

# Heaton Learning Resource Centre (LRC)

## Annual Report 2022



### Rationale for the Heaton LRC

The LRC Coordinator manages the LRC physical space and provides specialised LRC services and resources that contribute to student learning and achievement by:

- promoting reading for enjoyment and assisting with the achievement of schoolwide literacy goals
- supporting inquiry learning and developing students' research skills
- developing digital citizenship skills
- contributing to students' social and emotional wellbeing by providing a welcoming and safe place for socializing, relaxing, refuge and inspiration.

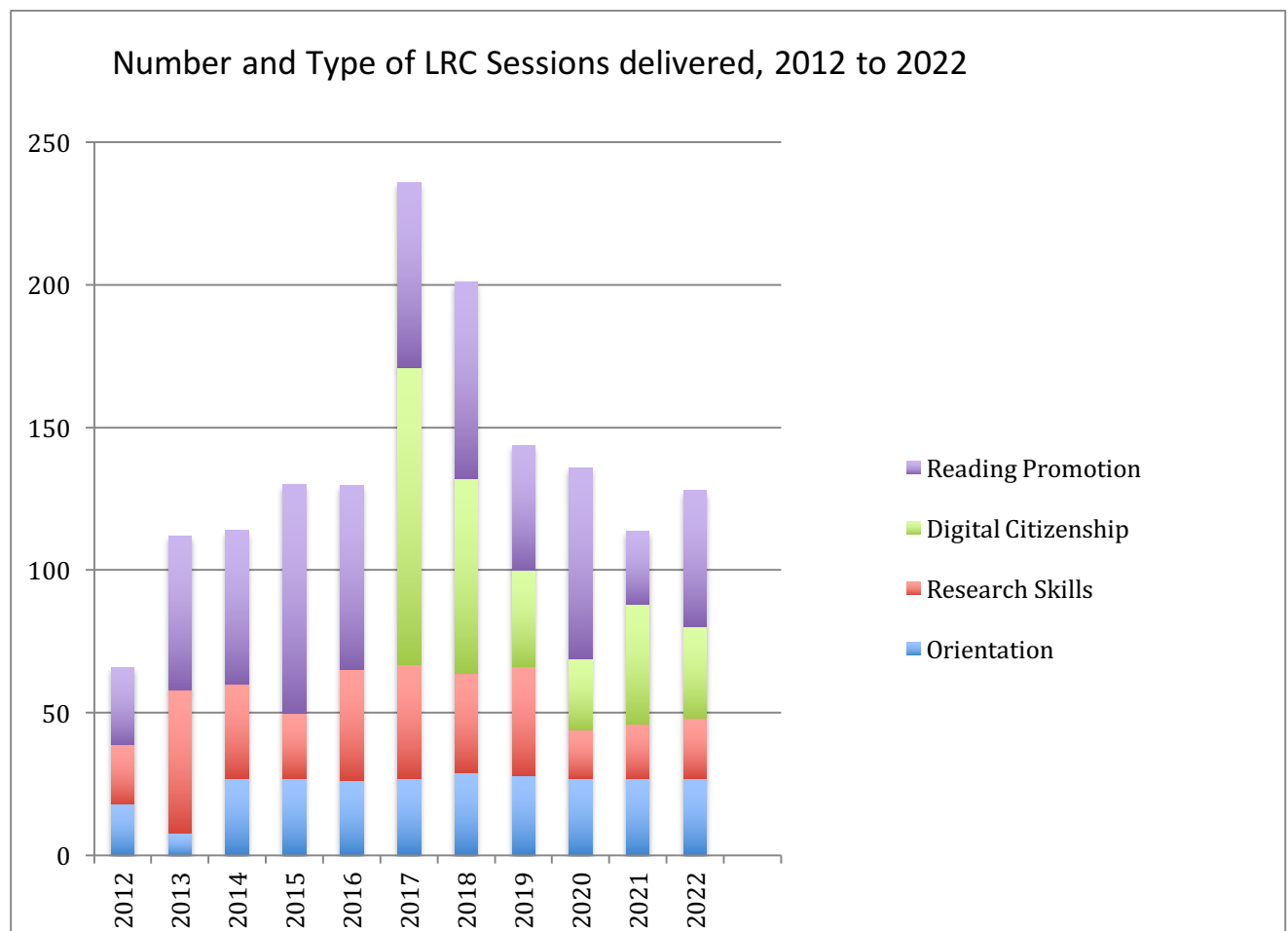
"The research shows clear links from school libraries and library staff to improvements in student's reading and academic success. School libraries are fundamental to developing engaged readers who have the capability and inclination to read and learn beyond their years at school."

