo: Jim Tully

Athletes, singers and actors are also becoming more in demand. This reflects people's interests outside of the library are changing.

The library has a book to fit everyone's likes or interests so next time you go with your class or visit at lunch try to find your own new favourite book.

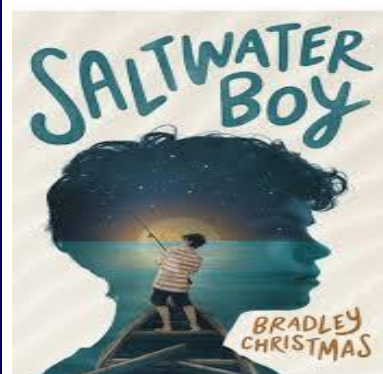


Saltwater Boy By Bradley Christmas

Reviewed Minu Sutherland

Saltwater boy is the first young adult fiction novel Bradley Christmas has written.

Matthew's life changes drastically when his father gets sent to jail and his mum moves them to the coastal town, Crawley Point, to fix up his grandfather's old house. Matthew befriends Old Bill, an Australian indigenous man who becomes the closest thing he has to a father, teaching him how to fish and about the local culture.



When Matthew's father is released on parole, his anger and past issues create tension, threatening the peace Matthew has found. Through different friendships, Matthew learns how important the stories that make up Crawley Point are.

I enjoy the way Bradley makes the characters feel real and relatable. I like this book because its plot takes different twists and turns, making you delve deeper into the storyline.

I rated this book 5/5 and would definitely recommend to people who enjoy a heartwarming coming-of-age story.

Lit Quiz comes to KWNS

By Elena Murphy

In week 5, as part of the Book Week celebrations, a group of Year 8 students led by Sarah Tucker ran a Lit Quiz. Much like the nation-wide Lit Quiz that KWNS competed in in Term 2, it was centered completely around books, making it a highlight of the school's Book Week.

Questions such as 'What colour was the flying car in Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets?', and 'In the book Coraline, what did the 'Other Mother' have for eyes?' were categorised into themes, like 'New Zealand Authors', 'Colours', 'Families' and 'Books made into Movies'. One point was awarded for each question answered correctly and spot prizes were handed out after each round.

Teams were made up of students from Years 5-6 and 7-8 grouped by their house. Lights and colourful decorations filled the hall and there were fun props in house colours to add to the competitive, spirited atmosphere. It

was fierce competition, but the house that came out on top was Angi (Air).

Abby Kilpatrick, one of the organisers said, "it went really well, and I'm glad people participated, because it would have been a really boring lit quiz without participants."

The KWNS Lit Quiz was a very successful event. Teacher organiser Sarah Tucker said, "I think we had great participation, and it was a good idea to lower the number of rounds we did to have more time at the end. I think we had a range of questions that everybody could answer."

So, if you like to lose yourself in a good book, and know your Harry Potter from your Heartstopper, look out for Lit Quiz 2026.

Read-a-thon raises \$8000 for school library

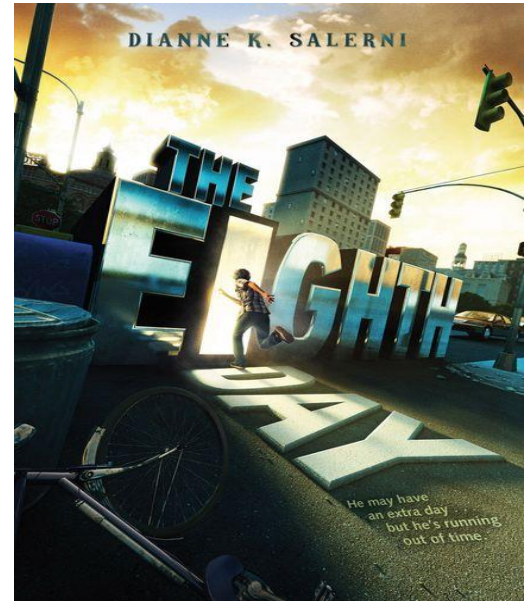
By Hazel Wisker

Book Week was about making kids read more books. One day, the whole school dressed up in different book characters.

Caterina Aduso from Ako 9 said she dressed up as an Oompa Loompa winning the best costume prize because it was so amazing. Jessica Graham in Ako 9 said she read 1383 pages, Caterina read 758. \$8000 was raised for the library and 250,000 pages were read.

Jessica said she contributed to the book door cover and the design on the window. Caterina said she did the parade and the book door cover.

Also, in Book Week all the classes around the school made a door cover based on the front of a book. Ako 9 did the Hunger Games; Ako 1 did Winnie the Pooh; Ako 2 did The Wonky Donkey; Ako 3 did The Hungry Caterpillar and Ako 10 did Elephant and Piggie. Book Week was really fun and I hope next year it will continue.



The Eighth Day By Dianne K Salerni

Reviewed by Meg Pryor

This story explores mixing old folktales and the modern day into a tale full of surprises and magic in a way no-one has done before!

The Eighth Day follows Jax, a 13-year-old boy who's just moved to a new town after tragedy shakes his world. He discovers the existence of the eighth day, an extra day between Wednesday and Thursday where anything is possible.

I really enjoyed how the author drew you in with every sentence, adding suspense and a need to keep reading. The plot was well written and well thought out, leading to an amazing book.

The story continues into two other novels, the Inquisitor's Mark, and the Morrigan's Curse. All three books have the characters show friendship and loyalty.

Once you start reading them, you can never stop! I give it 5 stars and definitely recommend.

Market Day encourages entrepreneurs

By Noah Rex and Jessica Graham

The KWNS Market Day last week was an amazing opportunity to learn.

Te Whanau Kauri (Year 7/8) had been creating stalls for market day in Week Nine. There were lots of amazing stalls with products all focused around science.

Some of the most popular products were slime, spiders and delicious food! Children had to create personalised adverts and explain the science behind their product.

Kauri had to do market research, learn about advertising and selling a product. Everyone enjoyed setting up their stalls and personalising their own ideas.

Abby Kilpatrick talked about her product: “[we are making] Pick and Choose hokey pokey ice cream. We are choosing this because one of our group members has an ice cream machine, [and] our science is mainly behind the hokey pokey, which is very interesting to learn about.”

Cullen Conner told us about the goods his group produced: “My group is going to sell science kits, consisting of sherbert and elephant toothpaste experiments.”

When asked about the science behind elephant’s toothpaste, he said, “When the hydrogen peroxide comes into contact with the yeast it does break down into water and oxygen ... oxygen is a gas that wants to escape. The dish soap traps the bubbles and creates fun foam.”

“I think my group just sort of found it cool to let other people do science and give other people the opportunity to see all the young and upcoming scientists.”



Maia and Alex serving up a storm at Market Day.

Kauri Team Leader Marcus Collins says Market Day is a great opportunity for learners to explore the concepts of enterprise and science in harmony.

“New Zealand has been built on innovative ideas and hard work, and so we trust that this unit introduces them to some of those initial skills - thinking about markets, needs and wants, opportunities etc.

“When combined with the ‘fun’ of science, we trust that they have thought creatively and collaboratively about how to share their products!”

