



April's Photo Gallery  
 "Engaging Learning"

## Engaging Learning

One of the biggest challenges in getting children, particularly boys, to write, is providing the necessary motivation. One of the best ways to provide the necessary motivation is to provide an amazing experience that the teachers can use to build language and ideas.

With the support of our incredible school Board, we were able to bring into the school two inflatable obstacle courses. The students, and the occasional teacher, have had an absolute ball racing through and challenging themselves to try new things. Over the next few days this experience provided the basis for our initial writing evaluation and our creative writing programme.

Thanks again to our School Board, Hamish, Michelle, Grace, Terry, Stephen and Debbie, for supporting our push to create engaging learning activities.



### Describing a Moment in Time:

You are walking down a rubbly, earthy path. You see two huge colourful inflated bouncy castles that are placed over the greenest grass that almost looks fake.

You sit and wait in line with noisy people until you come to the orange entrance that looks as though it'll vacuum you up. You start with the yellow and orange bristles that fling when you walk past them and WHAM! Two blue barriers that are placed in between the walls that looks like it connects them together like a power system.

As you keep running you feel the hot sun reflecting on your skin, you hear this constant amount of yelling and see a bright light reflecting on everything.

You will climb up a climbing wall that's every colour of the rainbow. You immediately fall down a slide from the wall you just climbed and go through a red and yellow tube that almost looks like a giant marshmallow.

You are running on the bright green grass, that picks at your feet, to get back in line on the second bouncy castle. You are pulling on the thin mesh to get into the blue, yellow, and green inflated castle. You see a big platform of rubbery plastic. You jump over the other barriers to get up another wall that again tips you over as you get out and line up again.

By Arietty





*'Roseneath': The Laings original homestead at Little Muddy Creek*

Laingholm Primary has just received a Creatives in Schools grant to make a film about the history of the school and our local community. Film maker Martin Sercombe and animator Britta Pollmuller will be helping the children collect interesting stories and illustrate them using cut out animation.

We would like to invite long term members of the community to share their memories and help us build a picture of how village and school life have changed over the years. We are also keen to meet local historians who have research or memorabilia they would like to share with us.

A small documentary team of students will be recording informal interviews, then sharing the stories with the animators. The interviews will take place on Fridays, from May 12<sup>th</sup>, for 8 weeks, either in school or at places of local interest. They usually take about an hour each. The topics we are interested in exploring are school days, childhood adventures, working lives and memorable village events.

If you would like to get involved, please contact Martin Sercombe on 09 600 1186 or email [info@mediaprojects.co.nz](mailto:info@mediaprojects.co.nz)

We can then set a date and time for you to meet the team, and send you a set of standard questions to adapt as you wish.

Examples of similar projects with local schools can be viewed here:

<https://martinsercombe.com/heritage/>

## 75th Jubilee

Laingholm Primary School, 'The Greatest Little School in the Universe' will be celebrating its 75th Jubilee in 2025.

The celebrations will take place around the Matariki holiday weekend with events running from **Thursday 19th June to Saturday 21st June 2025.**

If you would like to help or register your interest in the Jubilee please e-mail the school on [office@laingholm.school.nz](mailto:office@laingholm.school.nz).



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