[Why School Libraries Matter](#). (2022) National Library.

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## LRC Sessions in 2022

The LRC Coordinator develops and delivers a variety of sessions to ākonga, for the purposes of promoting reading, supporting inquiry and research skills, and developing good digital citizenship skills.



A total of 128 sessions were delivered by the LRC Coordinator in 2022, consisting of:

- 27 Orientation
- 21 Research Skills
- 32 Digital Citizenship
- 48 Reading Promotion (Speed Dating Books, Game of Quotes, Genre Bingo, Info Stumpers, Book Talks)



## Promoting Reading

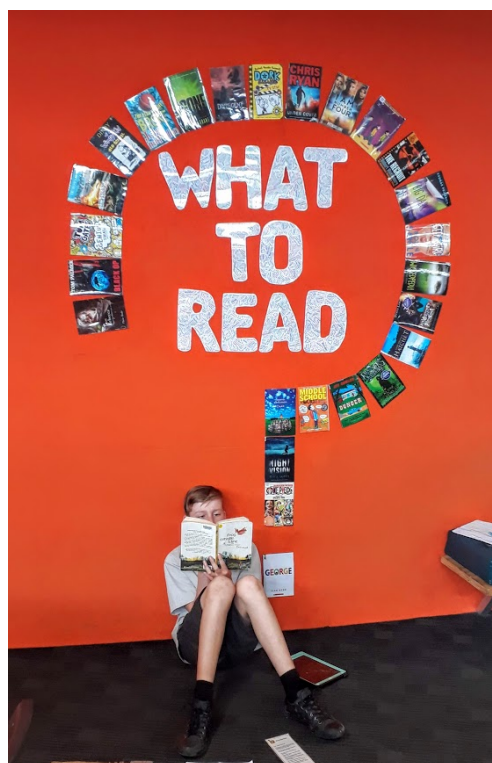
“Aside from the sheer joy of exercising the imagination, research shows reading for pleasure improves literacy, social skills, health, and learning outcomes.”

***Reading for pleasure – a door to success. [National Library Services to Schools website.](#)***

[OECD research](#) shows that reading for pleasure is the single most important indicator of a child’s future success.

There is a range of ways that reading is promoted by the LRC Coordinator, starting with the fundamental role of curating an appealing book collection for our Heaton ākonga. Secondly, knowledge of the collection is vital in being able to provide personal and tailored books recommendations to individual students. And then there are reading related events, competitions and sessions. This year in the Heaton LRC these have included:

- 48 Reading Promotion sessions in the LRC
- Hell Pizza Challenge – students read 7 books and receive a voucher for a free pizza from Hell Pizza .
- KidsLit Quiz - two Heaton teams competed in the annual reading based competition at Turanga, finishing 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> out of 50 teams.
- Word Festival Author Book Talks – 40 Heaton students attended this event at St Margaret’s College.
- LRC competitions – Wacky Reader Photo Competition, 3 “Think of the Link” competitions.



## What are they reading?

Fiction books represent 62% of issues in 2022.

Graphic Novels continue to punch well above their weight, they comprise 8% of the LRC Collection but represent 25% of total issues.

In 2022, eight of the ten most popular Items were graphic novels. The two fiction books that made up the Top Ten were (unsurprisingly) a Tom Gates book and a Diary of a Wimpy Kid, both of which are highly illustrated.

An LRC Reading Survey was conducted in November 2022 to which 343 students responded.

Students report that their favourite genres are:

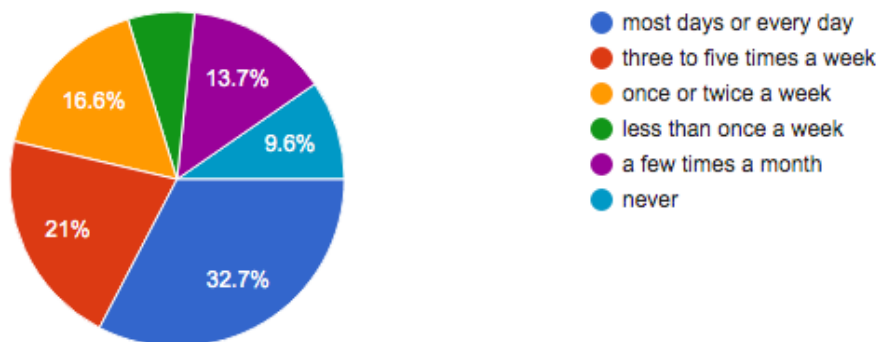
1. Adventure
2. Mystery & Action
3. Funny
4. Fantasy
5. Horror
6. Realistic

## How much are they reading?

In the LRC Reading Survey almost 54% of ākonga report they choose to read in their own time at least three times a week. Almost 10% say they NEVER choose to read. Interestingly, these are the exact same percentages as in 2017 when the previous LRC Reading Survey was conducted.

