KidsCan is calling in the NITBUSTERS to help schools and parents beat the scourge of head lice harming our children.

Head lice infestations recur intermittently in all schools throughout New Zealand. But in many lower decile schools supported by KidsCan, head lice are reaching epidemic levels as the cost of the proper treatment can be beyond the means of parents on limited incomes.

“Teachers are telling us the issue has reached such a significant level in lower decile schools that some parents, unable to afford repeated proper treatments, are resorting to options which are not only potentially harmful but can also have a major impact on self-esteem,” says KidsCan Founder and CEO Julie Chapman.

“Children with major infestations are having their heads shaved” she says. “This may not be so bad for boys, but unfortunately it is happening more often than not to little girls with long hair. They feel stigmatised, embarrassed and become withdrawn in class.”

“Other concerned but misguided parents are applying flea treatments intended for pets, such as Frontline, or using fly sprays, or even dipping their children’s hair in kerosene,” she says. “On the other hand there are some parents who just ignore the problem which can lead to major infections and the need for medical intervention.”

Working in association with the Ministry for Social Development to help schools and parents combat the problem, KidsCan has developed a targeted, community-led treatment programme called ‘KidsCan NitBusters’.

Minister of Social Development Paula Bennett has approved a grant of more than $900,000 to fund the rollout of the treatment initiative to 117 low decile schools nationwide. Under the programme a treatment chair and basin will be installed in each participating school in a suitable room/area, and KidsCan will employ local people in need of jobs to become KidsCan NitBusters!

Porirua’s Russell School Principal Sose Annandale says the addition of a nit treatment chair will make a big difference to her students. She says nits are distracting for kids and it’s not easy to treat. “I think that someone looking out for this then the follow-up, will help get rid of these nasty critters.”

The initial roll out of the programme will cover up to 24,000 children in 117 low decile schools across New Zealand this year, and will be extended to more schools next year if it achieves the desired results.

20 new schools join KidsCan

KidsCan now provides support to 405 schools throughout New Zealand with 20 new schools now a part of the KidsCan family. More than 32,000 meals a week are being distributed to the children experiencing food insecurity and over 21,000 raincoats have already gone out this year alone! To learn more about the schools KidsCan support please visit kidscan.org.nz/our-schools

- New Lynn School, New Lynn, Auckland
- Pacific Christian School, Mangere Bridge, Auckland
- Northcote Intermediate, North Shore City, Auckland
- St Joseph’s School, Grey Lynn, Auckland
- Edmonton Primary School, Te Atatu South, Auckland
- Papakura Normal School, Takanini, Auckland
- Mt Roskill Grammar, Mount Roskill, Auckland
- Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Otepou, Welcome Bay Bay of Plenty
- South Hornby School, Hornby, Christchurch
- Hātea-A-Rangi School, Gisborne
- Frasertown School, Hawkes Bay
- Mahora School, Mahora, Hawkes Bay
- Wairoa College, Wairoa, Hawkes Bay
- Te Kura O Kokohua, Castlecliff, Manawatu
- Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Te Rawhitiroa, Tikipunga, Northland
- Tikipunga High School, Tikipunga, Northland
- Karetu School, RD 3, Northland
- Mangamuka School, Mangamuka, Northland
- The Kauri Centre, Waikato
- Wainuiomata Primary School, Wainuiomata, Wellington
This year KidsCan have added trousers as an addition to our clothing range. These items can be ordered by our partner schools to ensure children stay dry and warm in the coming winter months. The new waterproof, fully lined trousers complement our fleece lined raincoats, shoes and socks perfectly.

More than 17,000 pairs of trousers will be distributed to children this year contributing to more than 80,000 clothing items including raincoats, shoes and socks, that will also be given out.

Indra Susanto, KidsCan’s Operations Manager says, “We’re thrilled to be distributing trousers this year, they work well with our raincoats and it’s good to know the children have another layer of warmth as it gets colder and wetter”.

Funding for these trousers have come from a grant, gratefully received from Pub Charity.

A big thanks to all the generous support we receive that make this possible.
For the second year running, Lumino The Dentists and KidsCan teamed up for an entire day to provide free dental treatments to those in need throughout New Zealand.

Selected Lumino practices opened their doors on the 14th June to family members of children at KidsCan partner schools.

