



# Innovative Learning Programme

## Term 1 2024

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome to the first edition of the Innovative Learning newsletter for 2024! We're excited to showcase the activities and highlights of the Innovative Learning classes during Term 1.

The activities presented here are the result of the teachers' regular planning and meetings outside of school time. We take pride in offering the New Zealand curriculum in a manner that nurtures students' curiosity and problem-solving skills, fostering global citizens who care for the environment and others. Our goal is to cultivate a "can-do" attitude in our learners, empowering them to become independent thinkers.

Our first alumni of the Innovative Learning programme were highly successful in the 2023 NCEA exams and are currently studying at NCEA Level 2. Teachers' feedback about this group of students echoes that they are resilient and independent learners.

Ngā mihi nui,

Maryam Shahsavar

Innovative Learning Programme Coordinator

# 9IL Highlights

The theme for Term 1 was "Turangawaewae," focusing on instilling a sense of belonging and emphasising the importance of wellbeing and relationships, along with understanding the impact of human activities on the environment. Students explored their backgrounds, ancestors, and their journeys to New Zealand.

## Cultural Passport

During the first three weeks, students explored their heritage and origins through research and conversations with their parents, culminating in the creation of an individual Cultural Passport.



## Robogals Visit

IL girls received a visit from Robogals, who introduced various career opportunities in science and technology. Students collaborated to build bridges using popsicle sticks, emphasizing teamwork and communication skills.

## Travel Writing and Film Review

Students researched a country as a travel destination, creating articles showcasing its food, tourist attractions, architecture, atmosphere, and history. They also watched a movie and collaborated to write a review.



## Food around the world

Students started to gain some valuable practical skills in the kitchen and have produced some wonderful dishes. We had a trip around the world, starting with pizza and travel writing in Italy, moving onto Mexico's festival of Day of the Dead, preparing Mexican nachos. We finished by making dumplings from Japan and a manga story telling task creating a digital comic strip.

## 9IL Highlights continued



### Sugar Skull

Students learnt blanket stitch technique to embroider pieces together, creating sugar skulls as part of their cultural exploration.

### Project Vaka Vaka

In the final three weeks of term, students completed a comprehensive project demonstrating their learning across the curriculum. Tasks included calculating time, determining bearings between origin countries and New Zealand, researching relocated animals or plants and their adaptations, and creating maps using Tupaia's navigation method.



### Zoo trip

Following learning about Ecology and studying animals and their relationships with the physical environment, 9IL visited Auckland Zoo. They understood more about the diverse range of animals in their habitats as well as their adaptation and food chains.





# 10 IL Highlights

The theme for Term 1 was "Community," where students learnt about the significance of diversity in strengthening communities and recognizing interdependence. They delved into topics such as migration, human biology and genetics, the role of food in unifying communities, and understanding exchange rates.

## Food and Technology

Students have been exploring the versatile role that food plays in our lives and cultures. They were challenged to take the traditional 'Kiwi pie' and blend this concept with another culture of their choice to create their own fusion pie, following the technological process. The class experimented with various pastry types to understand their performance properties before developing and testing their prototypes. The resulting pies showcased a range of sweet and savoury flavours influenced by different cultures. Key learnings included time management and hygiene practices in the food room.



## GST and Profit Calculation

In addition to the standard curriculum, IL students learnt how to calculate GST, costs, and profits during their pie project, gaining practical skills in financial management.

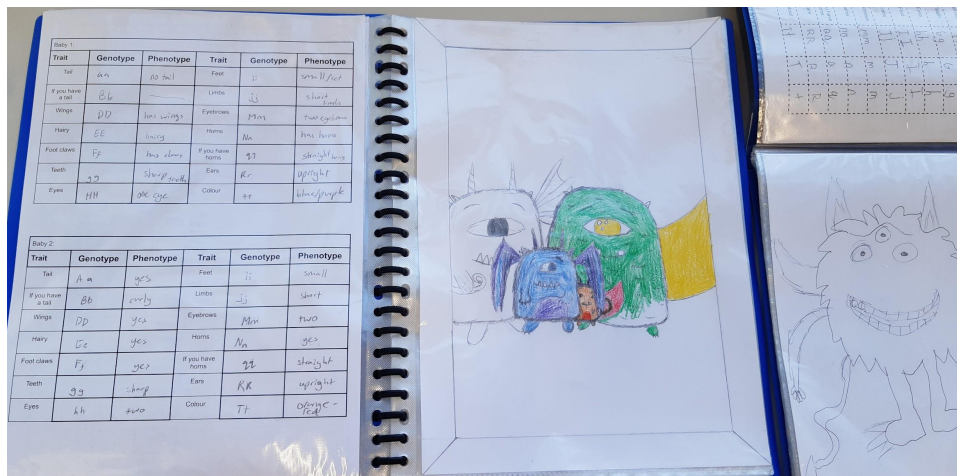
## Writing Skills

Throughout the term, IL students practiced writing across different genres, including formal writing, static image analysis, creative writing, and sensory writing during the project.

