



Annual Report

Principal's report

Principal's final report December 2020.

This report is to inform the Board of Trustees of St Leonards results for 2020.

2020 was a year of enormous challenges. In these unprecedented times all the staff and volunteers at St Leonards rose to the challenge

As the onset of Lockdown became a time of when not if we worked tirelessly together to develop guidelines for safety and learning online. We were lucky enough to be able to set up devices for all students. Outline expectations about what their space of learning would look like in their home. And reassure parents and caregivers that we would be delivering a programme that was flexible enough to suit all whanau, whatever their circumstances.

The staff went above and beyond by making themselves available over the ministry times designated as 'holidays'. This kept us all in touch and developed a routine that was stable and consistent.

Programmes and planning were developed, reflected on and adjusted to make sure the optimum learning environment was maintained.

This was tackled with enthusiasm and lots of sharing. New systems were put in place to help with the sharing of ideas, processes and responsibilities, many Zoom meetings were run with children but also with staff and BOT to keep everyone informed. Seesaw and Google Classroom were used efficiently to deliver activities and share learning.

Even as we slowly returned to school, down the levels, volunteers continued to communicate with teachers and students through Zoom, until they felt confident enough to return in person.

Despite all the challenges most of our students continued along their learning journey, showing staff their ability to be self managers and active learners.

A student reflection on the lockdown was collated with these ideas then informing our timetables and practices for the year. There were a lot of positives but also negatives as families came to terms with their changing situations.

Staff were also under pressure as they had to care for themselves and their own families.

Our staff and volunteers remained as they were in 2019, enthusiastic and professional in their attitude towards students, parents and each other.

Professional Development.

We started the year with a seminar with Nathan Wallis looking at brain science and trauma.

Then as Covid took hold. Sarah enrolled and attended a Te Ahu o te reo course that spanned over 2 terms

We also renewed our First Aid certificates, these are done every 2 years. Christine attained hers as part of staff requirements.

.Year's highlights and activities.

We started the year with a whole school breakfast, a very successful way of getting everyone together at the start.

We have had a very busy year beginning with swimming, goal setting interviews and Gone Potty and Elgregoe the Magician.

Our annual Art Exhibition had to be cancelled for this year but we are hoping to have it in March of 2021.

We have had a visit once a fortnight throughout the year from Kelly sport. This was the result of the West Harbour schools again getting together to get funding for this programme again.. The children and staff have enjoyed working with the sport otago teachers gaining ideas to supplement their PE programme.

We again had two brilliant camps that we managed to fit in just before Covid. We were the last camp to be held at Waiholo while the juniors had a relaxing time at school with adventures to the park and down to Aramoana. . We were so pleased we managed to have them.

Our Matariki celebration this year was held with the Playcentre who came up to see our light display, using fluorescent string, cord and paint highlighted by a black light. Then we all walked down to the playcentre for hot chocolate and a sing along.

Rata and Totara joined on a couple of occasions to experience, 'Dramatic enquiry' which is the broader term under which 'Mantle of the Expert 'can occur .Rata led the way with the days which were based around Space and a book called ' Wooden Arms'.

Our Wearable Arts this year was part of our 'Arts and me' show. was again to a high standard with beautiful work being presented to an appreciative audience. The thread that tied this all together this year was Identity. It gave the students lots of scope for their original ideas.

We were lucky enough to have Mr JI continue to come in and take an extension Math group for the year. He also ran the chess club on Friday lunchtime. J returned to work with our students on vocabulary and dictionary skills. K was also on board and spent her time reinforcing literacy skills in all classes. Both of these ladies learnt a new skill 'Zoom' and were able to talk and listen to children over Covid Level 2 and 3. It has meant that if they want/need to stay at home for any reason they can still keep in touch with us.

Our Guitar /keyboard/piano tutor was hard at work with groups of interested children during class. Art classes have continued after school for the year.

The annual fun run went well, with all children running the full distance. As always there was great support from the parents.

We had our disco this year following on from our leavers dinner, it attracted good support and was dressed up with bubbles and smoke machines.

Another highlight was the Occupational Therapy student who came in as part of her course. D became quickly and successfully involved with Rata, taking them for cooking and organising with a group of her fellow students a Sensory Roadshow. The children really enjoyed the experience.

We introduced having our school assemblies at night,, these were showcasing reading, maths and writing programmes.

Totara had an awesome time with their Source to Sea programme. Run by J F this programme investigated the water catchment area around McDermotts creek. The students will continue next year with any actions they put in place as result of this year's work.

Rata had a great time with Squawk Squad this year. They have become committed environmental activists who are looking for change.

PTA and other donations and support.

We had no PTA this year, luckily there were some parents who would help when called on for all the activities during the year. All parents and children worked at our Market Day this year. Which raised \$2500 which went towards more decodable texts to support 'The Code' programme and a digital microscope.. With a special mention to the S whanau, who made an amazing effort to raise \$500 for the school, printing off xmas cards designed by C.

Our system where parents are charged for each activity their children take part in over the year, has worked to bring in funds owing in most cases. This invoice is sent out monthly. We also asked, if possible, for the voluntary School donations.

Grants successfully applied for.

We have received money from a number of sources that has paid for library books, decodable texts

We used a pot of capital works money from the government to replace carpet, heat pumps, lights and double glaze the remaining classroom windows..

St Leonards End of Year report of Results.

Reading:

Reading results	2018	Total % At/above	2019	Total % At/above	2020	Total % At/above
Above	27	82%	19	70%	17	84%
At	6		5		9	
Below	4		7		2	
Well below	3		3		3	
	41		34		31	

Reading results : Pleasing to see not only a rise in sill and comprehension, but anecdotally there is also a rise in reading engagement across the school. This was a goal we set for our students and teachers.

Maths:

Numeracy results	2018	Total % At/above	2019	Total % At/above	2020	Total % At/above
Above	14	100%	20	90%	16	81%
At	27		11		9	
Below	0		4		6	
Well below	0				0	
			35		31	

Maths results: Still a high percentage of success. Even so this is an area we are going to be looking at for next year as there are a cohort that have math knowledge but not enough confidence in language to confidently understand some of the concepts.

Written language:

Writing results	2018	Total % At/above	2019	Total % At/above	2020	Total % At/above
Above	10	65%	13	67%	14	74%

At	17		10		9	
Below	12		9		7	
Well below	2		2		1	
			34		31	

Writing: The programmes we have put in place this year to focus on phonological awareness and spelling patterns have helped to lift the writing results as they focus on the surface features in the writing process that have held some students back.

Kiwisport

This year we identified our use of our Kiwisport early on. It was our contribution towards Kelly Sport. We are a very active school with hockey and futsal teams running this year. Over 80% of the children play a team sport. Others are involved in tennis, badminton, ice skating and dance. They all know the importance of keeping active. We have PALs running lunchtime programmes.