With no funded or subsidised dental treatment for adults in New Zealand, KidsCan’s GM Marketing and Fundraising, Jan Clark, believes Lumino Day is a godsend for families who delay seeing a dentist due to finances. “Dental treatment is often at the bottom of the list for households who are struggling to make ends meet. That’s why KidsCan Lumino Day is aimed at helping the parents and adult family members of our KidsCan kids. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to help families in our community’s access high quality dental treatment, for free”.

One of the patients who received treatment at the City Dental practice in Tauranga said “I am a lone parent to five children and a full-time student on Jobseeker Support. I’m writing to express my gratitude to KidsCan and Lumino Dentists for supporting our community. I have just had over $450 worth of complimentary dental treatment done that I wouldn’t otherwise have been able to afford. Initiatives like this give opportunities for low income families to have access to services normally only available to those able to afford them. Thank you very much for helping people like me, and the many other families whose lives you make such a difference in”.

We can’t thank Lumino enough for the day and for the 17,000 dental kits we are distributing this year as part of our ‘Health for Kids’ programme.
KidsCan is expanding its Health for Kids programme this year and we are looking forward to working with Su Askwith and her team to enhance and support the great work they do.

We ask Su to tell us what her team does to support children’s health.

My name is Su Askwith and I am the Team Leader of the Child and Youth Team, part of the Community Child Health and Disability Service of Auckland DHB.

Our team consists of Public Health Nurses, Community Health Workers, Social Workers, Cultural Workers, Health Promoters and Clerical Staff.

We work with school aged children and their families on a variety of health and social issues. In the past year we have established 16 Rheumatic Fever Prevention Clinics in decile 1 and 2 schools in Glen Innes, Panmure, Otahuhu and Sandringham. These are part of a joint initiative between the Ministry of Health and Auckland DHB.

We held awareness raising events in the communities to engage the schools and parents who have given permission via signed consent forms and are informed and educated if any treatment is required. A nurse and a community Health Worker visit the schools three times a week and examine and treat any children who identify with sore throats and skin conditions.

We have developed a range of resources to assist health workers check at 5 and 10 days to ensure treatment is complete. If there has been a recurrence of Strep A throat infection, household members are also swabbed and referrals are made to AWHI (Auckland Wide Healthy Housing Initiative) if appropriate.

Our teams are active in other school communities, immunizing, promoting healthy lifestyles, following up a broad range of health conditions including enuresis (bed wetting) and child protection.

With our multi-disciplinary team, we are able to provide a comprehensive service also engaging and liaising with a number of organisations and agencies to enhance the health and wellbeing of our children and whanau.

We are very happy to be forming a relationship with KidsCan to support our work.

Su Askwith and some of the team at the launch of one of the RFPP (Rheumatic Fever Prevention Programme) clinics!

Thank you letters!

We love receiving thank you letters from our partner schools. They are always so special and exciting to read.
KidsCan are happy to announce that school children across the country will be kept warm and dry this winter thanks to all our supporters and our partner, the Vodafone Warriors.

KidsCan’s ‘Raincoats for Kids’ programme has been running since 2005 and has seen the distribution of 100,000 raincoats to schools across the country. So far in 2014, KidsCan have given out over 21,000 raincoats to New Zealand school children, with a further 10,000 to follow.

As part of the KidsCan’s ‘Raincoats for Kids’ programme pupils from Nae Nae Intermediate Wellington, Rakaia School Christchurch, St Leonards School Auckland, Onepoto School Auckland and Te Kura O Ngati Haua School Cambridge were personally given Warrior branded raincoats by KidsCan staff and sponsors. Vodafone Warrior superstars including Kevin Locke, Sam Lousi, Ruben Wiki, Duane Mann, Ben Henry, David Fusitua and Junior Warrior James Taylor made surprise visits to a number of these school distributions.

KidsCan sponsors including Principal Partner, Meridian Energy, The Greenlea Foundation, General Mills, GWF, GSK, Arnotts, QBE, Trade Me and many others all attended the various raincoat distributions in support of the cause.

Suzanne Keoghan – KidsCan Brand and Sponsorship Manager said, “It was great to see the excitement on all the children’s faces when they received their own raincoat and got to meet their sporting heroes the Vodafone Warriors – an awesome experience”.

