



**Manawatu Literacy Association (MLA)
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Ross Intermediate
8 March 2018**



President's Report for the 2017 Year

Tena koutou,

Firstly thank you to our MLA team for the great fun and hard work throughout 2018, particularly with the planning for our national conference! On 3-5 October this year we will host the 41st NZ Literacy Association Conference here in PN at the Awapuni Racecourse - **Literacy Landscapes!** We have been working towards this event for over two years and I am fortunate to be convenor and work with a superb conference committee; Judy Aitken, Margot Mackie, Sonia Mudgway, Rita Palmer, Jan Watts and Vlv Wimms - you are an amazing team!

In 2017 we held a number of events;

Term One: Our **AGM** was a free event held at College Street Normal School where Series Editor, Kay Hancock shared how the Ready to Read and Junior Journal series can support our literacy programmes.

We hosted the annual **Kids' Lit Quiz** on 10th April at Palmerston North Intermediate Normal School. The event is open to all students from Years 6 to 8. Again we had a large number of teams from schools from Manawatu, Whanganui, Southern Hawke's Bay, Horowhenua and Wairarapa.

Term Three: On 6th September we held a members only event at **Bruce McKenzie Booksellers** and were treated to presentations by local authors, a yummy coffee from Barista Cafe and some great shopping!

Term Four: On 9th November we held a very well received **Literacy in a Collaborative Environment** afternoon at Whakarongo School with bites, bubbles and a short presentation before wandering around to look at the collaborative learning spaces.

Our **Books for Babies** team also organised free books to go to the new Birthing Unit in Palmerston North and Plunket in Whanganui.

We encourage you to think about **joining our team**. It is a great way to make connections, grow professionally, and have input into supporting literacy in the Manawatu.

Contact Sarah at manawatuliteracy@nzla.org.nz It could one of the best professional moves you make:-)

Thank you again to our amazing MLA team. As educators our literacy kete are full because there is a team here who use their creativity, passion and dedication keep literacy alive in the Manawatu and beyond.

Thank you to our colleagues for your support of our association. Your passion for literacy, open to learning mindset and dedication to growing your skills and knowledge is the reason MLA exists.

We look forward to seeing you at our 2018 events, especially our NZLA conference - **Literacy Landscapes** - here in Palmerston North in October.

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa,
Sarah McCord
President