

Evans Bay Intermediate School

SCHOOLWIDE ACHIEVEMENT REPORT IN Music Dance and Drama

August 2009

INTRODUCTION

“Dance is expressive movement that has intent, purpose and form.” (NZ Curriculum p20)
Students develop literacy in the dance discipline through learning specific skills and knowledge, performing, choreographing and responding to a variety of dance.

The Music Unit taught centered on 2 of the 4 inter-related strands in the Arts Curriculum

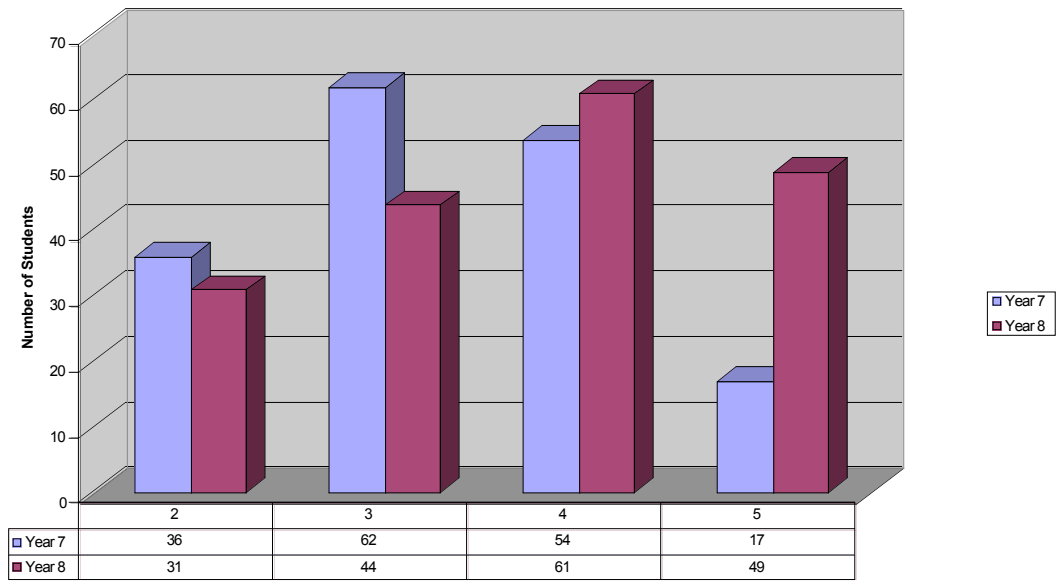
- **Developing Practical Knowledge**
- **Understanding the Arts in Context**

The Music, Dance and Drama Team decided to continue with dance in 2009 to follow on from the ballroom dancing unit that was taught school-wide in Term 4 last year. It was anticipated that the Year 8 students would have prior knowledge of some of the dance language and ideas used, and that the unit would consolidate and broaden their knowledge. Folk dance was selected as the genre for this unit. The Dance Assessment results were included in the Mid Year reports home to parents.

The assessment covered Level 2 to Level 5 Achievement Objectives from the Dance Discipline of the NZ Arts' Curriculum. Students were required to identify and describe different dances, describe how dance is used for different purposes in a variety of cultures and contexts, and compare and contrast dances from a variety of cultures and contexts.