For KidsCan it is very comforting to know all the children will be kept dry this coming winter.
In this edition of the KidsCan newsletter we wanted to share a Q & A with one of our loyal supporters who has been supporting KidsCan for over two years.

The Papamoa Group is made up of five women who donate every month and organise yearly quiz luncheons and market days. The group also knit beanies for children at our partner schools, which is simply amazing! Here’s what Anne Lawrence, one of the members in the group had to say about KidsCan...

1. How did you find out about KidsCan?
   Reading about it in a paper or magazine.

2. Why do you support KidsCan?
   This is the charity that encourages education for Kiwi kids – so much so it supplies raincoats, shoes and socks, hats and food to disadvantaged kids so they may attend school and learn to become a N.Z. achiever. Breaking the disadvantaged cycle in this generation will certainly help the next.

3. You do various fundraising for KidsCan – what do you most enjoy about this?
   We fundraise for KidsCan as a small group. That way we have fun, enjoy the company of friendship and unite very well in planning and working together for these fundraising events knowing we’re making a difference for Kiwi kids. We meet once a month for an enjoyable luncheon and each person donates. That money is then sent straight to the KidsCan bank account.

4. What do you do when you’re not helping KidsCan?
   I belong to a U3A Creative Writing Group and an Art Collective. Others in our group play Mah Jong and cards. Others swim. We are all active and enjoy our lives and families. We all travel.

5. What have you helped with at KidsCan?
   We gather items for market days where we sell a mixture of items at low prices. We have quiz mornings with a luncheon. We knit beanies.

6. Do you have a message to other supporters, donors or volunteers?
   Gather friends together, form a group and donate regularly. It’s much more fun than writing out a cheque and gives you a united purpose knowing you are making a difference to children who through no fault of their own do not have the essentials to go to school, learn and make friends. It’s important each Kiwi child has an equal chance and feels good about themselves. We would like to see other groups like ours forming in N.Z. to enjoy each other’s company and raise money for KidsCan.

*Note: if you would like to be profiled in the KidsCan newsletter or have something to say that is relevant to the work we do here please email leigh@kidscan.org.nz.

New “In Our Own Backyard” campaign coming soon

Check out some action shots at the filming of our new “In Our Own Backyard” brand campaign. Look out for our new TVC coming to television, online and cinemas screens soon – intrigued? Sincere thanks go out to the teams at our ad agency True and goodLife Films.

“In Our Own Backyard” – Supporter Profile

Anne Lawrence – Papamoa Group No.1

The Papamoa Group is made up of five women who donate every month and organise yearly quiz luncheons and market days. The group also knit beanies for children at our partner schools, which is simply amazing! Here’s what Anne Lawrence, one of the members in the group had to say about KidsCan...

Anne’s Papamoa group from left: Ann Williams, Anne Lawrence, Jan Williams, Sue Baeurle and Robyn

In this edition of the KidsCan newsletter we wanted to share a Q & A with one of our loyal supporters who has been supporting KidsCan for over two years.
**Feedback from KidsCan Partner Schools**

**KidsCan at Catholic Cathedral College**

I am continually inspired by the students who arrive here each day with a smile on their face, knowing that they are in a place that is safe, warm, friendly, and where they are treated with dignity and respect. This is despite the often dire circumstances of their home situation. In many cases families are still awaiting repairs following the earthquakes, or they are subjected to frequent changes in address as landlords continually increase rent to maximise their profits. An added layer to this is the frequent flooding of several parts of the city, so the misery continues as we head into winter.

One shining beacon of light in all this has been the support we receive from KidsCan, and their associated partners. Having food to offer these students on arrival to school is an important way to start the day. Through the wettest and coldest March and April in many years we have been able to offer shoes and raincoats to many students who have struggled with inadequate clothing.

Now as we approach Term 2 and the winter months we plan to serve soup at lunchtime with the support of KidsCan. We certainly appreciate all that this organisation does to address the inequalities in our society, so that by working together we can try to alleviate some of the affects of poverty that one in four children have to endure.

Tony Shaw
Principal

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**KidsCan at Catholic Frimley School**

I only wish that you and all of your sponsors could have been at our school gate last Friday afternoon.

