



# SCHOOL TALK

September 2016

## Dare to Dream

700 students converged on CityWest Church in New Plymouth for the Young Leadership Day. Students enjoyed a range of inspirational speeches from a variety of presenters intermixed with dancing competitions and entertainment by D-man entertainment.

The key theme of the day was 'Dare to Dream' which was kicked by a presentation by Attitude's Nathaniel Kandregula whose key message was 'you have no control over your genes and environment you grow up in but you are more than your looks and circumstances' - your choices define who you become - he said to students, 'look at your 5 closest friends now and I will show you your future.'

Professional boxer Sam Rapira told students to have a passion. Sometimes it may not be fun but you need to work hard and make sacrifices to achieve your dreams. This was a message that was reiterated by both artist and song writer Jordan Barnes and singer/song writer Abby Christodonion who said, 'pick yourself up from the knockdowns ... life is not a practice run!'



Speaker Jack Brown inspired students that sometimes you need to adapt to circumstances and change your dream. Jack had a car accident in 2015 resulting in him becoming wheelchair bound. An 80+ k.g. avid rugby player, after his accident Jack found himself a lightweight 45 k.g. with no muscle tone. He had to learn to sit up and then build up enough upper body strength to manipulate a wheelchair. Within a year Jack had made the under 23 New Zealand para-basketball team and hopes to become a NZ para-Olympian.

Actor/director Oscar Knightley rounded up the day with the sentiment 'don't just dream it, dare to do it'. He said that he was nervous to speak because advice to young people is such a big responsibility. He stated he normally talks to students about building skills such as commitment, being a good leader, resilience, attitude, building goals & future plans, not listening to knockers, facing fears, overcoming no opportunity or poverty but instead he choose to give the students 3 key messages.

The key messages were:

1. Relax - don't take things too seriously
2. Enjoy yourself
3. Survive!

He expounded, 'ANYTHING and EVERYTHING is possible', learn what you need to do and have faith and trust in yourself. Apply the 3 step guide to making an art work to following your dreams - imagine a world you want to live in, create that world and live in it!



## Road Safety Message



It has been a few years since Ruben the Road Safety Bear has visited Mokau but students were delighted when he and his helper dropped into school recently.

The students enjoyed an interactive session of singing and dancing with Ruben while sharing their road safety knowledge and learned a lot as well.

Road safety messages included

Stop, Look,  
Listen and Link

Be Bright  
Dress bright

Helmets on  
right and tight

Seat yourself  
right, buckle in  
tight

Look out for  
sneaky  
driveways

Children less than  
148cm tall should  
use a car  
booster seat

# Gymfest Team Spirit

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016, fourteen year 2-8 Mokau School students took part in the Annual Otorohanga and Te Kuiti Districts GymSports Festival Competition.

Many of these students had never tried gymnastics before so it was a whole new sport. They not only needed to learn the basics of gymnastics but they then had to learn a series of routines and put it all together in just 3 weeks!

The enthusiasm and commitment from these children was amazing. The boys had 2 floor routines to learn and a vault. The girls had a floor, vault and beam routine to learn.

The competition had 3 classes: Springers (level 1), Flyers (level 2) and Twisters (level 3). Our children entered Springers and Flyers. Certificates were awarded to 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> place-getters.

## RESULTS:

### Springers Women's year 2-6

5<sup>th</sup> Grace Lovell, 8<sup>th</sup> Martha Hagenson,  
15<sup>th</sup> Kayla Gorrie, 18<sup>th</sup> Jessica Lovell

### Springers Women's year 7&8

1<sup>st</sup> Eve Hagenson

### Springers Men's year 2-6

1<sup>st</sup> Jacob Omelvena, 4<sup>th</sup> Connell Hagenson,  
5<sup>th</sup> Merekara Tupu-Ngahere, 6<sup>th</sup> Matua Tupu-Ngahere,  
7<sup>th</sup> Billy Smyth, 10<sup>th</sup> Ryan Lovell



Mokau School Gymnastics Team 2016

Front Left to Right: Billy Smyth, Jacob Omelvena, Kayla Gorrie, Martha Hagenson  
Back (on Beam) Left to Right: Merekara Tupu-Ngahere, Reece Omelvena, Matua Tupu-Ngahere,  
Sophia Smyth, Dannielle Hamblin-Manderson, Eve Hagenson, Wendy Smyth (Coach), Jessica Lovell,  
Grace Lovell, Ryan Lovell, Connell Hagenson

### Flyers Men's year 2-6

3<sup>rd</sup> Reece Omelvena

### Flyers Women's year 2-6

3<sup>rd</sup> Sophia Smyth, 9<sup>th</sup> Dannielle Hamblin-Manderson

Our children most certainly did Mokau School and the community proud. The overall "Team Spirit Award" was awarded to Mokau School Team for their team morale, support, work ethic, and manners. We won this award in 2013 and again this year in 2016.

