



# Elstow-Waihou School

Reach for the Stars - *Totoro hoki nga whetu*

**SUCCESS TEAMWORK ATTITUDE RESPECT**

## December 11th

Tena Koutou, nga mihi nui,

"Looking back, my whole life seems so surreal. I didn't just turn up on the doorstep playing rugby; I had to go through a whole lot of things to get there."

**Jonah Lomu**

Just like Jonah, none of us 'just turn up' expecting to be selected as the 'best', we have to give our best over and over again every day. Working and improving our skills and natural talents, getting a team of good people around us to help and support us in our learning and development. The same can be said for our children and their learning. The need to turn up each day well rested and nurtured with the right attitude and equipment to learn so that they can be their best. Their teachers need to be well prepared with lessons that are tailored to their needs. We all have a role to play in inspiring and raising the levels of achievement for each and every child at our school.



I am proud and fully support the achievements of our children whether they be academically, sporting, cultural or making good decisions socially. We have had a full and exciting year. With outings to Camp Adair, visits to Rotorua cultural activity centre, numerous sporting and cultural competitions such as the Commemoration of WWI and WWII, Calf Club and Group Day and various day outings and visits from the community



such as a visit to leadership days and pre-school visits. Emersion of hands on science activities. Community programmes such as Project Energise are now in their 10<sup>th</sup> year, Bike Safety, Keeping Ourselves Safe and Life Education are yet further examples of safe and community

focussed programmes. Our visit to Waitoki Marae was a wonderful way to make connections with one of our closest Marae.

Our school vision of Reach for the Stars – Totoro nga hoki whetu and our school values of Success, Teamwork, Attitude and Respect are well known and practiced within the school. We finish the year on a high with a roll of 103. While we have a number of Year 8 students moving on to secondary school next year we also have a number of preschool students enrolled for 2016.

We have key personalities that are retiring from the school. Mrs Heather Thomas has been involved with the school since the merging of the two schools. Mrs Thomas has kindly offered one day a week of voluntary work in the school next year. Thanks to Mrs Jenny McGiven who is retiring from the PTA, Jenny's knowledge particularly at important events such as Calf Club will be greatly missed. Mrs Sue Morris is also retiring from her position on the Board of Trustees. The Board, staff and community thank Sue for her fantastic support and skills over the past eleven year association with the school. Thanks also to Mrs Sheree Watkins for her work on the PTA as President. A decision will be made on the election of a new PTA president next year.

It is with regret that Miss Lauren Dawber will not be teaching in our school next year. She has taken up a teaching role at Whenuapai School in Auckland. Miss Dawber is thanked for her sterling efforts of settling the class and continuing with good learning programmes for the term 4 period in Room 3. An appointment has been made of Ms Donna Manktelow as

the Year 5-6 class. Ms Manktelow is an experienced teacher who will bring a wealth of knowledge and skills in literacy, numeracy, arts and physical education. Ms Manktelow comes to us from Hillcrest Normal School.

A huge thank you to everyone in the community who have played a part in the strength and development of the school throughout 2015 – we have so many to be grateful to for your generous spirit and steadfast support.

Thank you to our hard working and dedicated staff who give unstintingly of their energies and professional work. Having read through every child's report I know that your children are valued and cared for by teachers that enjoy having your child in their class. Some children may have challenges but I can assure you that every teacher can see qualities and skills that shine through for every child.

Student progress and our values of success, teamwork, attitude and respect are common themes in reports. Above all, I read time and time again, how genuinely happy teachers were to have your child in their class. I can see from children's faces when they turn up at school each morning that they are happy to be at school too.

I wish all of our children, families and staff, Board, PTA and associated business and friends in the community a very happy Christmas and holiday and look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.

*Heather Tanner*—PRINCIPAL



### Early Finish on Last Day - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

The buses will leave the school at 12.45 pm. Please ensure that all children are collected by this time whether or not they are travelling by bus on the final day of school.

