



PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL

Newsletter 7, May 6, 2020

Kia Ora Whanau

I know the last few weeks and months have been trying for many in our community. As we watch the human and economic toll that COVID 19 takes on our communities both here and around the world, it's tough to keep going with business as usual. I'm also aware of the additional strain it will have put on many families to support your learners in our online learning programme while working from home and juggling other commitments. I do feel incredibly proud of how Parnell District School and our community have supported each other through this process. I want to thank our community for how you've all worked to help your children through this process, not only in accessing their academic learning but in what I'm sure is an increased need for support and guidance through the uncertainty we've faced.

There have been many opportunities for us amidst the challenges of the last six weeks. For myself, it was a chance to spend more quality time with my own family, and for Chester and I to enjoy the quality time of our daily walk along the waterfront. I am confident there will be advantages and success we've all experienced, and I look forward to hearing about all the fantastic things our children have been learning while at home with their families.

Our teachers have delivered an exceptional level of online learning to our children. We were well-positioned to make this move after years of investment and development in the use of digital tools in the classroom. With the skills and knowledge our children had developed through this commitment to high-quality, innovative learning at school, the pivot to online learning has been relatively smooth. I appreciate all the parents who've provided feedback and highlighted the successes of the programme. I encourage you to send those compliments directly to your class teacher too! Our staff have further shown their dedication and commitment to delivering these programmes, and appreciate knowing it is well received.

This week we look forward to hearing what schooling will look like at Alert Level Two. We are as excited about having the students back as they are! The senior leadership team are all working now to ensure we are ready to go as soon as we can re-open for all students. As the education landscape changes day to day, we are working to ensure we make the most of every learning opportunity. When we return to school, it is likely that some of our planned activities will not be able to continue as initially designed. It was heartbreaking to postpone the Fete, and it looks like Whanau Day will also be deferred to later in the year. You will be notified of any changes to the calendar via the school newsletter. School photos have been moved to later in the year when our post lockdown hair styles have returned to usual!

Today's newsletter is a celebration of the work of our students. There are examples of children throughout the school who have done amazing things in their online learning, and we wanted to share some of them with you.

Kind Regards

Richard George

Have you downloaded our App?

If you're not using the school app, you are likely missing out on regular updates. Our school news clips, Waipapa Streaming, is delivered via the app. The app is available from the app store or goggle play. Search for SchoolAppsNZ, and when you've downloaded that, add Parnell School and you'll have access to all you need.

Healthy Communities week is coming up!

Kia ora e te whanau,

With lockdown restrictions interfering with many of our Term Two plans, we are happy to let you know that we intend to continue with plans for our Healthy Communities Focus Week in Week 5 (25th-29th May). Although this will not look exactly how we expected it to, we still feel like it's a valuable learning opportunity for our children and an excellent way to recognise our community and all the ways people contribute to it.