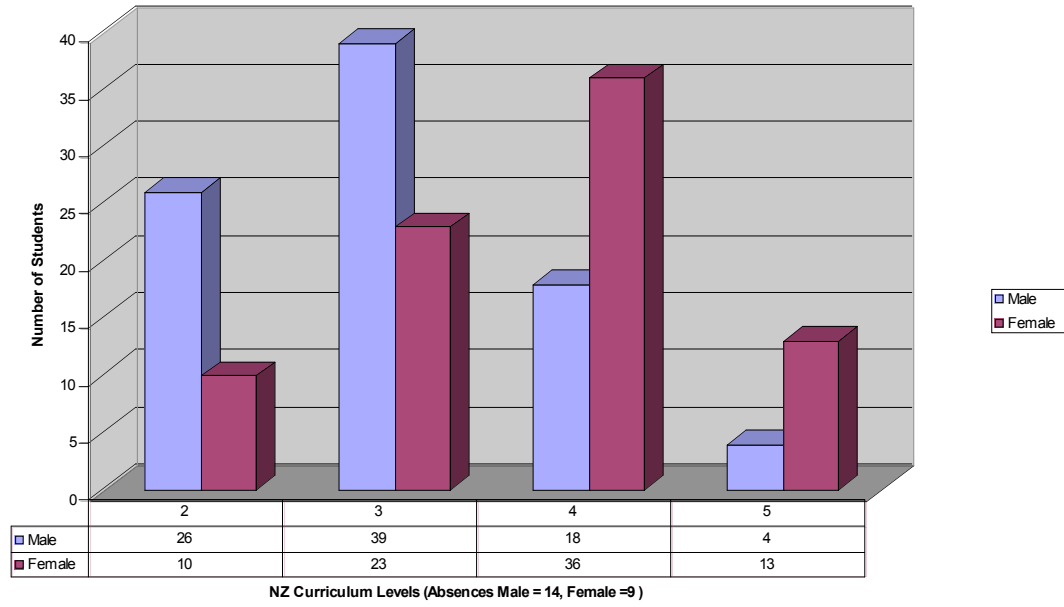
DATA GATHERED

2009 Year Group Comparison - The Arts - Music Dance and Drama

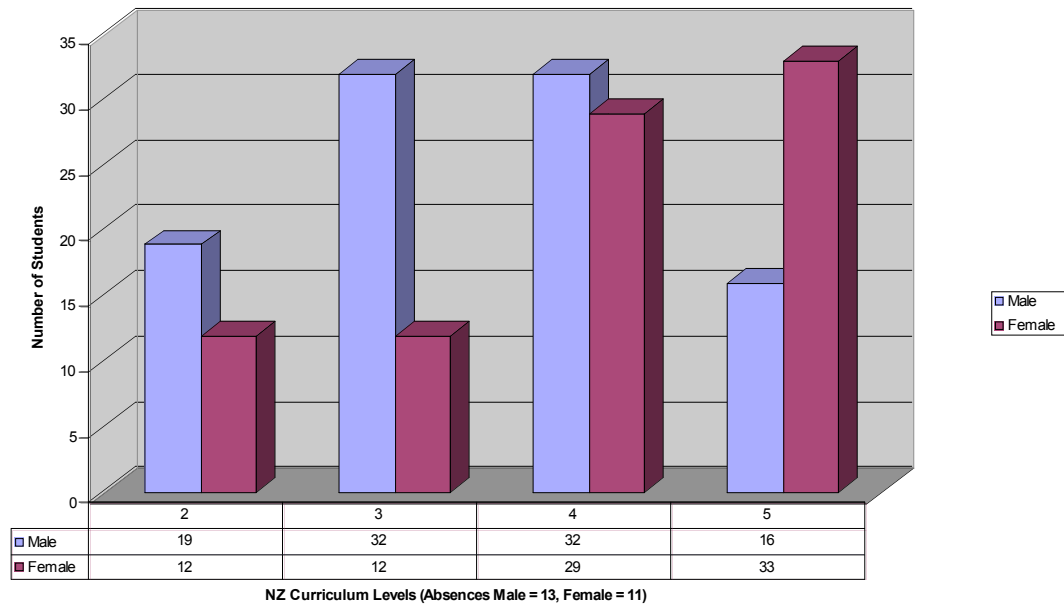


NZ Curriculum Levels (Absences Year 7 =23, Year 8=24)