Five hundred and fifty children all met their parent’s or walked home in the drizzling rain wearing a “KidsCan sponsored raincoat”. The huge smiles on their faces was a treasure to behold. Parents could not believe that an organisation had been so generous in sponsoring jackets for all the students. As a school, it meant that all children had been treated the same and that was the main reason why we moved to a compulsory uniform some ten years ago. It is so important in a decile three community that one cannot distinguish between the haves and have not’s.

Primary school is often the only time in a child’s life that they feel that they equal of their peers.

Please sincerely thank all of your sponsors and as a recent elected Local District Councillor I will ensure that the KidsCan message gets through.

Kind Regards,

Malcolm Dixon
Principal Frimley Primary School

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**From the kids at Kelston Intermediate**

Dear KidsCan,

Kelston Intermediate students would like to thank you for providing us with many varieties of food that you give to us on a daily basis.

Thank you for providing us with the delicious parcels of food that we get during our lunchtimes for the children who are not able to afford food.

Thank you for providing delicious food for us at Breakfast Club in the mornings as you may know many of us cannot afford food and breakfast. Thank you for helping and making sure that the students at Kelston Intermediate School get the right amount of nutrition they need every day to do their school work.

We really appreciate the way you cater for our health needs every day and supply food for the children of Kelston Intermediate. Thank you for everything you do for us.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Room Nine Students, Kelston Intermediate

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www.kidscan.org.nz | 09 478 1525 | info@kidscan.org.nz
KidsCan National Mufti is back again and will be held this year September 19, right before the term 3 holidays!

Planning is underway to make the event even bigger than last year and we are encouraging all schools and businesses in New Zealand to support KidsCan National Mufti Day by wearing mufti or to come up with your very own fancy dress theme to be part of this national FUNdraising event for KidsCan.

Last year the inaugural KidsCan National Mufti Day had an overwhelming response from schools with over 290 taking part in our first ever KidsCan National Mufti Day. This year we are aiming to reach double the amount of schools and also businesses nationwide.

All funds raised from this annual event will go towards supporting Kiwi kids in KidsCan’s 405 partner schools across New Zealand.

We hope you can join in the fun and get behind a great cause!

REGISTER TODAY!!
To get behind KidsCan National Mufti Day and help us raise much needed funds, register your school or business at www.kidscan.org.nz and fill in the form provided.

For further information please email info@kidscan.org.nz

Check out some cool snaps from last year’s KidsCan National Mufti Day

Gorgeous student from Aranui Primary School.

Central Normal School – Palmerston North getting crazy with the More FM Crew!

Fancy dress hat day at the Fujitsu office!

Teachers from Weymouth Intermediate getting amongst the action!

The gorgeous Sir George Seymour College!
Zusu is the unique way to save on your everyday purchases while donating money to charity. They provide real benefits to members at the moment the retail transaction occurs – it’s here and now, and it’s in real money. Zusu also provides members an additional benefit which is not directly about you the consumer – it’s about donating to the worthy cause you support in your community.

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- Get the best price possible, every time.
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- No need to carry docketts and vouchers that expire.
- Zusu care about New Zealanders and New Zealand communities.

Join online and use the Promo code: KCN614 and you will save $49 (the usual price of the card is $69) because as a KidsCan supporter you’ll be able to buy the card for just $20, and a $10 donation will come straight to KidsCan when you choose us as your nominated charity.

To join online using a credit card go to www.zusu.co.nz/20-special-join/

If you prefer to pay by cheque, please write your full name, title (Mr/Mrs/Ms), postal address, phone number, and date of birth and promo code above on the back of the cheque so we know who to send the card to and send your $20 cheque to:

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So, will you Zusu?!

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**The Rise Up Academy**

**KidsCan Creative Arts Competition**

On 22 June 2014, KidsCan staff were invited to KidsCan partner school - The Rise Up Academy, Otahuhu, Auckland to judge their recent creative art competition.

Their brief included using their creative and inquiry skills to illustrate or explain how much KidsCan’s support means to them.

Hilary Eyres – KidsCan’s Schools and Programmes Coordinator said, “I had a fantastic time judging all the entries! It was so hard to pick the top three as everything was just stunning! It was truly amazing to see such talent at our partner school and how well they are doing at school.”
Reflecting on the first six months of 2014, we are amazed at what we’ve accomplished through the passion and efforts of our volunteer base.

