

# Hospital School Connections

Term 3

2017

Recommended sites  
from the Generation  
Next conference:

- ⇒ [Three Men and a Feeling](#)  
Audio segments featuring Andrew Fuller, Michael Mackenzie, and educator John Hendry.
- ⇒ [Gablification of Games](#)  
How games have changed and what they are really after.
- ⇒ [On Line Gamers Anon](#)  
Help for parents with their child's gaming addiction.
- ⇒ [Warning signs of suicide](#)  
Healthdirect Australian Government site.
- ⇒ [esafety Women](#)
- ⇒ [How to secure your devices](#)  
vimeo -Secure Your World
- ⇒ [Slangit](#)  
Social media terms
- ⇒ [Hints for creating resilient families](#)  
Written by Andrew Fuller
- ⇒ [Resilient Youth](#)  
Free online resources
- ⇒ [Depression proofing your kids](#)  
Written by Andrew Fuller



**National Reconciliation  
Week at  
RPA**



In June we celebrated National Reconciliation Week in our community. Indigenous artist Neil Thorne created our colourful artwork, inspiring us all with his great talent.

[Link to conference notes  
Sydney 2017](#)

## Generation Next Conference 4th August 2017

It was wonderful to see staff from St George, Royal North Shore and Bankstown hospital schools at the annual Generation Next Conference in Sydney once again.

Throughout the day we were fortunate to hear from many great speakers. Paul Dillons' session

on "Supporting young people in their choices with alcohol or drugs" was very interesting. In the Bankstown area we have a large Muslim population. Alcohol is "haram" in their law, however, in many other cultures turning 18 is celebrated by their "first" official alcoholic drink. It is difficult for some of these young people to attend parties of their peers and say "no" to alcohol.

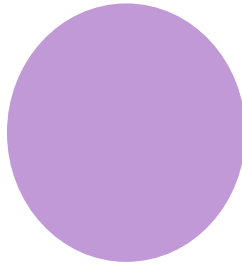
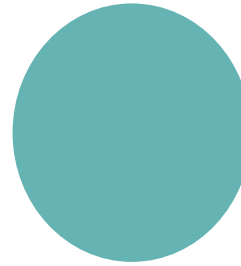
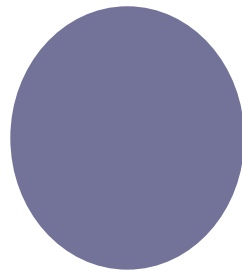
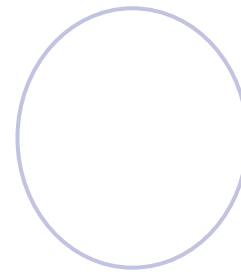
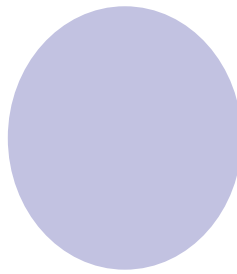
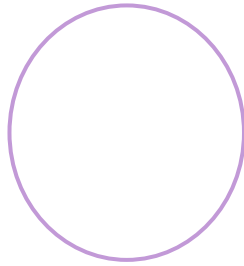
WHO has a global alcohol strategy to protect young peoples choices, including changing our questions to "if you choose to drink tonight" instead of "when you go out and drink tonight..."



L: Susanne, Ros, Faye  
R: Nurses from Bankstown Hospital Paediatric Ward



Think  
Positive  
= Be =  
Positive



L to R Back: Ronda (Liverpool), Michelle (NZ), Kay (Liverpool), Heather –anne (NZ).  
Front: Daniel (Sydney), Ros (Bankstown), Laura (NZ).



L to R: Mercedes (Westmead), Ros (Bankstown), Emma (SA), Kerry (NZ), Abbey (SA).



L to R: Ronda (Liverpool), Kay (Liverpool), Amy (John Hunter).

