

autumn 2016

kids first

issue 31

first credit union's newsletter just for kids!

first credit union

If you're not a First Credit Union member, ask your parents if you can open a Kids Account today! Just pick up a School Banking pack from your school office, or visit one of our branches.

giving our birds a

BOOST!

NEW ZEALAND IS HOME TO A NUMBER OF FOREST BIRDS THAT LIVE NOWHERE ELSE ON EARTH. UNFORTUNATELY, MANY OF OUR BIRDS ARE IN DANGER OF BEING LOST FOREVER DUE TO PREDATORS AND CHANGES IN HABITAT. LET'S SEE WHAT'S BEING DONE TO HELP THEM, AND HOW YOU CAN DO YOUR BIT TO HELP!

Why are our birds so special?

There are many reasons why the birdlife of New Zealand is remarkable and special, but an important one is the power that makes a bird a bird - the ability to fly! Flying increases the types of food birds can eat, as well as enabling them to access insects and fruit at the tops of trees. It also helps them to escape from predators. Because there were no mammals present in New Zealand able to eat a bird or an egg, and with plenty of good food on or near the ground, many species gradually lost the power of flight.

Our rarest birds

As well as flightlessness, many NZ birds are also very long-lived, have slow breeding rates, small clutch sizes and large eggs. Several species are nocturnal, and others have a large body size. These features have contributed to their extinction or decline. Moa, adzebills, giant eagle and tiny wrens are all gone forever. Even now, 37% of our bird species are considered threatened. The most recent extinction was the huia in 1907.

What is being done?

The Department of Conservation (DOC) is working with different species to ensure their survival. Some birds are transferred to predator-free islands; others are reared in captivity and then released. DOC are involved in breeding programmes for many species; and the eradication of predators. Their hard work is reaping rewards. Some species are still only just managing to hold their own, but others have thrived.

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Don't throw rubbish into waterways or storm drains.
- Put a bell on your cat's collar. Feed it well, and keep it indoors at night.
- Use available accessways to get to the beach.
- Only take dogs to areas that allow them, and keep them under control.
- Plant a range of native plants that provide food year-round to encourage birds into your garden.

welcome back!

Hi guys! Welcome back to Term 2! I hope you enjoyed your holidays and have recharged your batteries, ready for a busy term at school.

How is your saving going? Remember to keep saving towards your goals. Sometimes it feels like you are not getting anywhere, but **hang in there!** Pretty soon it will start adding up!

Talking about saving - we have some pretty sweet native birds in NZ. I did heaps of reading in the holidays about the work being done to save the birds that are endangered. Read all about it! And make sure you enter our competition, you could win \$50!

Stay cool super savers!

Jimmy
Jimmy Jumper



TAKAHĒ - NATIONALLY CRITICAL



KEA - NATIONALLY ENDANGERED

New Zealand birds are classified as either nationally critical, nationally endangered, or nationally vulnerable in the New Zealand Threat Classification System.



YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN/HOIHŌ - NATIONALLY VULNERABLE



SOUTH ISLAND ROBIN

Design and WIN!

Our Native birds and wildlife are so special, they often appear on our bank notes, coins and even our postage stamps. Now that you know all about our native birds, how about you have a go at designing either a banknote, coin or stamp (or all three!) featuring any native New Zealand bird you choose. Make sure you let us know what bird you have drawn.

Draw your design in the space below and you could be one of two lucky super savers who will **win \$50 for their savings!** Return your design with your school banking passbook, bring it in to a First Credit Union branch, or post it before **Friday 1st July 2016** to PO Box 585, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton



name	
age	
phone	
address	
school	

AWESOMIE!



TISHA

CONGRATS TO THE WINNERS OF OUR 'WHAT R U SAVING 4?' COMPETITION! YOU'VE BOTH WON \$50 FOR YOUR SAVINGS.

Great work Kayla Bryant from Woodstock School, Hamilton, and Tisha Walker from Maeroa Intermediate, Hamilton. Great work guys!



KAYLA

hey mum & dad!

Did you know?

Our personal loans have **NO FEES**, are processed **within 24 hours** if you apply online*, and you can choose repayments to **suit your budget?**

* Normal lending criteria and T&C's apply.

Find out more on our website...

firstcreditunion.co.nz



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Proud to be a registered Credit Union. Not a registered bank, First Credit Union deposits are shares secured by a first ranking registered trust deed. A current investment statement and prospectus are available.

