



Invitation to our... END OF YEAR EVENT

You are invited to come celebrate with us at our PRIZE GIVING and light morning tea. We will also be presenting the **Ngaire Warriner Award** to one of our dedicated learners.

Date: Friday 8th December, 2017

Where: The Blind Foundation, 15 Liverpool Street

Time: 10:00am

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Celebrating
40 years

Literacy Waikato
A member provider of Literacy Aotearoa



Literacy Aotearoa
Choice Change Freedom

From the Manager's Desk

Another year has sped by, and we are preparing for a summer of rest and relaxation, catching up with friends and odd jobs, and hopefully having long hot days after a long wet winter. Tutors and students need a break after all their hard work.



Recently I attended an excellent conference run by Exultan organisation with the vision statement: 'Every non-profit working at their full potential'. The conference was very well run, full of practical ideas and information and I felt rejuvenated after it.

While I personally got a lot from the two days, I was struck by the passion and commitment of the not-for-profit sector that were represented there. We do some fantastic work with our students, but we work in only a limited sector. There were volunteers and organisations that work in a multitude of areas . all providing valuable and accessible help for our community. Most of them working with minimal funds, all of them adding to the richness of our life's journey.

I was struck by those who have seen a need and filled it. Not waiting for someone else to take up the slack. I was also struck by the younger people who are getting involved in multiple ways to help and support others. (One of the speakers was Sam Johnson . 'The Student Army guy'). Speakers talked about a shift from the Industrial economy to the Knowledge economy and now to the Human economy. We cannot live in isolation and ignore the difficulties faced by others.

Tutors at Literacy Waikato understand this, so do the people who support us. As we approach the end of the year we are grateful for your support. We appreciate the way in which you let people know about what you do and your notes and emails of support. An organisation like ours doesn't reach 40 years in the community without support from multiple sources. Thank you.

Meri Kirihimete

Louise

Term 4, 2017

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Congratulations to:

This year we have had some amazing achievements to celebrate. We look forward to celebrating some of those achievements at our end of year event.

In 2017 we have had tutors achieve their further qualifications, attend excellent professional development, begin their Literacy Waikato journey by undertaking training and reach amazing personal milestones. We have had new tutors join the team who are making a difference for their students.

Students have passed their Learners licence and some their class 2 licence, this has opened up many opportunities for them in work and personal life. Other students have received NZ residency, got a job, received a promotion, managed health numeracy, embraced new technology, voted in the general election, found a home, created personal books and gone to further study.

While these achievements are fantastic they only represent the tip of the changes that have come in to students lives. We firmly believe that we are changing lives, not only for our students but for their whanau and others they come in contact with. We have seen students overcome personal fears and challenges to interact with others and hold themselves with pride.

Thank you to our competition sponsors

Once again this year, we have run this competition where by all learners who arrive on time can pop their name in a jar and one lucky winner is drawn out at the end of the week. So many learners are motivated by this and love to get in on time to see who won the competition last week. We wish to extend a very big thank you to our local businesses who have supported us by donating vouchers to make this possible:



Ngaire Warriner Award

Ngaire was a committed tutor and committee member who died at a very early age of cancer. She is greatly missed by the pouou, and the committee have chosen to make a special award to one learner each year to remember her.

Ngaire worked with learners with severe disabilities and her patient and kind manner had a great effect on them. For this reason the award is usually (but not necessarily) given to a learner with some special needs.



We have had some very deserving recipients in the past, as well as a number of inspirational nominations. This year is the same. We look forward to recognising another amazing student at our end of year event.

Never doubt that a small
group of thoughtful
committed people can
change the world. Indeed,
it is the only thing that ever
has.

Margaret Mead

Warm fuzzies from Support Staff

I work with five individuals who are currently attending Literacy Waikato each week, accessing the fantastic one to one service. Each person returns from their sessions with renewed motivation, and confidence in their abilities and are always eager to discuss the different ways they are improving their literacy skills.

Due to a lack of confidence in themselves, there are times where I have supported a client while they explain their concerns to their tutors. The team at Literacy Waikato provide a supportive, non-judgmental service and if a problem occurs this is managed with empathy and respect. These individuals are then able to use these experiences in their own lives.