On the 4th and 5th of September many health and hospital school staff from 5 countries around the world (Italy, Germany, Spain, NZ and Australia) attended the biennial H.E.L.P conference at the Sofitel in Sydney. NSW schools were represented by staff from Westmead, Sydney, Bankstown, St George, Liverpool, and John Hunter. Staff from Westmead and St George presented at the Leadership day held at Sydney Childrens on Wednesday 6th September. The conference offered fantastic networking opportunities for all who attended. Highlights include presentations from: Lady Cilento Childrens Hospital School QLD (2 schools merged into one with the closing of the Mater and Royal Hospitals in Brisbane); Hospital School SA (great programs involving skyping to census school, sending home work packages once they have left hospital for Learning @ home; The Northern Health School NZ transition and outreach service. The closing Q and A session was a bit provocative with keynote Megan Gilmour from “Missing School”. The closing inspirational speaker was Michael Crossland author of “KIDS DON’T GET CANCER”. What an amazing story he had to share with us. There were many tears and laughter from the audience, a very emotional and heart wrenching session to complete the conference. For anyone who has not seen him on Australian Story follow the links below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJCKyR8mzAs>

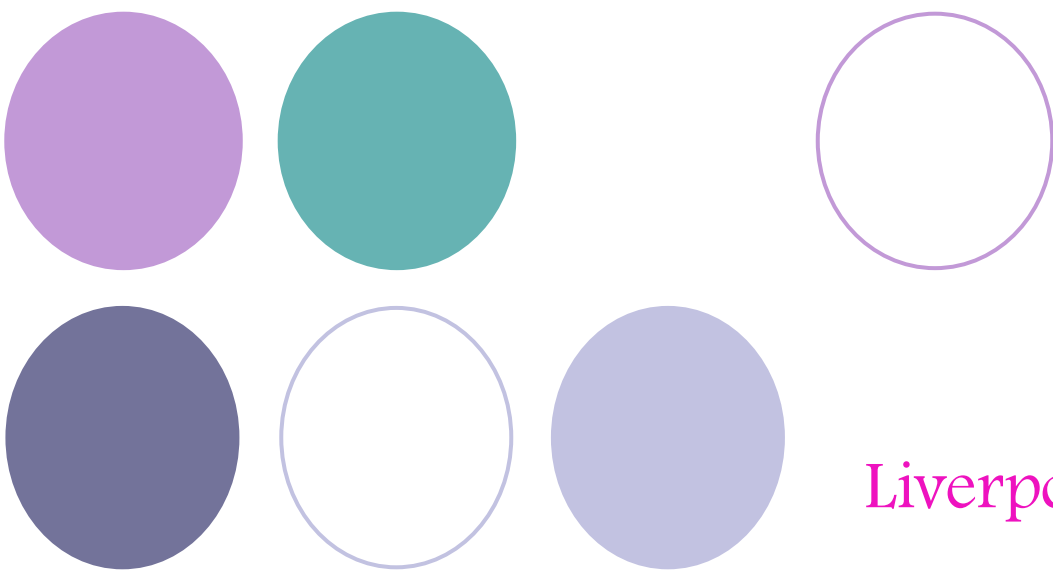
<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/sport/nrl/cancer-survivor-michael-crossland-inspiring-many-with-brave-battle/news-story/31e27cb694950d6691c7e9c2797b9b87>

## STORIES FROM ST GEORGE

Bookweek Celebrations were held on Thursday 24 August at St George Hospital. Students, parents, medical staff and community members all dressed up and read stories. The highlight was Dr Bob reading Matilda to some of our senior students. Students cooked the sumptuous food and the sausage rolls were a huge success!





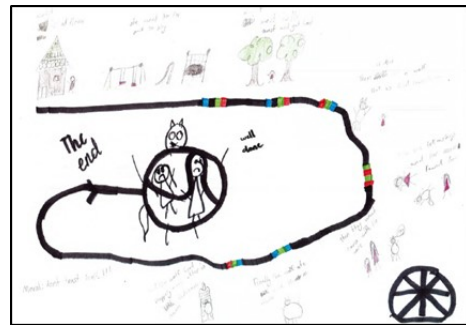


# Liverpool update



### Escaping To Everywhere on the Hogwarts Express!

Staff and students at Liverpool Hospital School boarded at platform 9 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> for a magical, book week adventure! We escaped through the wonderful words of the various authors we discovered and even created our own story maps. These maps allowed our Ozobot robots to travel around our imaginations, and the coding controlled the robots' reactions to what was happening in the stories.