### Prize giving 14<sup>th</sup> December –

#### Families to bring a plate please

Can children please be assembled between 6.00 - 6.15 pm ready to start at 6.30 pm? Parents and children are reminded for children to be in their uniform with their correct gear for their class cultural presentation.

#### Christmas Parade – Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye.

This is the final call for all those children and families who would like to be involved with the annual Christmas parade held in Te Aroha on the 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11 am. Please let Mrs Legg know if you are interested in being a participant. Thank you to those parents that have responded about the chromebooks for 2016. If you haven't already done so can you please leave an indication of your intention for next year with Mrs Legg at the office.

**Chromebooks for 2016:** We are looking to see if we supply chromebooks again next year in a package similar to this year, we want to know how many families would be interested in taking this up? Could you please inform the office of your intention on purchasing a chromebook next year, also if there is any Year 8 students who are interested at selling your Chromebook back to the school, contact Jocelyn please.



## FROM THE BOARD

Kia ora katou, as another school year draws to an end we would like to thank all our amazing teachers, support staff and our principal for a successful year.

We are pleased to have completed the astro-turf courts. It is so colourful and the children and staff are putting them to good use. It is a wonderful resource for our community and we are very thankful for the efforts of all those who have been involved in this massive project.

IT has been big in our school this year. With the introduction of chromebooks, and the continued use of ipads/tablets and other technology, we have seen the embedding of e-learning in our classrooms. It is fantastic to see that this learning has recently resulted in the creation of classroom blogs. The school has a new website that looks great, is informative and easy to navigate and we also have a facebook page which we encourage you all to 'like' so you can keep up to date with what is happening at our school.

The board have been busy all year reviewing various board/governance and school policies to ensure they are current and comply. In our last meeting this included accepting the Child Protection Policy and amending of the School Pool Policy.

We have had some personnel changes this year; Marieke Latimer joined us as Teacher aide. At the end of term 3 we said goodbye to Simone Campbell after six and a half years of teaching at our school and Michelle Salmon after being our school cleaner for four years. Lauren Dawber joined us as a fixed-term teacher for the fourth term and taught room 3. Louise Lusby took over the position of school cleaner. We have sadly accepted the resignation/retirement of Mrs Thomas who has been an amazing teacher aide at school for many years, but are pleased to accept her offer to volunteer one day a week next year.

Sue Morris left the board in November after six years of service – thank you Sue for all your hard work and enthusiasm!

2016 sees elections for Board of Trustees, if this is something that interests you please talk to any of the board members for more information. You can also visit the school trustees election website for an overview <http://www.trustee-election.co.nz>

Thank you to all the families in our community who help with such things as working bees, helping in the classroom, coaching teams, school visits and on the PTA. Thank you to those who help with our various fundraising tasks such as chicken runs, donating calves and the school gala. The board appreciates the time and effort you take to do this.

Congratulations to our year 8 students for completing your final year. You have all served as great role models to our younger students and have been wonderful school leaders. We wish you all the best!

I and the board wish you a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

*Lynsey Spice* - Board Chair

### 2015 PTA Report

The PTA has had a busy and productive year. In February we held our annual Country Fair and it was again very successful. Nearly all of the money made was forwarded to the BOT to help fund the purchase of the AstroTurf. And doesn't it look great?

As a group we continued to support all of the school's big events by running the BBQ and offering refreshments. Our small but productive team work tirelessly to provide this service for all the children in the school. Thanks to the parents who offer to help so the team can watch their own children compete in some events.

Other fundraisers included: Pies, Entertainment Books and Friday lunches. Funds raised from these events this year are going towards the purchase of a big new gazebo – look out for that in 2016! We were sad to hear that our long serving member Lesley Berry had fallen ill. We all came together and organised a working bee together with parents, children and BOT members. We know this was greatly appreciated by Lesley and we wish her full health and happiness.

The PTA also continues to run the uniform shop on a voluntary basis. The uniforms are bought and sold at cost so no extra expense is passed on to parents and caregivers.