Our volunteers have helped send out two food distributions, supporting 319 schools in Term 1, 312 schools in Term 2, and over 12,500 students each term. We’ve managed to send out stationery to more than a third of our partner schools to get the school year started on a positive note and have started the massive distribution of shoes, coats and trousers, which we will continue to do through the month of June.

Hilary Eyres – KidsCan Schools and Programmes Coordinator says, “I’d like to include a huge thank you to the volunteers that support our administrative work, particularly in the lead-up to, and following, our move to a new building – we couldn’t do what we do without you”.

“The entire KidsCan team benefits from the flexibility and dedication our volunteers demonstrate, as well as our more than 400 partner schools and their students”.

Since January, KidsCan volunteers have logged 727 hours at the KidsCan office (as compared to 370 hours for the first 6 months of 2013). Additionally, with our schools submitting notes of interest for our volunteers involved in various ways; through reading support, mentoring, garden work or breakfast club support, we’ve been able to pair some of our nationally-based volunteers with nearby partner schools.

Our volunteers support our work for many reasons, one being establishing and/or maintaining stronger connections to their community. The schools-volunteer partnership is one way that we can facilitate this involvement, ultimately adding another dimension of support to Kiwi kids throughout New Zealand. Our partner schools are encouraged to send through their interest and needs to our team for addition to our volunteer calendar. Our volunteers can see all open opportunities, with more added regularly, by visiting kidscan.org.nz/volunteer-calendar

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**KidsCan 2014: upcoming distribution dates**

If you would like to volunteer your time for our upcoming distributions at KidsCan HQ – here’s a quick glance at some available dates in July and August!

**JULY 2014**
- 17th
- 18th
- 25th

**AUG 2014**
- 7th
- 14th
- 21st
KidsCan in the Community

Check out some cool snaps of KidsCan in action!

Gen Zed Fundraising for KidsCan

KidsCan gals visiting the Moko team and schools in Kaitaia. Together we are keeping kids healthy with in-school medical checks

University of Auckland’s – PILSA (Pacific Island Law students Association) students fundraising for KidsCan

Horowhenua Students fundraising for KidsCan for their social studies research project!

Jeremy Takao from KidsCan Partner school, Russell School, helps PM John Key flick the switch at Meridian’s newest wind farm, Mill Creek near Wellington.

Shane Wilson participating in the Pork Pie Charity Run 2015 has already started fundraising for KidsCan at their monthly market stalls!

Sene Atafu, KidsCan Warehouse Manager – posing with Retko and pallets of food for our partner school!

Brie Tawhai – KidsCan Marketing Executive with Hamilton Boys High Prefects, Rhys McLachlan (left) and Sam Foster (right) after another successful “Fun Run” fundraising event for KidsCan - raising over $8000!

Sene Ataflu (KidCan) and Robyn Brown (USANA) at the “Experience the Vision” event after USANA & The True Health Foundation donate $5,000 to KidsCan!

Mark Pinto de Menezes and Maria Nobilo (KidsCan) after a successful Bollywood fundraiser for KidsCan.

Roimata Harmon from Ora Events and Julie Chapman CEO + Founder of KidsCan at the Hong Kong Kiwi Ball 2014.
Thank you’s

KidsCan Charitable Trust would like to acknowledge and thank our donors, trusts, businesses, organisations and those who wish to donate anonymously for all your donations and contributions to KidsCan over the past quarter. With your continued support, we will be able to reach out to new schools and help more NZ children in need.

- Aorere College
- Auckland Grammar School
- Dead End Derby Rollergirls
- Gen Zed
- Glendowie College
- Hamilton Boys College
- Infinity Foundation
- Kiwi Ball – Hong Kong
- Nasha Entertainment
- Oncelt
- Pie Funds Management Ltd
- Scots College
- Western Heights Primary
- Z Energy Hornby
- Z Energy Opotiki

A special thanks

KidsCan would like to say a special thank you to Tim Webb and all those that donated their time, equipment and facilities to record KidsCan Rock, generously donated to KidsCan. View this in our video section on our website www.kidscan.org.nz

Thank you Retko!

Our long-time supporters at Retko have some awesome new trucks! Keep an eye out for these around the country and snap us a picture if you see them to info@kidscan.org.nz

KidsCan Key Partners

KidsCan Key Fundraising Partners

Want the "News from Our Backyard" emailed to your inbox?

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