



Nga Tama Toa- Re-engaging Young Men in Education

History and context

In 2017 the School identified a group of disengaged young boys from education. These young men were displaying a number of anti-social behaviors including:

1. Non-compliance to teacher instruction
2. Non-compliance to school rules and values
3. Verbal abuse of staff at least 6 times a term.
4. Regular displays of anger
5. Threatening students and staff
6. Assaulting students or staff

It was decided to start a project using a former Centre for Extra Support Teacher (SES/GSE/MOE) Grant Henderson utilizing his expertise and experience.

Program focus

1. Improve student attendance.
2. Develop IBPs for students with clear behavior difficulties.
3. Adapt curriculum for low learners.
4. Grow student confidence
5. Teach resilience, social skills, and leadership belief.
6. Increase student inclusion

Primary use of Cognition Education Trust funding- Activity and rationale

1. *Rotorua Mini Marathon*

As part of developing student belief and resilience, the class was entered in the 2018 Rotorua Mini Marathon Challenge. The students have 3 weeks to complete 38 kilometers if running before the event held during the first week of term 2. The students of Nga Tama Toa had completed 34 kilometers before going on holiday with most of the students running 2 kilometers before the event. We use the Cognition Education Trust funding to pay for the student's entry fee, therefore enabling all to compete.



As these photos show the boys had a great day and learned how to overcome personal challenges.

2. *Rippa Rugby- New Skills*



enough to learn how to play Rippa Rugby from Mr Kelly Haimoana (BOP Rugby Steamer/ Italy International). The encompassed working together, and enjoying rugby as a game.



The boys were lucky Rippa Rugby from Mr Development Officer/ BOP skills taught to the boys talking with each other The whole school then attended the Rippa Fun Day, which Nga Tama Toa was lucky enough to be part of.

3. *Classroom Program*

Learning within Nga Tama Toa is digitally driven. The students use a number of digital resources for learning including Maths Buddy, Prodigy, Spelling City, ABC YA Learning programs, PM Writing, Learning to Type, EPIC children's online library, Google suite of learning software and scratch (digital coding). Although; learning was not the main focus of the class, most of the students have made pleasing progress academically. Some of the Cognition Education Trust money was spent on the subscription for Spelling City.

4. *Learning how to be resilient*

The first stage has been teaching the students what resilience is. The ability to bounce back from adversity is also based upon a person having the "true confidence" to do so. Building confidence has been a main part of the program as well. The Kiwi Can program has complimented the learning from the classroom.

5. *Technology and construction.*

This curriculum has played a major part in the students learning. During term 1 and 2, the students were challenged to build a variety of railroad tracks, with trains that ran. The purpose of this resource was to get the students to work in pairs to create a system. Eventually, the students worked in small groups creating a number of different rail systems. We use Cognition Education Trust funding to pay for batteries. Later on, the students used Lego to also create a number of individual and collaborative designs.



6. *Learning to swim*

In Term 4 the students were able to access swimming lessons from the Rotorua Lakes Swim School. We used the Cognition Education Trust funding to pay for the transport of the students to the lessons and to subsidize the lessons to \$6 for the week. A number of the students did not know how to swim or survive in water. But after a week, some



progress was made.

2018 Celebrations

1. Attendance at school

There has been a significant increase in the students' attendance even from the start of the year to now. Our class average attendance is 94%, more importantly, 4 of the students since term 2 have won 100% attendance awards. This is despite the temptation of Fortnite which seems to affect other students.

2. Class size

In term 1 the class size was 7 students. When the Education Review Office visited the class was at 9. Currently, there are 12 students in Nga Tama Toa (The price of citizenship), with our first female student. The new students have been stood down for problems and come into the class wanting to make a change.

3. Academic performance

Although this was not high priority, it has been pleasing to see the progress most students have made with the adapted program and smaller class numbers over the course of 2018. Well over 80% of the students have made pleasing gains, especially in meeting IEP goals or ELP goals.

Challenges for 2019

1. Developing an enhanced Education Outside the Classroom Program.

I was unable to implement this program in 2018 with the group having a Year 2 and Year 3 student in the mix. With the class capped at Year 4, I will be able to take the group for overnight EoTC and trips including potential visiting the Waiouru Army Museum and base. I would also like to have an excursion to Ohiwa Harbour to study oyster

production, sea skills and glow worms.

Cognition Education Trust foundation funding would be used to support Whanau attending especially Dads.

2. Learning how to use computers and supporting my kids

These workshops would share with the whanau the digital learning tools we use in the classroom so that whanau and parents can support the Tamariki at home. I would run the workshop in term 1 and 2 including one of the devices for learning. Cognition Education Trust funding would support the afternoon tea kai.

3. For those students who remain in the project in 2019, their focus will be academic acceleration. New students into the project will undergo the Social Skills and Resilience training first.

Naku noa
Grant Henderson
Room 10
Sunset Primary School