

Schools back dyslexia efforts

By MATT MAIHI

“C” is for “Cookie” but not every child can see that, which is why Cookie Time is combining with the Dyslexia Foundation to give cash for learning initiatives to 10 Kiwi schools.

Two of the 10 schools to receive \$2000 towards a specific dyslexia resource or initiative were Karapiro School and Leamington School.

Known as the hidden disability, dyslexia affects about one in 10 people, or more than 70,000 school-aged children, yet was only officially recognised by the Ministry of Education last year and there’s some catching up to do.

The Cookie Munchers Charitable Trust (CMCT) is the principal sponsor of the Dyslexia Foundation and aims to create opportunities for children and young people to realise their potential.

Schools were encouraged to get involved in Dyslexia Awareness Week (June 16-22) and complete at least two out of the three Awareness Week steps – take part in the Dyslexia Discovery Creativity Challenge, complete the Online Teacher Survey and/or sign up for the 4-D programme.

The Cambridge schools took up the challenge and their students really showed the creative gifts that dyslexia can bring. Karapiro School principal David Graham says they’re going to buy an interactive whiteboard with the money.

CMCT trustee Guy Pope-Mayell was impressed by the way New Zealand schools stepped up to support Dyslexia

Awareness Week.

“There are so many schools throughout New Zealand who are ready and willing to take the next steps along the dyslexia pathway which will benefit the estimated 70,000 dyslexic children. We would like to acknowledge all the schools that entered the competition and thank them for the wonderful work they are doing to support dyslexia.”

Dyslexia Awareness Week raised awareness and positive engagement for dyslexia, and celebrated the creative gifts dyslexia brings.

■ For more information see www.cmct.org.nz or www.dfnz.org.nz



MUNCHER: The Cookie Muncher.

Wednesday, 30 July 2008, p. 15

Cookie Time at Karapiro



COOKIE TIME: Stephen Barnes of Cookie Time and Karapiro School students celebrate getting \$2000 for their Dyslexia Awareness Week efforts.

Photo: MATT MAIHI

Wednesday, 30 July 2008, p. 15