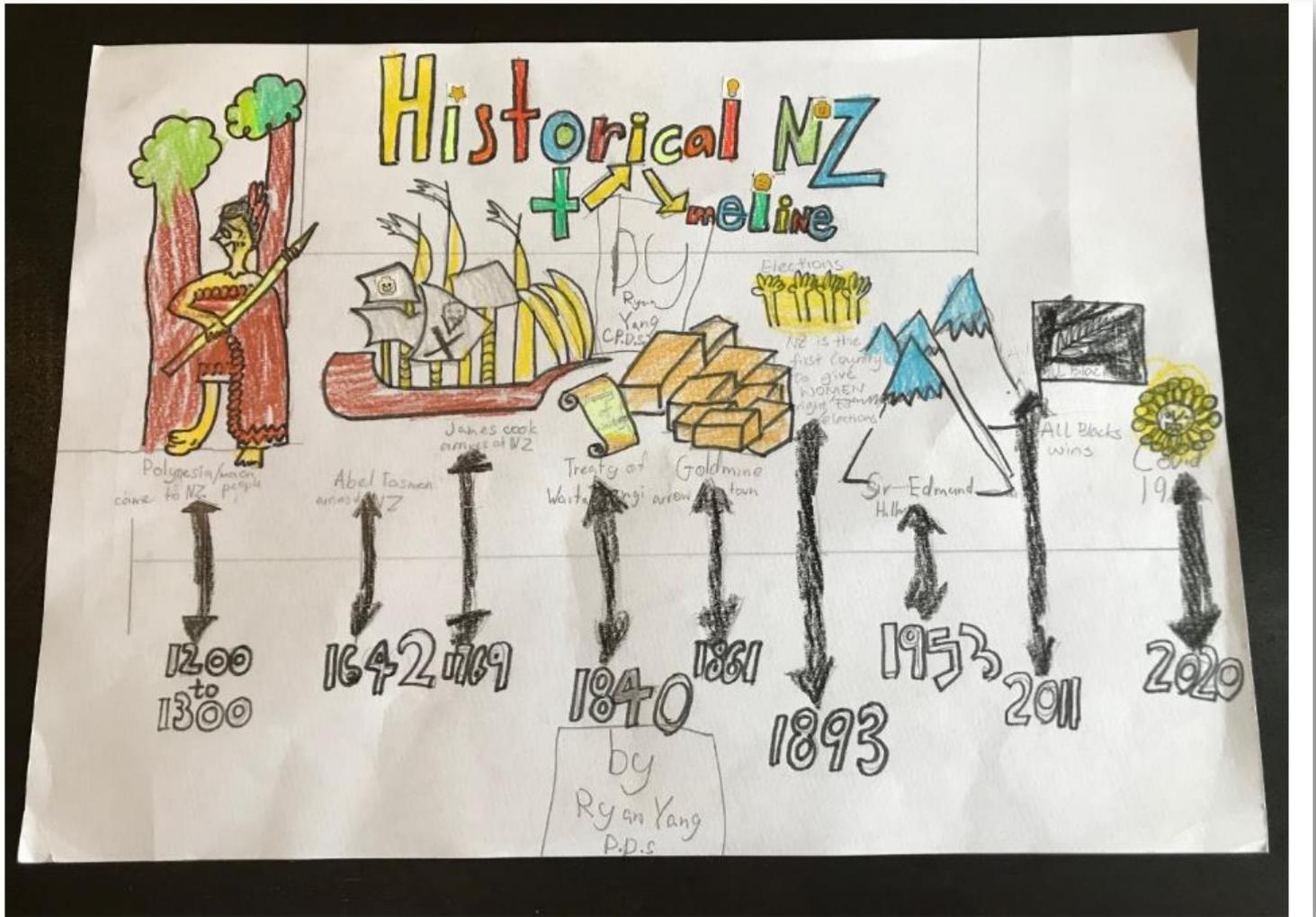
Healthy Communities Week was a huge success two years ago, thanks mainly to the fantastic support we had from our community. We had parents come into school to talk to the children about all sorts of things from emergency services to protecting our environment to mindfulness to looking after ourselves, city planning, our local marae, financial literacy, and even criminal law! After the week, all children from Year 0-8 had built a more robust understanding of different people's roles in the community and had shared in real-life learning that was relevant and meaningful to them.

Unfortunately, it will be unlikely that Whānau Day will happen as planned on Friday 29th May. However, one thing we have learned during this lockdown is that we are still able to provide meaningful learning experiences for our children no matter the circumstances. With this in mind, we would like to extend an invite to any parents who might be interested in sharing their experiences with the children and helping them with their learning around what makes up a healthy community. Your participation could be anything from coming into school to present to a class, being involved in a class zoom meeting, reading a book, taking a yoga session, supplying resources... the options are endless!

If you think that you or someone that you know might be able to assist us with Healthy Communities Week 2020, please email Dan George at dang@parnell.school.nz. We look forward to hearing from you soon.