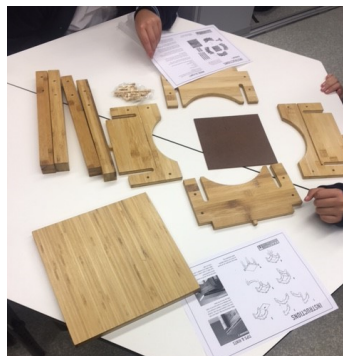


### Combined Schools NAIDOC Day

Liverpool Hospital School was invited to the Combined Schools NAIDOC Day celebrations at Miller Public School on the 5<sup>th</sup> September. It was a fun filled day featuring numerous performances, sporting activities, food tasting and art and craft workshops and displays. We were able to meet the community and showcase some of the fabulous work we have been doing at LHS as part of our own NAIDOC week celebrations.

### S.E.A.T Project- Take A Seat, Lend A Hand.

As part of an ongoing partnership with Liverpool Girls' High School, we have been involved in the S.E.A.T Project that teaches children about social responsibility, their own gifts & talents and encourages community engagement. Students work through a series of lessons involving building the seat, hearing Seat's story and completing a range of activities that encourages teamwork, problem solving, literacy and teaches kids about sustainability, community and how we can all help each other. Once completed, the Seats will be donated to a recipient of the students' choosing.



# NZ EDUCATIONAL TOUR

## JULY 2017

The following pictures were from the professional learning tour of the north island of NZ by Ros Lamaro (Bankstown) and Kim Bell (Illawarra). Schools visited include: [The Northern Health School](#) (central and rural units based around Auckland and Hamilton), [Auckland Normal Intermediate School](#) (ani) and [Patricia Avenue School](#) (patave).



The main unit of the NHS is located on level 7 of the University of Otago building in Auckland city. Level 7 has a large open plan office on one side and a large open plan classroom on the other. Photos shown L to R: Outside the building, the school room with Kerrie (DP) and Kim (Illawarra), The map in the office colour coded to show teacher/student allocation and geographical location for travel. The school has a pool of 15 cars to service approximately 100 teachers, teachers may also use their own cars



The Northern Health School (NHS) in the North Island of NZ is based in several centres across the north island. Centres are located at: Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Rotorua, Taupo, Tauranga, Gisborne, Whakatane and New Plymouth. We also have a number of specialist units, such as the Wilson Centre on Auckland's North Shore and Rongo Atea in Hamilton. NHS teachers work with children by providing :

- Bedside teaching in hospital
- Classroom teaching in hospital
- Home visits by a teacher
- On-line home visits using our LIVE programme
- Student attendance at a support centre

Student programmes are provided by their own teaching staff, the student's regular school or Te Kura (the Correspondence School). The teacher will design a programme which uses the most appropriate combination of these for each student on their roll after discussions with the student, parents, the regular school and the medical team.



Auckland Normal Intermediate School (ANI) is a two-year, co-educational school catering for students aged 11-13 years. Approximately 700 regular students and 20 international students are enrolled. ANI is recognised as a leading Intermediate School in New Zealand with a strong focus on preparing students for their future through a personalised approach where students are co-designers of the curriculum and their learning environment. The aim is to provide quality education for all students, whereby the highest possible levels of individual achievement and fulfilment are reached. ANI is associated with the Auckland University, Faculty of Education assisting with the training of future teachers. The term 'normal school' originated in the early 19th century from the word *ecole normale*. The French concept of 'ecole normale' was to provide a model school where exemplary teaching practice was shared with student teachers. ANI continues to train teachers from Auckland University and shares part of its grounds with the Faculty of Education.

Their vision is to have internationally minded, inquiring, knowledgeable and confident life long learners.



Photo's L to R: ani entry Kim (Illawarra), Ros (Bankstown), Shane (DP), open plan classrooms and office spaces, Māori and English words. NZ ensures it displays both native and english descriptions and names of places.