# 10IL Highlights continued

## Monster Genetics

Students had agency to select a body system of their choosing and present their research findings in a way that suited them, such as posters, reports or videos. The next step in understanding the body was focused on genetics. Students learnt how characteristics were passed from parents to children, then applied their learning to monsters! Horns, hairiness, and wings were among the genetic traits inherited, which led to some creative monster babies!



Thank you to our dedicated teachers



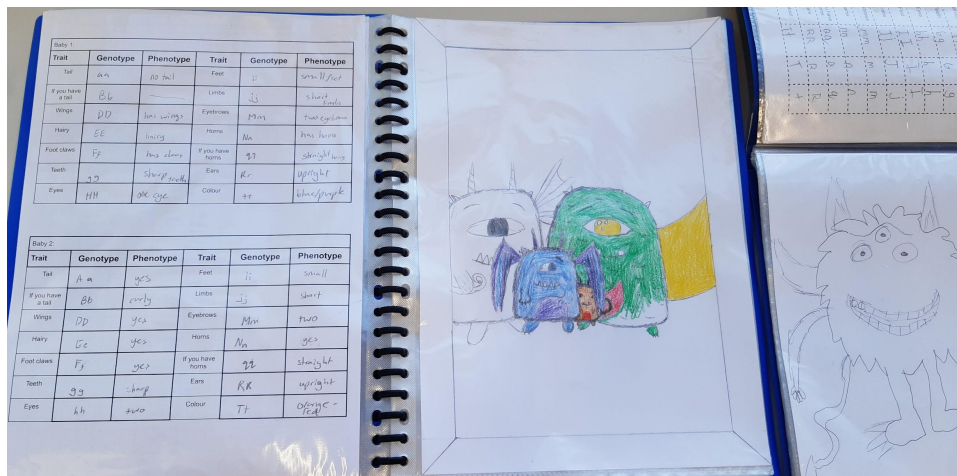
From left to right:  
Ben Coop, Luke Jacobs,  
Jacqueline Hardy, Sonia  
Wensor, Jono 'Ilaua, Mitch  
Cranch, John Bower, Benhur  
Sathuluri, Tina Carswell,  
Maryam Shahsavari.

Absent:  
Jane Grant, Georgia Wong,  
Simone Small, Camryn Isen

# 10IL Highlights continued

## Monster Genetics

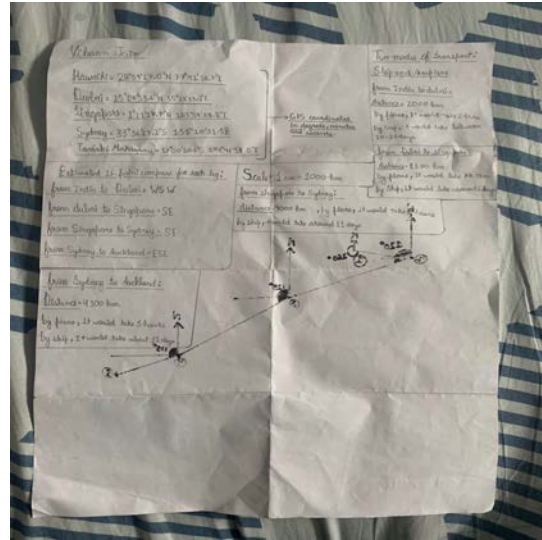
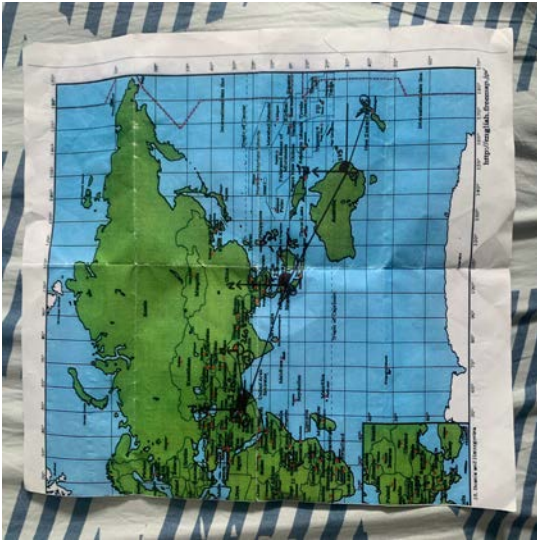
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# Sample of Students' work during Term 1 Project



Time calculation

Animal research

Cultural comparison

Descriptive Writing

