

Liam the comedian

Teacher: Kirsty da Silveira, August 2013

Liam, the other day when I was chatting to you as you were settling in, I found out about your love of jokes. Wow, what a memory you have for them! As we sat together you told me joke, after joke, after joke with a twinkle of mischief in your eye as you waited to see my reaction. We had a great time laughing together. After hearing all of these laughter inspiring jokes, I suggested you share them with other teachers and friends. It was wonderful seeing you maia (confidence) and whakakata (humour) shine as you shared the jokes with everyone you could find. It was great to see your mana, your identity, who you are be seen in this way.

Later on, when I saw your mum, I asked her about your passion for jokes. She told me that you also love telling jokes at home. It seems like you have photographic memory, as when you see a picture in your joke book, you recognise which joke it relates to and then tell it to people who often think you are reading it! What a taonga, the joke book is such a special gift from your brother which brings you so much joy that you in turn share with others.

Some of the legends about Maui include his mischievous sense of humour... I can see this great sense of humour in you Liam.



...one of the favourite jokes you told me is:

**"What is the strongest vegetable?
...A muscle sprout!"**

Nga hononga ki te tauparapara / Ways of knowing:

Liam has been extending his early literacy development through his enjoyment of learning jokes from his joke book. He has been able to use a taonga from his brother to show his whakakata to others with maia. This opportunity has been through his family supporting his passion and reading the jokes to him.

Nga ahuatanga o te tamaiti / Ways of being:

It has been so exciting to see Liam increase in his maia with others through the opportunity to share jokes and make others laugh. I am so glad that through your whakakata your inner maia shines.

Tikanga whakaako / Ways of doing:

Liam has been using this link between home and the centre to strengthen his passion for whakakata. I think through using his ability to tell jokes he has challenged himself to extend his confidence not only telling jokes to those he naturally would spend time with, but also with those who he may not normally chat with. What a great way for his social competency to extend as well.

Tino pai e hoa! I am really proud of the way you embraced the chance to share jokes with lots of children. I will miss you when you go off to school, but I wish you all the best – I'm sure you will have a good time. God bless, Kirsty.