Hawke's Bay Literacy Association October 2019







"Literacy is the means through which every man, woman and child can realize his or her full potential."

Kofi Annan

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. We have a healthy membership and the four events were well supported by our members.

Term Events

 For our first event of the year, we welcomed the 'Dynamic Duo' of Gemma Gardiner and Natasha Jacobs, experienced Literacy facilitators, mentors and coaches from Te Whai Toi Tangata (University of Waikato). Gemma and Tash shared practical, hands-on, fun ideas for writing that teachers could immediately implement into their classroom programmes.

- Later in Term 2, we hosted Juliet Revell and Toni Westcott from Digital Circus.
 Fresh out of the classroom, Juliet and Toni provided a wealth of new ideas and
 concepts from the digital curriculum. They have extensive knowledge of how to
 effectively teach digital literacy in our classrooms. We were able to practise these
 skills at the session, and teachers felt inspired to put their new-found skills into
 action.
- In Term 3, we welcomed Rob Southam to the Bay. Rob is an ambassador for Scholastic Books. She shared the current trends, and 'new reads' for our children. Rob's passion for literature was received with enthusiastic support by our members. Her recommendations were of particular interest to the school librarians that attended the event.
- Our final event for the year launched the latest book by Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey, "The Reading Book". The workshop reviewed the approaches in balanced reading programmes, while also providing an overview of the chapters, including take-away strategies, ideas and activities. What an inspiring and practical workshop. 'The Reading Book' should be a 'must read' for all teachers!

Scholarships and Donations

- We were delighted to award three scholarships this year that supported members to attend the National Literacy Conference in Christchurch.
- We have made substantial book donations to the Children's Ward at the Hawke's Bay Hospital, and to Plunket.

We are looking forward to the new year and are keen to continue building our membership and planning innovative presentations. Planning is already underway for the Literacy Conference in Hawkes Bay in 2021. We will keep you all posted as details are confirmed.

Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a restful and well deserved holiday.

Nga mihi nui Pauline Carswell HBLA Committee

