

Braille Literacy Day:

Did you know that September 8th is World Literacy Day? This is an opportunity to consider the importance of literacy for all. The Braille Authority of New Zealand Aotearoa Trust (BANZAT) is encouraging people to think specifically about braille literacy.

Braille is the primary literacy medium for students who are blind or have significant low vision. It is a code that is made up of six dots in what is called a braille cell. The six dots can be formed to make a number of letters or combinations of letters and signs. In order to help us promote braille and the importance of dots BANZAT has gained permission from the Department of Conservation (DOC) to have the Greater Spotted Kiwi as our logo.

We would like to encourage you to make Friday 7th September 2018 a day to focus on braille literacy. Below are a number of activities that you can use in your classroom to learn about Braille.

- Use these resources to learn more [about braille](#), [Louis Braille](#) and [Helen Keller](#)
- Here is a clip about [Renee and braille technology](#)
- A Youtube clip about [braille burgers](#)
- Write your [name in braille](#)
- Why not make braille biscuits using Nice biscuits and chocolate drops.
- Here are some [games you can play using braille](#)
- A Youtube clip about [braille jewellery](#)
- Why not make your own braille jewellery
- Run a competition to see how many different places children can find braille in the community

Did you know that Braille can be used as a secret code?

Use the alphabet below to read these jokes.

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
⠁	⠃	⠉	⠙	⠑	⠋	⠗	⠈	⠊	⠚
k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t
⠅	⠇	⠓	⠝	⠕	⠏	⠆	⠞	⠎	⠞
u	v	w	x	y	z				
⠥	⠧	⠧	⠭	⠽	⠵				
Capital	Fullstop	Question	Apostrophe						
⠠	⠚	⠠	⠠						

Jokes

What is the best time to visit New Zealand?
The best time to visit New Zealand is when you can visit New Zealand.
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As well as the activities above, we are running two competitions.

Competitions:

1. For Primary and Intermediate aged students:
Make up a name for the New Zealand Braille Literacy Kiwi Mascot and collage a picture of it (A4 size).
2. For Individuals or groups of Secondary School or BLENNZ Transition students
Write a jingle for the BANZAT literacy competition using one/some or all of the following themes: Braille, Literacy, Conservation or Kiwi.
The jingle may be notated as a lead sheet with lyrics and chords or can be fully notated using traditional notation in print or braille. The jingle must be accompanied with a short recording approximately 30 seconds in length.
Here are some features of a good jingle: Short and simple (approx 30 seconds), catchy tune, positive message, include a slogan

Prizes:

Art/name the mascot prize: 6 prizes to be won. Each prize-winner will win a book for themselves and one for their school.

Jingle prize: To record the jingle in a recording studio and to have it published on the BANZAT website.

Entries close 31st August 2018

Winners will be announced in September.

Please send jingles to
And post art work to Gloria Edwards
Private Bag 801
Manurewa Auckland 2243

For further information, please contact jenny.mcfadden@blennz.school.nz or natalie.stewart@blennz.school.nz

School:

Name:

Age:

Please collage our kiwi – he needs to be colourful and tactile.

What shall we call our new mascot?