We are also supporting the Country Fair Committee this year. Many thanks to the coordinators who have already put in so many hours of preparation for the Fair. All the children in the school will benefit



immensely from this!

Please if you get the chance, thank the wonderful parents and caregivers who work to help every child in the school. They all do a wonderful job. Thanks to the wonderful teachers and support staff that we work so closely with. We couldn't do it without you.

If you would like to join the PTA in 2016 please approach one of our friendly committee members or look out in the newsletter for our next meeting date.

All the best for a happy and healthy festive season and see you in 2016!

*Anna-Lee Bell* - on behalf of the 2015 PTA committee



### FAREWELL FROM HEATHER THOMAS

When I began this learning curve in the mid 70's I had no idea how much I would learn about children and myself. It has been an amazing experience. I have absolutely no regrets, have made some life long friends, both adults and children. Thank you to everyone for your kindness and consideration. Life is like a rainbow, the colours grow and merge into brilliance, then leave you with a new freshness.  
*Heather Thomas.*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** to Ben Pettigrew, Jayden Darby, Bella Blair,



Brook Gibson and Tania Hohaia who celebrate their birthdays this week. Best wishes also go to Sarah Pettigrew, Hamish McGiven, Makenzie Graham, Emma Richards, Logan Richards, Benji Bell, Summer Dykzeul, Cody Walters and Ashley Dyer who all

have birthdays over the holidays. We hope every one of you have a wonderful, special day.

**POOL KEYS:** We will be opening the pool over the summer holidays. A big thank you to Mrs O'Dette Williams who has volunteered to look after the pool for us. Keys are available at the office, \$45 each, get in quickly we close on Tuesday!!

**CONGRATULATIONS;** To Arthur Daines, Ashleigh Megaw, Dion Wilson, Jaelin Stewart, Paige Spooner, Dannielle Buckton-Dalley, Ben Mason, Kate Morris, Alfred Howell who all won Course prizes and Awards at the Te Aroha College Junior Prizegiving. Special Junior Awards, The Elstow-Waihou Combined Primary Award went to Olivia Simmonds and the Outstanding Application to Schoolwork Year 9 was awarded to Ashleigh Megaw. Congratulations to all, our Elstow-Waihou Stars continue to shine!

**COUNTRY FAIR Friday 19 February 2016 5pm:** We are excited to announce that the Ranfurly Shield will be here! Also HUGE THANKS to our first major sponsor - JT Carter Plumbers - who have donated a 32" SMART TV as a prize. Follow and Like our Elstow-Waihou School Country Fair facebook page to hear the latest exciting news. Thank you to everyone that has signed up to help and for grocery donations, please add you name to the list in the Endeavour. We need mystery bottles, white elephant stall items, Corflute, plastic real estate signs we can use for signs. We are also looking for sponsorship if your family or business can offer it. Talk to Anna-Lee, Mel, Louise or Jocelyn.

### Week 8 Cricket Results

Year 3 / 4: Elstow-Waihou Rebels v David Street

Year 7 / 8: R & P Stainless Te Aroha Tornados went to Innes Common and played well but unfortunately lost to the Otorahanga Kiwi Crushers.

### Week 9 Cricket Draw

In the final game of this season the Year 7 / 8 R & P Stainless Te Aroha Tornados will play Kaihere Cubs @ Herries Park – 9.00am start

**SWIMMING:** Debby Davie will be doing swimming lessons at Elstow school. Teaching water confidence through to stroke work. Starting Friday 18th December for six days \$60 per swimmer. Phone or text on [0273854542](tel:0273854542).

**SCHOOLS OUT POOL PARTY** at Swim Zone Te Aroha 17<sup>th</sup> December 12pm to 2pm fun for all. Admission \$5.00 Sausage sizzle \$2.00.