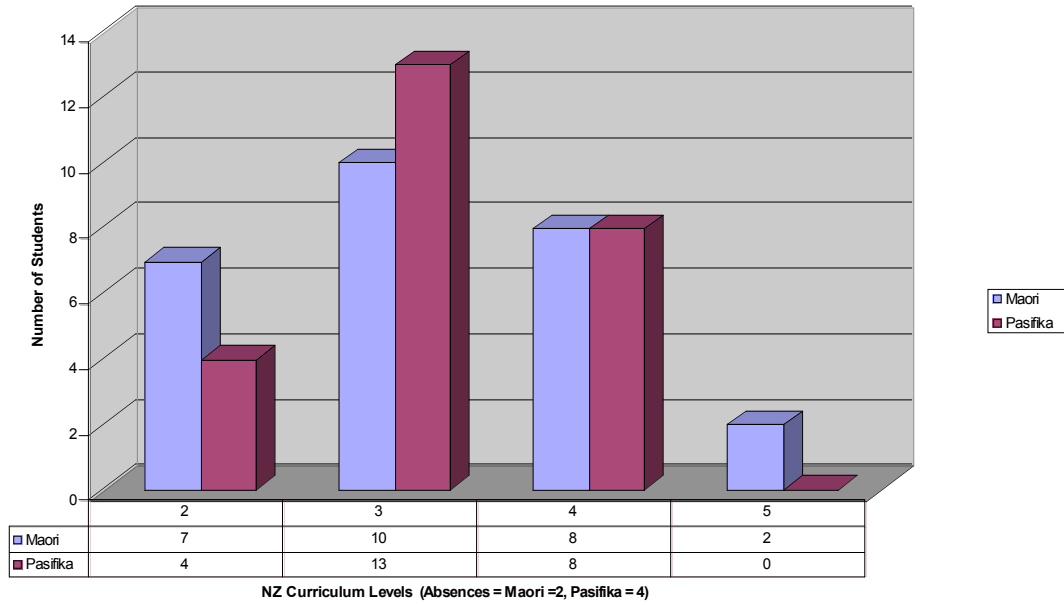
2009 Gender Comparison Year 7 Students - The Arts Music, Dance Drama



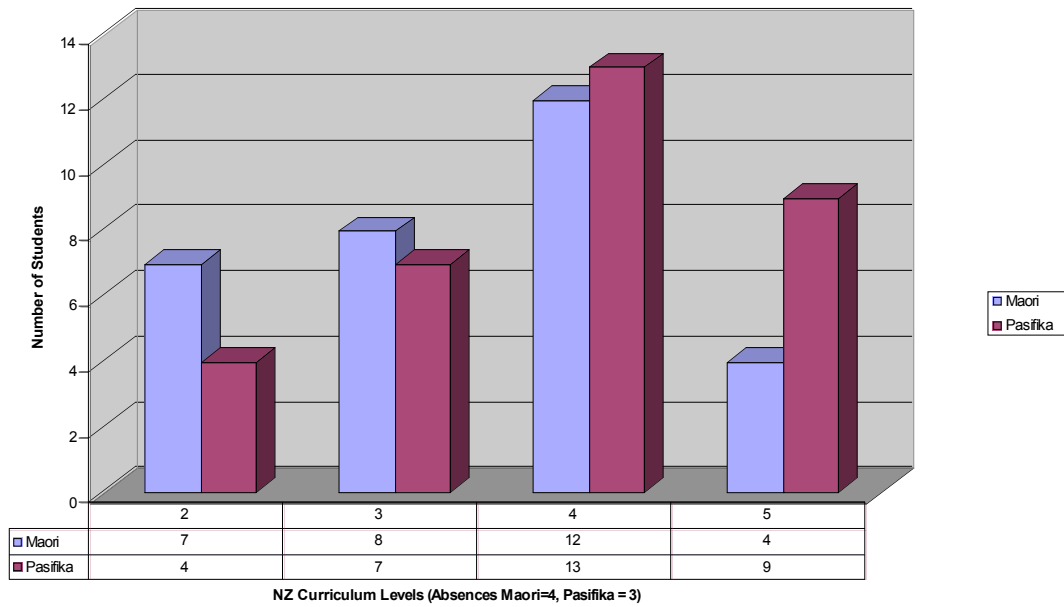
2009 Gender Comparison Year 8 Students - The Arts Music Dance and Drama



