**Newsletter Term Three 2021**

**Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei”**
*Aim for the highest cloud so that if you miss it, you will hit a lofty mountain*

**Tēnā Koutoū Katoa,**

**Term Three 2021:** Where has the year gone! Now we are in Lockdown. I want you to know that your Liaison RTLB will be contacting SENCo/LSC to check which e-learning and hard pack resources you are using in your school and to check whether you are happy for RTLB to work on any new cases remotely. They will continue with current casework remotely where it works for whānau and school personnel. We will hold our Referral and Intake meeting Thursday 26th August as usual.

We are watching for any Locations of Interest and COVID cases and cross checking these with any RTLB casework in the school to look for possible contacts and will follow up where relevant with the school principal and SENCo/LSC. Please contact me if you have any queries.

**Cluster School casework highlights:**

* **Incredible Years Teacher (IYT) Programme Term 1 & 2 2021**
	+ This has been a very successful programme. The feedback from Teacher Participants has been very positive.
	+ Pieter has completed his very first IYT workshop and is feeling more confident and competent to be the lead facilitator and co-present in the next IYT programme.
	+ Violet is now almost certified and will support Pieter in preparing for his accreditation the end of this year.
* Incredible Years (IYT) and Incredible Years Autism (IYA) Courses
	+ These can have up to 16 teachers participating. Teachers are given strategies for managing student behaviours, opportunities to share their experience and learn together as well as have observation and follow up with individual RTLB IYT or IYAT facilitators.
* Peer Writing Programme
	+ Wendy and Tania facilitated the ‘Peer Writing’ workshop. This is a very inclusive programme using the Tuakana -Teina principle. We have seen success for both the tutor and learner.  This intervention is sustainable as TAs and students are trained in the programme which means the success carries on for the teachers after the RTLB case is completed.
* Behaviour Programme
	+ An individual case in a primary school with a focus on ‘behaviour’ where the RTLB implemented ‘Zones of Regulation’ with not only the student but the whole class and at home too. This moved the casework from benefitting one child only to not only the whole class but also the whole syndicate or school adopting the programme. This results in all the students, staff and whānau hear and use a common language to describe and manage their feelings and behaviours.

**Cluster Website:**

* We have launched our new Ngā Manu Aroha Cluster 9 website thanks to the hard work of Practice Leader Kobus van Schalkwyk. He has worked hard to make strategies, resources easily available to you.
* Follow the link and see what there is: **rtlbcluster9.com**

**In Class Support (ICS):**

We are now into In Class Support (ICS) application time.

* Please note Cluster 9 is holding a Zoom meeting to outline the Cluster moderation process for you, which will be held on Wednesday 25 August for an hour.
* Cluster 9 has led the 4 south Clusters working together to have one Moderation process that is responsive to each Cluster’s school needs.
* Our MoE colleagues will be approaching some Principal’s, SENCo’s and LSC’s to make up our Cluster 9 ICS Moderation Panel. We try to rotate school panel members each year, so school personnel can understand the ICS moderation process better.
* Thank you to those who have been part of the panel previously.
* Over the last few years the MoE have worked hard to develop clearer guidelines for schools, as well as refine the process to reduce the workload on moderation panel members. Special thanks to Louise Barry, Jann Tofi and Bronwyn Cheynne for their efforts.

**Personnel:**

**Meet our new staff.**

**Our Cluster PA**

* Ioana Johansson: Comes to us with a wealth of administration knowledge and experience outside and inside education.

**Our RTLB are:**

* Nishana Sunker: Brings experience as a HoD maths teacher and more recent experience teaching in India and South Africa.
* Marina Younchik who left the cluster 5 years ago to work as an RTLB and then teacher in the Hauraki Plains. She has returned to Cluster 9 bringing her wealth of experience as an RTLB and fresh experience as a classroom Teacher.
* Christine Smit: Comes to us with a background in ECE and junior teaching and team leadership.
* Natasha Cardoza is an experienced teacher who has taught in mainstream and in Special school.
* Pravin Maharaj comes to us with experience in teaching and principalship. He has come to us from Mangere East School.

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**Ioana Johansson, Marina Younchik, Christine Smit, Natasha Cardoza, Pravin Maharaj**

**Referral and Intake meetings:**

* Our new RTLB are beginning to take cases, so we can work to respond to your requests for support as soon as possible.

**Well-Being - focus Trauma and Anxiety Project:**

* Your Liaison RTLB will be reminding you about our Well-Being Project where you can frame requests for support and resourcing for either on-going or new requests that support the well-being of students and staff. This project seeks to support and embed well-being systems, strategies, practices, and programmes in schools using excess 2020 LSF Funding. This funding was not fully utilised in 2020 due to Covid impact and Lockdowns.

**Property:**

* We are currently working with our new MoE Property Advisor to review housing all RTLB at Otahuhu Intermediate in the future. We are excited that we will be refurbishing the OIS classrooms and offices under the school’s 5YA in the near future.
* Special thanks to Jean Batten School and Sir Douglas Bader Intermediate School who continue to support Cluster 9 RTLB’s by housing some of the RTLB’s currently.

**Upcoming Key dates for 2021:**

* **SENCo/LSC PLD Term Three**
	+ **Wednesday 1 September - 9.00 am - 3.00 pm at the Mangere Cosmopolitan Club**.
	+ We will be showcasing casework in schools, current topics of interest with supporting speakers.
	+ Look out for the SENCo/LSC Flyer for programme details. Out soon.
* **SENCo/LSC PLD Term Four:**
* **Wednesday 24 November – 9.00am – 3.00pm at the Mangere Cosmopolitan Club.**
* Focus: To be confirmed

Anna Houston

Ngā Manu Aroha RTLB Cluster 9 Manager.

**If you have any queries or concerns, please contact your Liaison RTLB’s Practice Leader or the Cluster Manager.**

Anna Houston 0272937114 ahouston@otahuhuint.school.nz

**Cluster Practice Leaders:**

Neena Chawla 0278372070 nchawla@otahuhuint.school.nz

Kobus van Schalkwyk 02205997076 kvanschalkwyk@otahuhuint.school.nz Stephanie Barnett 0220597670 sbarnett@otahuhuint.school.nz