2016 Feb 2nd

Term One begins

### Regards from:

Heather Tanner,  
Wendy, Deane,  
Lauren, Darren,  
Sarah, Heather,  
Marieke, Louise,  
Anne, Gordon &  
Jocelyn





# Room 1 2015



# My Embarrassing Moment

## A Day at the Zoo

ONCE WHEN I WAS FOUR MY MUM COOPER AND I WENT TO AUCKLAND ZOO. ON THE WAY THERE I WAS HAPPY BECAUSE IT WAS MY FIRST TIME AT AUCKLAND ZOO IT WAS TWO HOURS BEFORE WE GOT THERE. WHEN WE WERE THERE MUM UNLID ME AND COOPER FROM OUR CAR SEATS. I JUMPED OUT BUT MUM STOPPED ME FROM RUNNING AWAY ONTO THE ROAD. MUM, COOPER AND I HELD HANDS TO CROSS THE ROAD. I RAN UP TO THE BIG BUILDING AND HID FROM MUM THEN I JUMPED OUT AND SHOUTED "BOOM!" BEFORE I GRABBED HER HAND.

WHEN WE WENT IN WE GOT OUR PANTS TAKEN AND THE BABY SAID THAT COOPER AND I WERE CUTE. AFTER THAT WE PAID AND GOT A MAP OF THE ZOO. FIRST WE SAW THE RED PARAS. THEY WERE SO CUTE AND I ASKED COOPER WHY COOPER JUST LAUGHED AND SO DID I. THEN WE SAW THE CROCODILES WE DID NOT SEE MANY THOUGH. WHEN WE SAW THE MONKEYS TWO OF THEM WERE PLAYING AND THEY WAS SO CUTE. WE SAW A LOT OF CUTE ANIMALS.

WHEN WE REACHED THE LIONS I WAS SO HUNGRY AND HOT TOO. MUM GOT COOPER AND ME AN ICE CREAM. I GOT ICE CREAM SO DID COOPER. IT WAS SO GOOD. MUM SAID THAT WE COULD GO TO THE PLAYGROUND SO COOPER AND I WENT DOWN THE SLIDE AND THAT WAS WHEN WE EMBARRASSED. WHEN I GOT DOWN THE SLIDE I HAD TO GO TO THE TOILET SO I RAN TO SOMEONE WHO LOOKED LIKE MUM AND SAID "TOILET PLEASE MUMMY!" THEN I SAW MUM OVER WITH COOPER. SHE WAS NOT HAPPY. I RAN AWAY TO MUM'S MUM AND STAYED WITH HER FOR THE REST OF THE DAY. FEEL SO EMBARRASSED BECAUSE I HAD RUN TO THE WRONG PERSON AND CALLED HER MUMMY!

BY LUCY



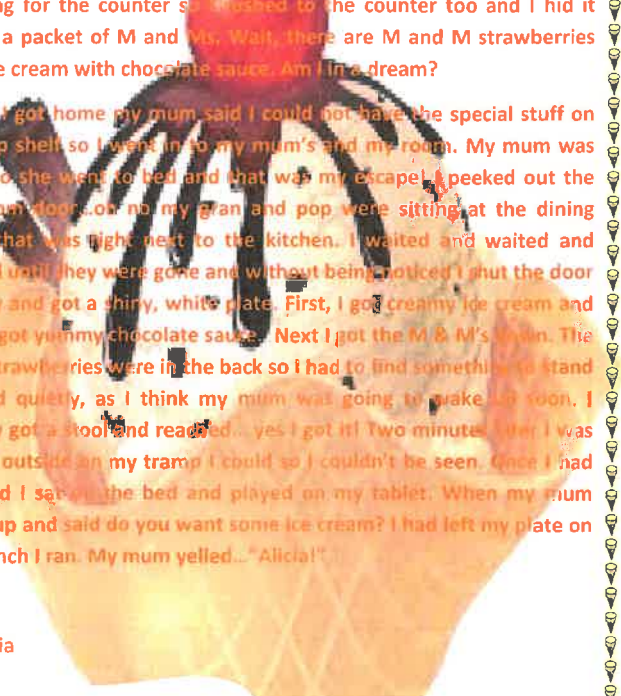
# Room Two's Wall of Shame!

