

## Toittoi 29

### Reading Notes

You might like to begin leafing through the journal with your young readers and taking a look at all the incredible artwork. Below are some ideas of which stories or poems to read with your group but feel free to choose your own or ask the students what they would like to read. They might like to take turns reading aloud. We hope you enjoy Toittoi 29!

### Recommended reading in Toittoi 29

#### Years 1-2

*Matariki Morning* on page 86 describes an early morning beach trip to see the stars. Read the story together. Have you ever had to wake up early for something? Was it worth it in the end?

You could also try:

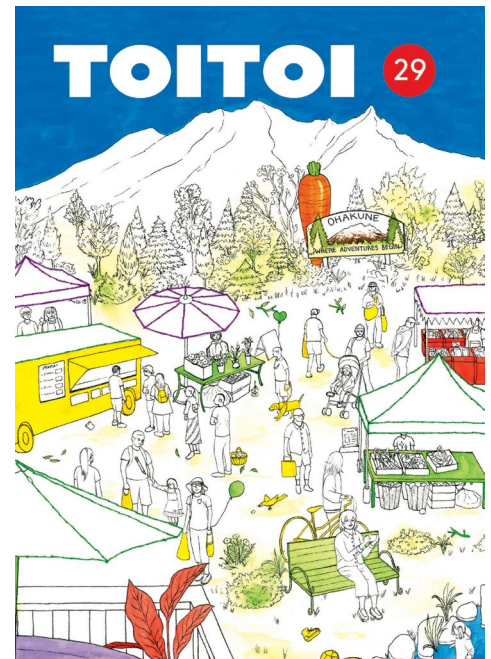
- *Shearing Shenanigans*, page 46 — a fun story about a group of friends having a wool fight in a shearing shed. Have you ever seen sheep being shorn? What is their wool used for?
- *Sabotage*, page 92 — a cheeky piece about pulling a prank on a friend. Have you pulled a prank on someone before? What happened?

#### Years 3-4

Take a look at *Winter Is Here* on page 62. Lilly's poem beautifully describes a white tiger walking through town. What does the white tiger symbolise? Discuss as a group.

You could also try:

- *Shepherd's Warning*, page 84 — Tilly has written about seeing a red sky in the morning with her dad. Have you heard of this saying before? What do you think it means?
- *An Ode to My Chickens*, page 4 — Theo has written a sweet poem about his pet chickens. Do you have any pets? What makes them special to you?



## Years 5-6

Read *Surfing at Onemana* on page 56. Nikita has written a personal account about the joy of surfing for pleasure, rather than for competition. Do you play any competitive sports? Can you relate to Nikita's experience?

You could also try:

- *Boy and the Grasshopper*, page 6 — Emma's thought-provoking poem describes someone trapping a grasshopper under a glass and eventually setting it free. Have you ever caught an insect before? How did it make you feel?
- *Daydream*, page 58 — Jonty has written about where his imagination goes when he is sitting in class. Does your mind often wander like Jonty's? What do you think about?

## Years 7-8

Daniel's story, *Catch of the Day*, on page 54, describes a fishing trip he took with his dad. Have you been fishing before? Did you manage to catch anything?

You could also try:

- *The Haircut*, page 18 — Jai has written a hilarious story about when he made the mistake of letting his dad give him a haircut. Would you let your parents cut your hair? What is the worst haircut you've ever had?
- *Ohakune in Spring*, page 94 — a lovely detailed description of a special place. Have you been to Ohakune before? Where is it? Would you like to visit after reading this story?

## Longer Stories or Topics for Discussion

If you have time, you could try these awesome stories:

- *The Lost World*, page 10 — Emma's futuristic story is set in a time where humans have left Earth after destroying it, only to revisit it years later and find the planet is thriving again. How do you think Earth was able to rebuild itself? What could we do to help the planet now?
- *Master Storytellers*, page 64 — Bridget's heartwarming story is about a girl who reconnects with a friend when they both see a spotted kiwi on their school trip. Have you ever seen a kiwi or an endangered animal before? Who did you share this experience with?

## Toitoti Story Search

We are holding a writing competition to find a story inspired by Christian Lobb's amazing artwork on the inside back cover of Toitoti 29. Students can write a story in response to the artwork and send it to [submit@toitoti.nz](mailto:submit@toitoti.nz) by February 10, 2023 – note the extended summer deadline!

The winning story will be published with additional illustrations by Christian in Toitoti 31.