## Starship Childrens Hospital , Auckland



The hospital is very vibrant, there is a school room inside the hospital for hospitalised students. Photos on the left show inside Starship, Starship classroom with Ros, Kim and a student, the geographical map showing where the students come from for their treatment. This classroom is serviced by NHS staff. There is also a Mental Health classroom near the Mental Health Ward.



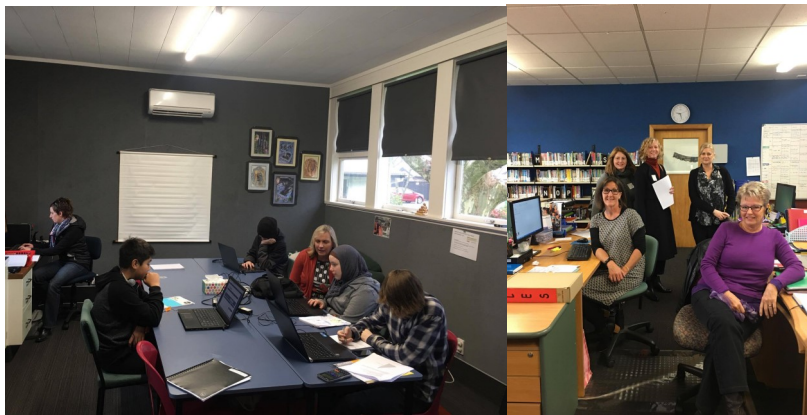
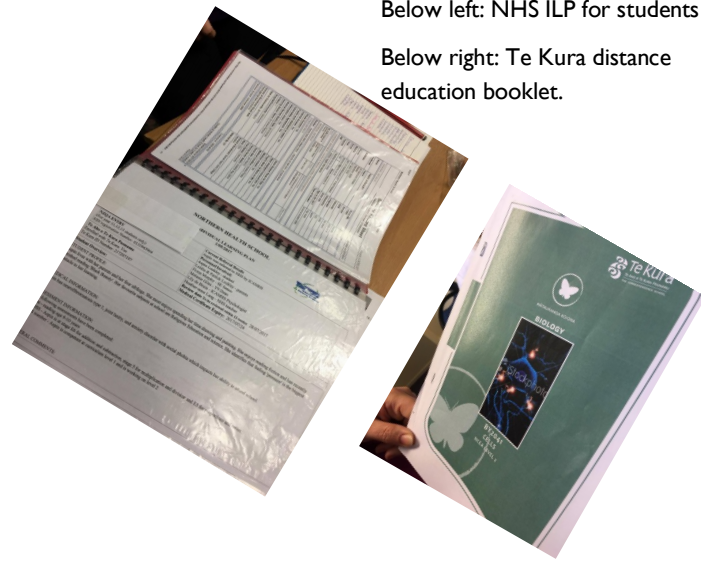
Above: Siblings also attend school in the Ronald McDonald classroom located in Ronald McDonald House across from Starship Hospital. This classroom is serviced by NHS staff.



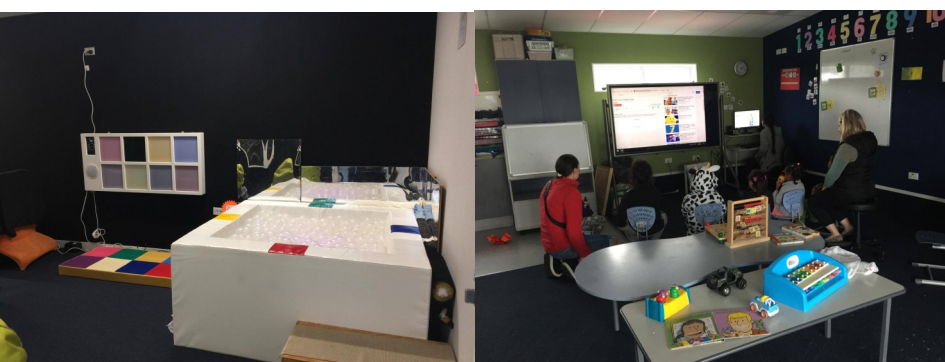
Below left: NHS ILP for students

Below right: Te Kura distance education booklet.