# The Mission

One day a long time ago I went to the supermarket with my mum and like I always did I snuck lollies into the trolley. I just put something on top of it so my mum could not see it. I ran down to the lollies and the first thing I got is a Kit Kat. Just thinking about it makes me drool! That chocolate outside and that creamy inside was so good. I saw my mum heading for the counter so I rushed to the counter too and I hid it under a packet of M and Ms. Wait, there are M and M strawberries and ice cream with chocolate sauce. Am I in a dream?

When I got home my mum said I could not have the special stuff on the top shelf so I went in to my mum's and my room. My mum was tired so she went to bed and that was my escape. I peeked out the bedroom door... oh no my gran and pop were sitting at the dining table that was right next to the kitchen. I waited and waited and waited until they were gone and without being noticed I shut the door quietly and got a shiny, white plate. First, I got creamy ice cream and then I got yummy chocolate sauce. Next I got the M & M's again. The juicy strawberries were in the back so I had to find something to stand on and quietly, as I think my mum was going to wake up soon, I quickly got a stool and reached... yes I got it! Two minutes later I was sitting outside on my tramp I could so I couldn't be seen. Once I had finished I sat on the bed and played on my tablet. When my mum woke up and said do you want some ice cream? I had left my plate on the bench I ran. My mum yelled... "Alicia!"

By Alicia

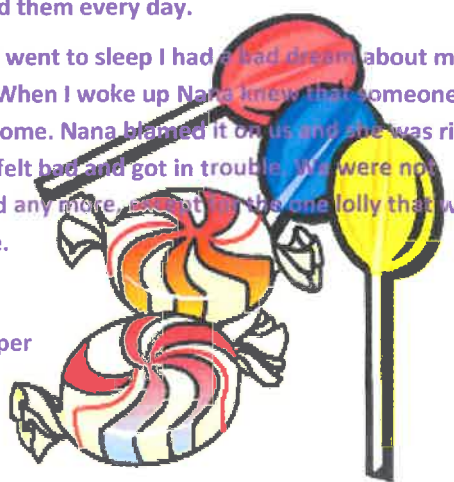


# The Lolly Sneakers

One day I was staying at my nana and poppas. My little brother, my best cousin and I went over to sneak a look out the door and saw my big brother, nana and poppa having a little talk. Benji asked them if he could have a treat and they said no. So the three of us sneaked over into the cupboard where the treats were kept. I got one treat, Koby got one, then Joshua. Joshua ate his quickly, then Koby, then me. Somehow Nana knew how many treats there were as she counted them every day.

When I went to sleep I had a bad dream about me dying. When I woke up Nana knew that someone had taken some. Nana blamed it on us and she was right! We all felt bad and got in trouble. We were not allowed any more, except for the one lolly that we did not like.