ROOM 1

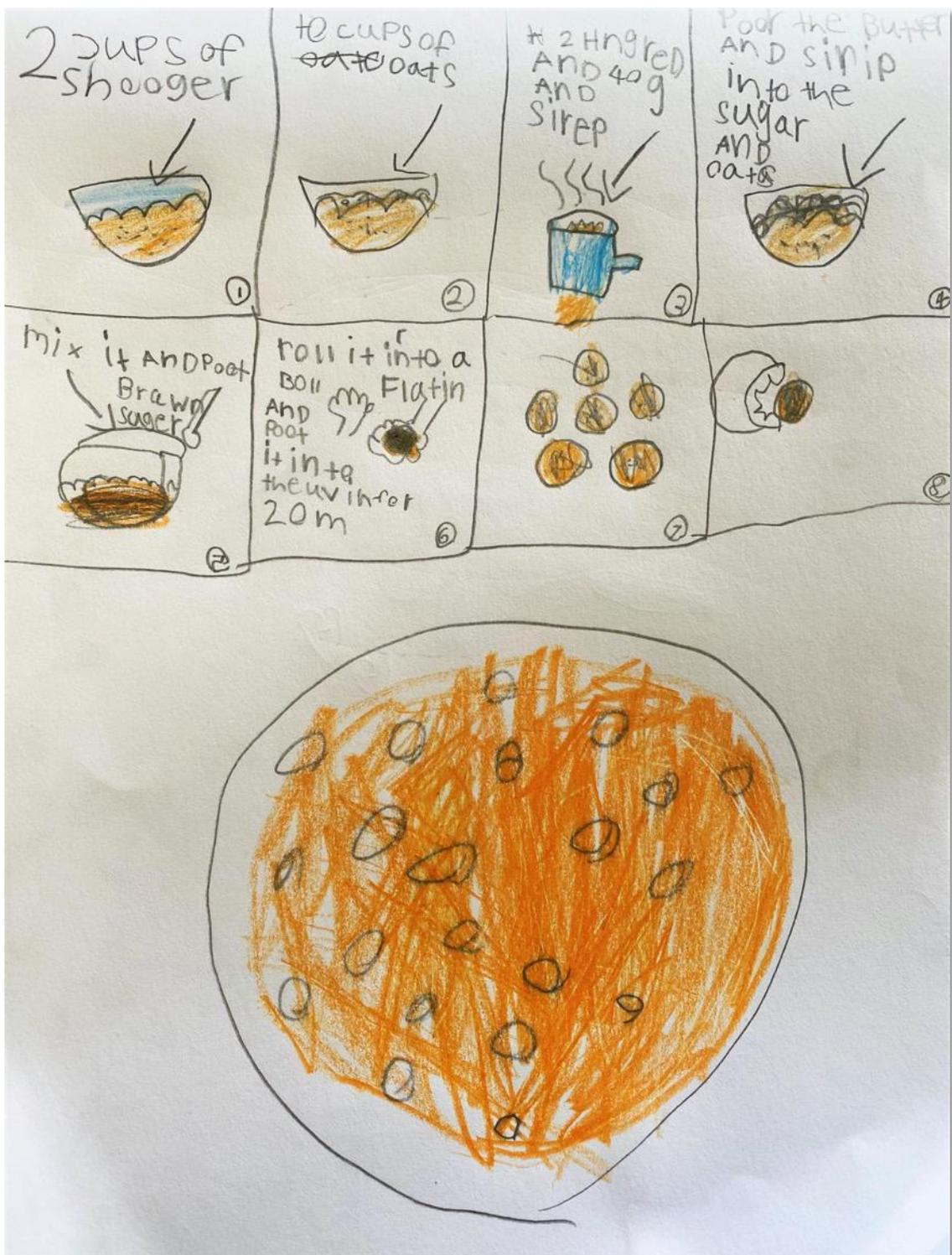


Our unit of enquiry this term is “travelling through time”

Check out how well this is illustrated by this awesome timeline by Ryan Yang room 1.

Great stuff Ryan!

ROOM 8

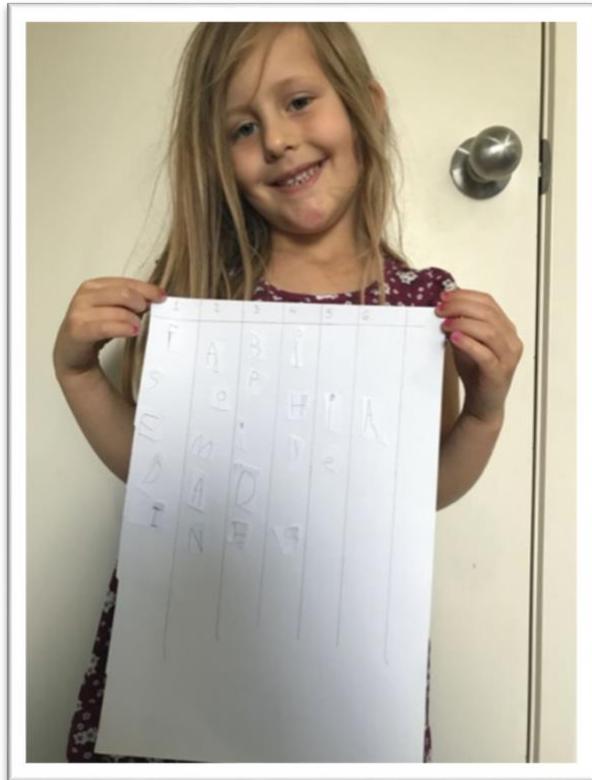


PROCEDURAL WRITING

Nivah from room 8 is travelling through time and showing us how to make anzac biscuits. Great example of procedural writing Nivah. Keep it up!