Below left: NHS Hamilton area unit classroom open Tuesdays and Thursdays  
Below right: NHS Hamilton area staff with Ros and Kim.



Patricia Avenue School is a specialist school for children and young people who have intellectual disability. Our students are aged 5-21 years. The base school is in Patricia Avenue in Hamilton East more than half of the students are in satellite classes. Some primary age students are learning at Melville Primary, Silverdale Normal and Woodstock Primary schools, intermediate students at Marian School, Fairfield Intermediate and Cambridge Middle School; secondary students at Melville High School and Te Awamutu College and a tertiary group of students learning in a community based setting



in Clifton Road in the CBD. A Specialist Teacher Outreach Service (STOS) also runs to support ORS funded students and their teachers and staff in mainstream schools.

The therapy team of speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, a music therapist, psychologist and music specialist work closely with teachers, learning support assistants and families to support student learning.

<http://www.patave.school.nz/>

More photos available on Twitter search the hashtag #NSWhospitalschools

# Super Staff Development Days @ Noahs Newcastle Sunday 16th July and Monday 17th July



The “Wellbeing Conference” held at “Noahs on the Beach” opened on a superb winter day, not a cloud in the sky and the sun was glistening on the water at beautiful Newcastle Beach. Pods of whales were spotted frolicking in the water as they made their way north.

It was far too nice a day to be indoors! Luckily, we had some excellent presenters who were more than able to hold their own against such a stunning and distracting backdrop. The presenters educated and entertained the 120 participants representing seven NSW hospital schools, six local SSP schools and a NSW central western high school. The conference was officially opened by Jenny Moody, Director Public Schools NSW and the “Acknowledgement of Country” was delivered by Donna Meehan, John Hunter Hospital Aboriginal Liaison Officer.

The conference was kicked off by Sacha and Sonya who spoke about getting the best out of ourselves, as teachers, to bring more success into our teaching skills and engagement with students and families. They were energetic and animated and certainly engaged the audience and really set the tone for the day!

Morning tea was followed by local identities Carly and Tresne. Their bubbly and vibrant personalities were certainly a favourite with many of the participants. Their passion for studying how the human brain works - how we think, remember and learn and how we perceive events and make decisions (Brain Science) had the participants engaged from beginning to end. They also shared with us:

Strengths - using strengths to increase engagement and productivity

Values - the driving factor of actions and behaviour

Happy Ripples - three degrees of influence with positive responding

Automatic negative thoughts and how to rewire for a positive bias

Happiness Pie - how to increase your baseline of happiness

The final session for the day, after lunch, was more laid back and was just what the doctor ordered, after two high energy sessions. Hannah (from HeadRest Mindfulness Training) introduced us to the concept of mindfulness - a practice which cultivates emotional, psychological and physical resilience and well-being. She educated us about current scientific understandings of the brain, including learning how to cultivate an observant, accepting and compassionate stance towards your own thoughts, emotions, body sensations and impulses. We participated in guided instruction in mindfulness meditation practice and some gentle mindful movement.

It was a really great way to begin the term, focussing on the importance of looking after the “self” so that we can be more effective teachers. I would like to thank the hospital schools for attending. It was a real privilege to be able to host this conference and share with you all. It’s really the participants who make the day!



Thank you to all the staff at John Hunter Hospital School for your wonderful organisation.



## Other Term 3 John Hunter news:

3D printer – We recently purchased a 3D printer and the staff and students have been experimenting with printing some basic objects. We are still learning how to use the machine to its full capacity. The latest item printed was the trophy for the inaugural J1, Starlight room and schoolroom dance-off. Watch this space!

Book Week – The schoolroom participated in the Starlight room Book Parade during "Bookweek." Costumes were simple but effective. The schoolroom went as characters from "The Very Hungry Caterpillar." The students enjoyed this special event!

Virtual Reality – The schoolroom hosted a virtual reality incursion. The theme was Aboriginal Dreaming. EG incursions provided the headsets and software to enable the students and staff to participate in this exciting event. There was much laughing and hilarious interaction throughout the presentation. The advantage of such an incursion is that the students on the ward, who were unable to make it to the classroom, were still able to participate from their beds. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all the students.