Thank you to the parents for their support, it wouldn't have been easy without you! Thank you to the children for your attention, manners, great work ethic and wonderful attitudes. Together we can do it!

Wendy Smyth

# Literacy Quiz Success

Do you know who edits the Rodent Gazette? Who Nancy Drew's friends are?  
Who wrote the Princess Dairies? What does a.t.a.c. means in the Hardy Boys book series?

Two teams of students from Mokau School faced these and 96 other questions to vie for the title of 'Literacy Quiz Champions 2016'. Fifteen teams converged on Te Kuiti Primary to compete in the Waitomo District Library NZ Book Awards for Children and Young Adults Annual Literacy Quiz. The quiz was composed of 10 rounds of 10 questions, categories included Picture Books, Book Series Fairy Tales, NZ Authors, Visuals, Who said That, NZ Book Award Finalists and General Knowledge. Teams had been studying hard all Term and both teams dedication was evident on the night. Team 'Downtown Dabbers' (Connell, Ocean, Francis and Grace) were placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall and team 'Mokau Masterminds' (Eve, Claude, Merekara and Sophia) lived up to their name coming out victors on the night. Masterminds were rewarded with prizes for their 4 individual round wins, a \$50 Paper Plus voucher each, a trophy to hold for the year and their team name will be engraved on the shield displayed in the Te Kuiti Library.



Mokau School Literacy Quiz Teams  
Front row (from left): Grace Lovell, Merekara Tupu-Ngahere, Eve Hagenson, Sophia Smyth  
Back Row (from left): Connell Hagenson, Ocean Kete, Francis O'Sullivan-Lobb and Claude O'Sullivan-Lobb





Many young Star Wars fans at Mokau School are collecting the tokens being given out at the supermarket. If you have any spares we would welcome their donation at school. Thank you

## Up and Coming Events At Mokau School

Community are welcome to attend the following events that Mokau school children are involved in

SEP	2	Tainui Schools Cross Country @Mimi School. 10.00 am
	6	Mokau School speeches (seniors) and poem recitals (juniors). @Mokau School. 10.30 am
	9	Tainui Cluster of Schools Speech Finals @Whareorino School
	12	Duffy Role Model Assembly @Mokau School 1.30 pm Speaker: Shelley Ryan
OCT	19	Mokau School Agricultural Day and Arts Display. 10.00 am
	21	Tainui Girls' And Boys' Club (Ag Day) @Tainui Domain 10.00 am
NOV	11	Tainui Schools Athletic Sports @Ahititi School



The Warren family would like to thank the Mokau Community for their kind thoughts, words and actions following Pam's passing.

Thank you to the Waitara R.S.A. for donating \$200 to Mokau School. As they suggested, the money will be used to purchase learning resources which promote an understanding of ANZAC and the sacrifices New Zealanders made during World War I.



## Duffy Role Model Visit

Mokau School's next Duffy Role Model Assembly will be held on September 12 at 1.30 pm and all community members are welcome to come and hear our guest speaker Shelley Ryan – the Duffy Team has given us this brief description of the work Shelley does.

**Kids, Cars and Animals - how does it all work? Shelley first started the SPCA journey at Auckland SPCA in 1993, working in many animals areas around the Animal Village. In early 2000, the position of Education Officer was created part time and by the end of 2000, there was so much interest from schools wanting to share in animal welfare learning, the position of Education Manager was created and went fulltime with a fantastic team of SPCA Education Officers and animals specifically selected to be part of the delivery of SPCA education, including working with Royal New Zealand successful One of the Family education programme across the country, presenting to over 100, 000 students which shares conversations about the bonds we share with our pets.**

**Today, she works as an Auto Angel - with her other passion which is cars! Auto Angels is an all-female sales team finding the right car for families. She is currently modifying her classic muscle car (hot rod) to take drag racing at Meremere raceway. She continues her work with Police and Community Groups specifically with at risk young people helping to make the connections of love, kindness and care through the animals in our homes and community with her own alternative education business - EmPAWthy – Helping One, Helps the Other. She has 5 kids - 2 adult daughters, a son, 2 school aged daughters, 4 grandsons, 2 dogs, 4 cats, and 2 blue tongued lizards!**