I would like to extend the thanks of these individuals by using their personal comments:

%tç really great, because I learn new stuff, and my tutor always has a friendly smile+

%d have a good teacher, and I like the way my tutor makes it easier for me to understand words, but makes it a bit more challenging to help my learning. Sometimes my tutor speaks to quickly but I feel comfortable asking her to slow down, and she always does+

%f find my time really hard because I really struggle with my reading and I feel like giving up. I keep trying when my tutor listens to how I am feeling, but itç still hard+

%b feels that I am slowly getting it, and my tutor helps me with problem solving and she is lovely+

Thank you for providing a service that has such positive influence in so many lives.



Richard Branson on The Advantages of being dyslexic



Dyslexia has been a positive for me in business and I have never let it hold me back. Thinking differently should be seen as an asset not as a hindrance. Dyslexia has taught me to keep things simple, to rise above difficulties and to focus on what I'm good at.

It is Dyslexia Awareness Week in the UK, with the theme of #positivedyslexia2017. This is very fitting for me . as I've said before, I'm sure my dyslexia has helped me succeed.

But I was surprised to learn only three per cent of people see dyslexia as an advantage. Unfortunately for many young people, success and intelligence is measured through exams . which don't recognise or measure many skills that dyslexics bring to the table. That's why I left school at 16 to start Student . and I haven't looked back. I've always dreamed big and I'm naturally good at thinking creatively and being able to see the big picture. Dyslexia can help you problem solve and even drive innovation as you look for new ways of doing things.

I'm not suggesting students should drop out of school. I'm advocating for all people . not just dyslexics . to find their passions, and then work hard to become really good at it. Dyslexics can be great storytellers and excellent at explaining things. There are many brilliant dyslexic authors and journalists, like Agatha Christie and AA Gill. It's important we let dyslexic kids imagination and creativity develop. That's far more important than focusing so heavily on spelling and grammar, which we usually find difficult - in the real world we have spell check!

The real world needs dyslexic thinking. Dyslexics have helped shape the world with many different creations and inventions . the plane, the car, the light bulb, Picasso's paintings or Steven Spielberg's films. We should be nurturing dyslexics, young and old, for their amazing way of seeing the world and embracing what they can or may do for it.

Term Dates 2018

Office Opens	Monday 22 nd January
Tutor Day	Friday 2 nd February
Waitangi Day	Tuesday 6th February
Term One Begins	Wednesday 7 th February
Good Friday	Friday 30th March
Easter Monday	Monday 2nd April
Term One Ends	Friday 13 th April
Anzac Day	Wednesday 25th April
Term Two Begins	Monday 30 th April
Queen's Birthday	Monday 4th June
Term Two Ends	Friday 6 th July
Term Three Begins	Monday 23 rd July
Term Three Ends	Friday 28 th September
Term Four Begins	Monday 15 th October
Labour Day	Monday 22nd October
Final day of tutoring	Thursday 13 th December
End of year Event	Friday 14 th December
Office Closes	Wednesday 19 th December

Wishing everybody a safe, happy and relaxing Christmas and summer holiday break!

**SEE YOU AGAIN
IN 2018**





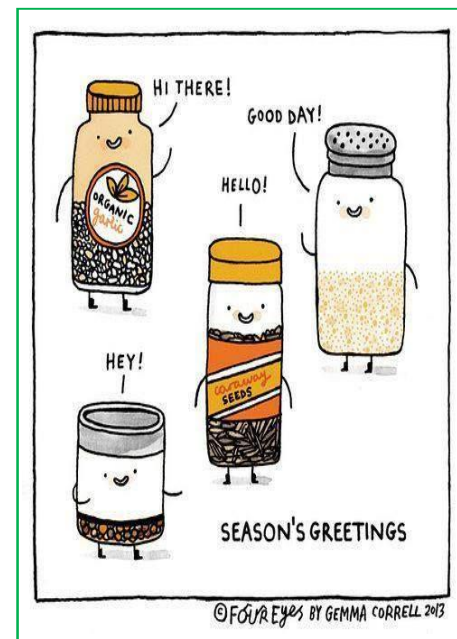
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With grateful thanks for grants and support from:



Mission Statement
To provide a quality literacy service to adults in the community.

