

Hawke's Bay Literacy Association October 2018

The graphic features a teal background. On the left is the HBLA logo, which includes a stylized bunch of grapes above an open book with the letters 'HBLA' below it. To the right of the logo, the text '2018 PD Theme: Knowing How to Learn - Hitting the sweet spot!' is written in white. Below this, the heading 'What's happening:' is followed by a horizontal timeline of four circular icons connected by a thin white line. Each icon represents a term: Term 1 (Visible Learning logo), Term 2 (cereal), Term 3 (Centre for Brain Research logo), and Term 4 (Wearable Wonders logo). Below each icon, the term number, title, speaker, and date are listed.

2018 PD Theme:
Knowing How to Learn - Hitting the sweet spot!

What's happening:

- Term 1**
Visible Learners - Kate Birch
21 March
- Term 2**
My brain remembers the words - Andrea O'Hagen
6 June
- Term 3**
Giving Students the tools to thrive - David Moreau
22 August
- Term 4**
An evening with Fifi Colston
1 November

The *Hawke's Bay Literacy Association* has enjoyed another busy and productive year with our hard working committee always on the look-out for ways to promote literacy learning in our region. Our theme for 2018; "Knowing How to Learn - Hitting the Sweet Spot" and the events that we hosted, were extremely well supported by our members.

Term Events

- In Term 1, we welcomed Kate Birch to our first event for 2018. Kate is an accredited Visible Learning consultant working with Professor John Hattie and the Cognition Visible Learning Plus team and provides professional learning for literacy, leadership, inquiry and change management. Kate spoke about the impact of a collaborative inquiry and highlighted how to accelerate progress in writing for a group of boys, using John Hattie's Visible Learning research to inform the process. Kate referred to 'Spirals of Inquiry' (Timperley, Halbert and Kaser 2014) as a fresh re-think of the Teaching as Inquiry model, with an emphasis on teacher collaboration.

- In Term 2, we hosted Andrea O'Hagen, who presented the Visual Imaging Spelling strategy. This was a practical workshop presenting strategies that enable students, including those with learning difficulties, to expand their visual capabilities for spelling. She highlighted the link in the research on the brain, to eye movements and how these eye movements can be used by students to develop new learning skills.
- In Term 3, Dr David Moreau travelled to the Bay, David is a cognitive neuroscientist at the Centre for Brain Research in Auckland. He shared with us his current research and knowledge about training the brain and how this can inform best practices when children face learning difficulties. David presented the rationale for the MovinCog Initiative, a nationwide programme intended to offer children the tools to thrive in schools. David is a cognitive neuroscientist at the Centre for Brain Research in Auckland.
- In Term 4, we have decided to postpone our annual 'Author Event' with Fifi Coulston until 2019, instead joining together in a social wine and cheese evening at Wardini's Booksellers. Wardini's do a wonderful job promoting quality literature for our community, and this will be a relaxing way to finish off a great year.

Scholarships and Donations

- We were delighted to award four scholarships this year that supported members to attend the national Literacy Conference.
- We have made substantial donations to the Childrens Ward at the Hawke's Bay Hospital, and to the Maternity unit where every new born baby is given a book written by a New Zealand author, to take home.

We are looking forward to the new year and are keen to continue building our membership. We are noticing that our members are wanting practical ideas and will be mindful to create a balance between theory and practice when planning events for 2019.

Pauline Carswell
HBLA Committee