2009 Maori and Pasifika Year 7 Students - The Arts - Music Dance and Drama



2009 Maori and Pasifika Year 8 Students - The Arts - Music Dance and Drama



DATA ANALYSIS

STRENGTHS

	% Level 5	% Level 4
All Students	19	32
Year 8	26	33
Yr 8 Male	16	32
Yr 8 Female	38	34
Yr 8 Māori	13	39
Yr 8 Pasifika	27	39
Year 7	10	32
Yr 7 Male	5	21
Yr 7 Female	16	44
Yr 7 Māori	7	30
Yr 7 Pasifika	0	32

In this Dance Unit our expectation was that most students would achieve at Level 4 and above. Just over a quarter of Year 8 students met the Level 5 objective and a further 33% achieved a Level 4. This achievement may well be a reflection of the prior knowledge that the Year 8 students brought to the unit from their 2008 dance learning experience. It is pleasing to note that 10% of Year 7 students achieved a Level 5. This group comprised of 13 female students and 4 male students.

The **very high achievers** in this unit were the **Year 8 girls**.

- 38% achieved Level 5
- 34% achieved Level 4

The **Year 7 girls** were also **high achievers**.

- 16% of this cohort achieved a Level 5
- 44% achieved a Level 4

This may indicate that the unit appealed more to the girls than the boys. Girls' interests, knowledge and skills of dance are usually at a higher level of development and many girls take dance classes outside of school.

Year 7 and 8 Māori and Pasifika students achieved outstanding results

- 52% of Year 8 Māori students achieved either Level 5 or Level 4
This group comprised of 7 male students and 9 female students.
- 67% of Year 8 Pasifika students achieved either Level 5 or Level 4
This group comprised of 10 male students and 12 female students.
- 37% of Year 7 Māori students achieved either Level 5 or Level 4
This group comprised of 1 male student and 9 female students.
- 32% of Year 7 Pasifika students achieved either a Level 5 or Level 4
This group comprised of 4 male students and 4 female students.

Many of the high achieving Māori and Pasifika students are very committed to, and have a deep sense of belonging to, the EBIS Kapa Haka and or Poly Club. All are exposed to a wide variety of dance styles and can transfer their prior knowledge and experience to the different genre of dance.

TARGETS

	% Level 3	% Level 2
All students	30	19
Year 8	24	17
Yr 8 Male	32	20
Yr 8 Female	14	14
Yr 8 Māori	49	7
Yr 8 Pasifika	26	7
Year 7	36	21
Yr 7 Male	45	30
Yr 7 Female	28	12
Yr 7 Māori	37	26
Yr 7 Pasifika	52	16

The main groups the data identified as needing more support in this area are boys and Year 7 Maori students who are working at Level 2. One of the key factors that teachers identified was the attitude that some of the boys brought to the unit. They appeared more self-conscious about dancing, were less willing to hold hands to dance with girls and many showed reluctance to lead or model the dancing.

To support these learners in future teachers need to consider :

- Adding in a component to link to genre more popular with this age group and boys in particular.
- Making the connections between the practical dance and the knowledge about dance more explicit.
- Encouraging all Year 7 Māori male students to participate in Kapa Haka so that they can celebrate the discipline of their cultural dance.
- Communicating effectively with staff the teaching and assessment requirements to ensure uniformity with the delivery of the unit.
- Moderating the marking of assessments to ensure consistency throughout the school.

CONCLUSION

Overall the unit was well received and enjoyed by students and teachers as they celebrated the art of dance.

Our expectation was that most students would achieve at Level 4 and above and although many reached these levels there were a significant number achieving only at Level 2.

When planning future dance units it is imperative that the planning team carefully consider our recommendations so that the necessary support is given to the student groups identified as under achieving in this discipline.

This report was compiled by Mary Sagato & Marian Collins

25 August 2009.