

Newsletter Term 4, 2023

Kia ora tātau

The National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA)

Amie Roberts (one of our RTLB), was nominated to receive an NEiTA award by a parent whose child she supported a few years ago. This parent has a second child who more recently benefited from schoolwide structured literacy support provided by Amie and her colleague Sophie Arps.

The NEiTA is a community-centred awards program started by the NEiTA Foundation in 1994, to honour exemplary teaching in Australia and New Zealand. This year 2500 nominations were made, 50 interviews were conducted and 13 winners were identified. Amie is one of the winners for this year! This is an amazing accomplishment for Amie and we are very proud of her.

More information about NEiTA can be found [here](#).

Surplus Staffing

On Monday 9 October we received confirmation from the MOE that our cluster will reduce from 39 FTTE + Cluster Manager, to 38 FTTE in 2024 due to falling rolls across our rohe. This is disappointing given the increased demands on our service.

Resignation



We are saddened to let you know that Claire Griffin will be leaving our team at the end of this year. Claire has been an RTLB for 11 years and has made a huge contribution to our schools, their mokopuna and our Cluster over this time. She will be sorely missed.

On the plus side, Claire will have the opportunity to invest more time and energy into her many passions including her wonderful art. Here is Claire pictured alongside two of her pieces that were on exhibition at Hutt Art, Myrtle Street, Lower Hutt recently.

Child Matters PLD

On 13 and 14 September the Cluster facilitated the second series of one-day Child Protection workshops for 27 schools from the northern area of the cluster.

Feedback from schools was very positive. Participants highly commended the presenter for her wealth of knowledge on the topic and her great delivery of the content. All participants commented that the workshop increased their knowledge and confidence in dealing with child protection issues. Although it was a long day, all came out energised with a wealth of knowledge in their kete.

Neurosequential Model in Education (NME)

NME is a classroom based approach to support school staff and children to learn more about brain development and the impact of developmental trauma on a child's ability to function in a classroom. It has been developed through the mahi of Dr. Bruce Perry.

This year a group of Porirua based facilitators including Lynda Knight-de Blois (advanced trainer), RTLB and the Porirua East LSCs ran two introductory courses for teachers, senior school staff and RTLB. Each course covered five x one and a half hour sessions spread over two terms.

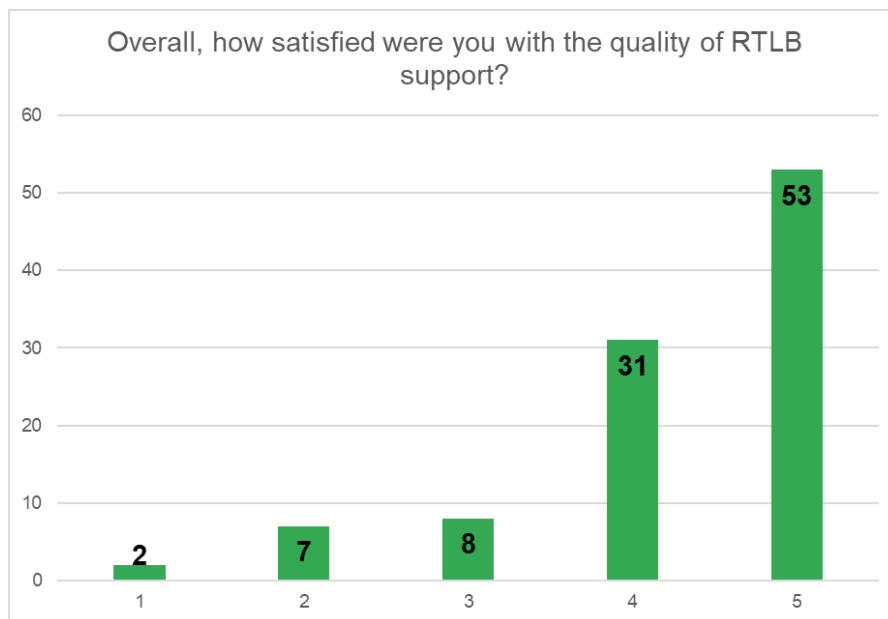
Early in 2024 we will gauge interest from Cluster schools for this professional development opportunity.

Effective Literacy Practice Project

Over the last three years our RTLB have been supporting a range of schools with more structured approaches to literacy that fit with the Science of Reading and Science of Learning approaches. (based on brain research into learning and what education practices support this). Because we want to continue to support as many schools as possible in a way that is manageable, we plan to take a project approach in 2024. Please keep your eye out for an email from us next week inviting you to make an Expression of Interest (EOI) to be part of this project.

Cluster 28 2023 Survey Data

In term 3 our schools, including principals, SENCO, LSCs and kaiako had the opportunity to respond to the MOE National Satisfaction Survey about our Cluster's service provision. We received 101 responses (an increase of 19 over 2022). We are still analysing the results, however can report that 84% of respondents were either satisfied, or very satisfied with the quality of the support they received from our team. We are very proud of this result.



These are actual numbers of responses rather than percentages.

Key: 1 - very dissatisfied; 2 - dissatisfied; 3 - neutral; 4 - satisfied; 5 - very satisfied

Supporting ESOL students

As at April 2023 there were 3,279 ESOL students enrolled in schools across our cluster. This represents 11% of the total school population.

Most common first languages of ESOL funded students in the Wellington region

	2021 P1	2022 P1	2023 P1
Samoan	765	747	682
Mandarin	416	457	478
Tagalog/Filipino	315	307	465
Hindi	373	410	441
Afrikaans	332	304	343
Arabic	258	227	234
Malayalam	124	179	216
Spanish	164	172	175

Just a reminder that students whose scores are below the ELLP benchmarks will qualify for funding from the MOE if they're:

1. Migrants to New Zealand
2. Former refugees
3. New Zealand-born students, with at least one parent of migrant or refugee background.

New Zealand-born students are eligible if at least one of their parents is a migrant to New Zealand and a language other than English is usually spoken at home. More information can be found [here](#).

RTL B Resources

We would appreciate it if you could check your shelves for any resources that belong to our cluster. Please pass these on to RTL B as you see them in your schools so they can be returned to our resource bank.

This will be my last newsletter for the year, so I would like to thank you again for your support of service and wish you (very early) Christmas and New Years greetings.

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