ROOM 9

OUR BRAND-NEW CLASS



GETTING TO KNOW SOME OF OUR NEW STUDENTS.

Some great examples of work from Frankie, Sophie and Hunter. Welcome home room 9 and we can't wait to see you in person soon!

ROOM 26

KIT: The Maverick Lifestyle

The legendary Mavericks of Room 26 have included 'KIT Eternal' in their amazing logo. I wonder why the role models of Parnell District School would add this in there; it must mean a lot to them! This wondrous piece of writing will tell you why you should apply KIT to your life!

KIT, as you should know, stands for Kaitiakitanga, Innovation, and Truth. Kaitiakitanga means guardianship, Innovation is being creative, and Truth is being honest. How will these make us great humans? These things build us to be great humans because being a Kaitiaki is protecting yourself, other people, and the environment – basically everything around you. Being Innovative means, you're always thinking outside of the box. Being Truthful means, you own up to your actions. These are values that would make up the most perfect humans in the universe!

As I've mentioned before, a person with all the values of KIT is a perfect human. Wouldn't you like to be that person? Well to be that person, I'd make KIT my lifestyle. KIT should be known as a way of life! Apply it to your everyday life and you'll be the very definition of a perfect human: a guardian, an out-of-the-box thinker and an honest person!

KIT is the best, it really is! If you've seen someone be called 'perfect' but don't show the values of KIT, they're obviously not perfect. If this does happen, you can teach them all about the values of Kaitiakitanga, Innovation, and Truth after you read this super-inspiring piece of writing. You'll actually become a perfect human yourself doing it – you helped them, which means you're a Kaitiaki for them; you didn't copy the exact same words from this writing, so you used Innovation; you told them the Truth about their imperfection and didn't lie to them about what KIT's all about!

To conclude this fabulous piece of writing, it's clear that Kaitiakitanga, Innovation, and Truth will change the world. It fits amazingly well with our inquiry, Change Our World. Having KIT in your life will make you a perfect human. It's an amazing lifestyle, and you can tell other people about it. Perfect! I hope this has made you understand KIT, the Maverick Lifestyle!

By Aisha Gemala, a Room 26 Maverick



Andrew GALKIN (Year 8)

ROOM 29



Andrew is a highly enabled learner who created this detailed 3D model (1:25 scale) of an item of furniture in his house.

He first had to measure the real-life object, recording all the necessary measurements.

He then scaled down each measurement through a divisor of 25. From this new set of measurements, he then created the shapes required to construct his scale model.

The next big challenge for Room 29 students will be creating a 2D scaled floorplan of each of their bedrooms, and then replicating it three-dimensionally, all at (1:20) scale.

ESOL

My Family Treasure



Walking in Autumn using my 5 senses By Liz Li Rm 6

Every morning my family and I will go to Rose garden to exercise. Autumn morning makes people feel a little cool. I smelled the fresh air as soon as I left home, with a moist smell. In the garden, I saw: the sky is still so blue: the leaves started to turn yellow and red, a layer of small dew on the grass and colorful flowers, I touched it gently. I also smelled a faint floral fragrance. The park is very quiet, I only can hear footsteps when walking on the road, the rustling of dry leaves under my feet, and the squeak of bird. I also heard the sound of the lock. Back home I tasted a delicious breakfast and a hot cup of almond milk.

My Special Place and the Meaning of my name By Sara Shimotomai Rm 1

Dear Mrs Holderness,

Thank you sent me the family Treasure activities. I would like to tell you some our family history.

I was born in Beijing, which is the capital of China. My dad said that Beijing is very big. I often go back to Beijing for holidays. There are my grandparents . They love me very much.They said that since I was born, they are the happiest people in the world. Last Christmas, two of them came to New Zealand for a holiday. We spent more than a month together. Now they are back in China. I miss them very much. I chat with them via wechat almost every day. They answer my call no matter what they were doing at that time.

I hope that the next holiday will come soon, and we will have another chance to meet.

I'll show you their photos. (The baby in the photos was me) They are the most beautiful people in the world. I hope you like them too. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to tell you our stories. I wish you enjoy it.

Best wishes

Jed Yang (ROOM 8)

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO

Writing



Listening



Reading



Creating



Building connections



And...



GROWING GREATER

We can't wait to see you again

Growing Great Humans