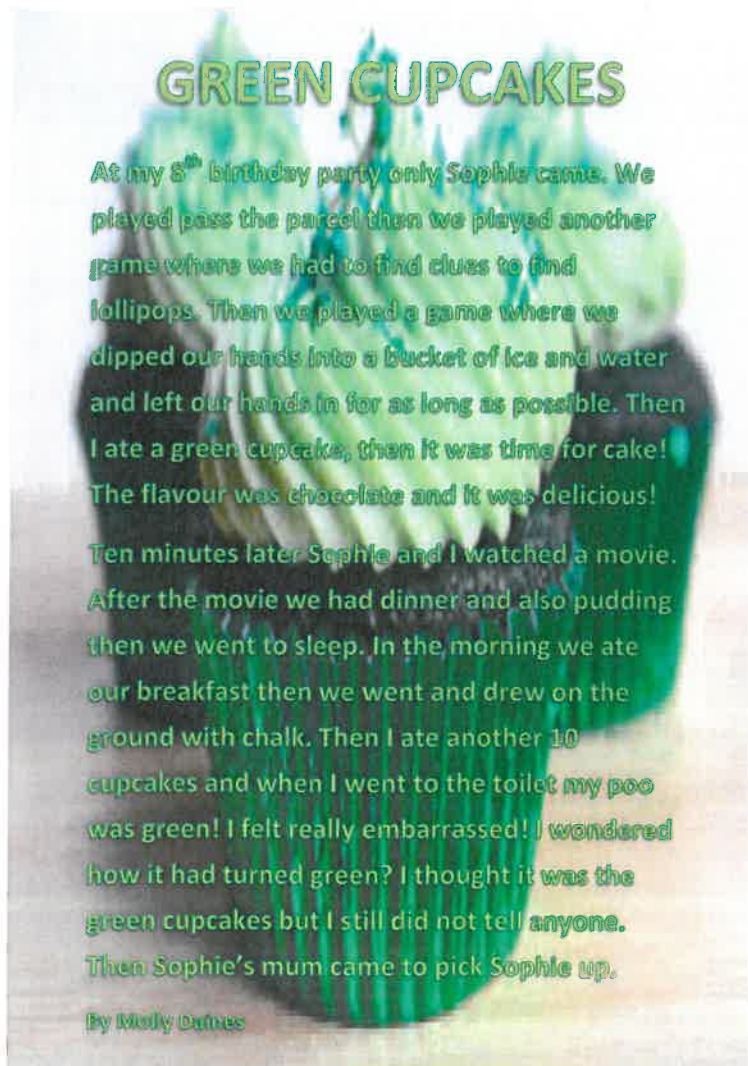
By Cooper



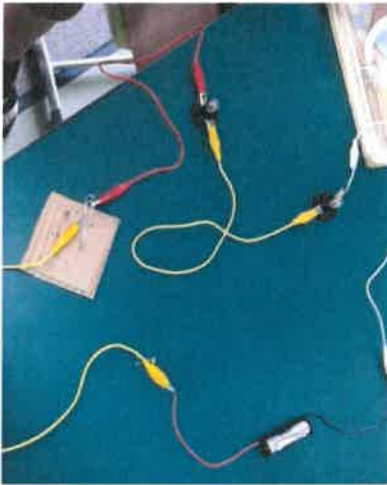
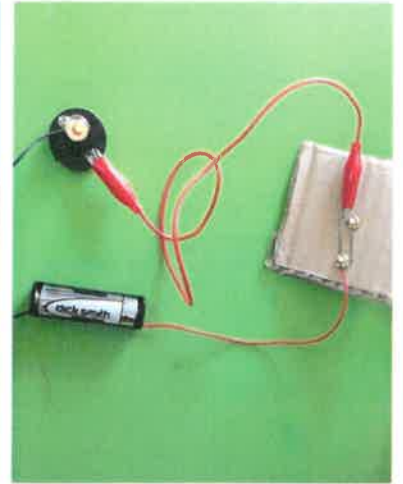
# GREEN CUPCAKES

At my 8<sup>th</sup> birthday party only Sophie came. We played pass the parcel then we played another game where we had to find clues to find lollipops. Then we played a game where we dipped our hands into a bucket of ice and water and left our hands in for as long as possible. Then I ate a green cupcake, then it was time for cake! The flavour was chocolate and it was delicious! Ten minutes later Sophie and I watched a movie. After the movie we had dinner and also pudding then we went to sleep. In the morning we ate our breakfast then we went and drew on the ground with chalk. Then I ate another 10 cupcakes and when I went to the toilet my poo was green! I felt really embarrassed! I wondered how it had turned green? I thought it was the green cupcakes but I still did not tell anyone. Then Sophie's mum came to pick Sophie up.

By Molly Dumes



# ROOM 3



# TERM 4



**Farewell  
to all our  
Year 8  
Stars !**