How often do you choose to read in your own time, just because you like to?

343 responses



In addition, almost 50% of ākonga say they are reading **more** this year than compared to last year, while 16% say they are reading less. These results are quite pleasing considering internationally and in NZ the trend is a decrease in reading for enjoyment ([Experiences of New Zealand children actively reading for pleasure](#). Ministry of Social Development. March 2022.)

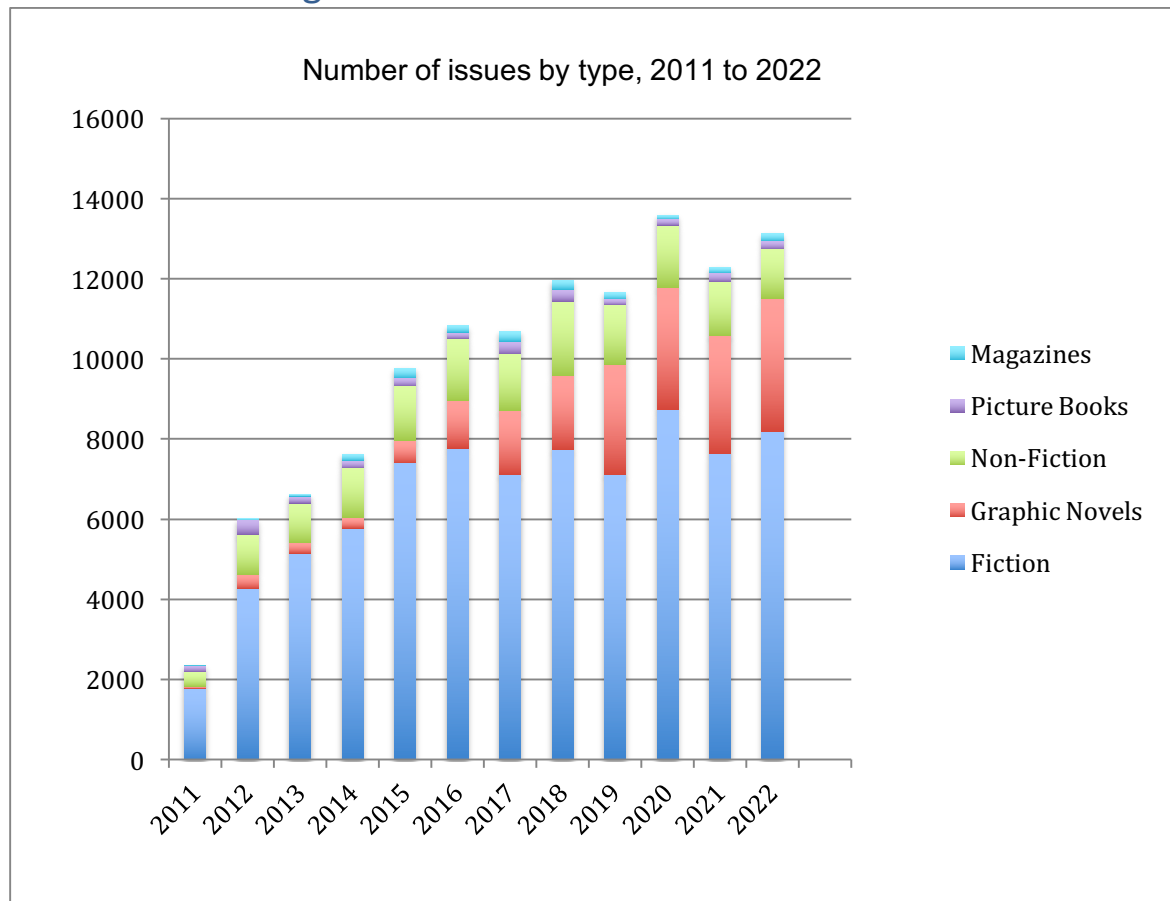


The total number of issues from the LRC Collection was **13,164** in 2022 (this excludes items in the Teacher Resources Collection and Class Novels).

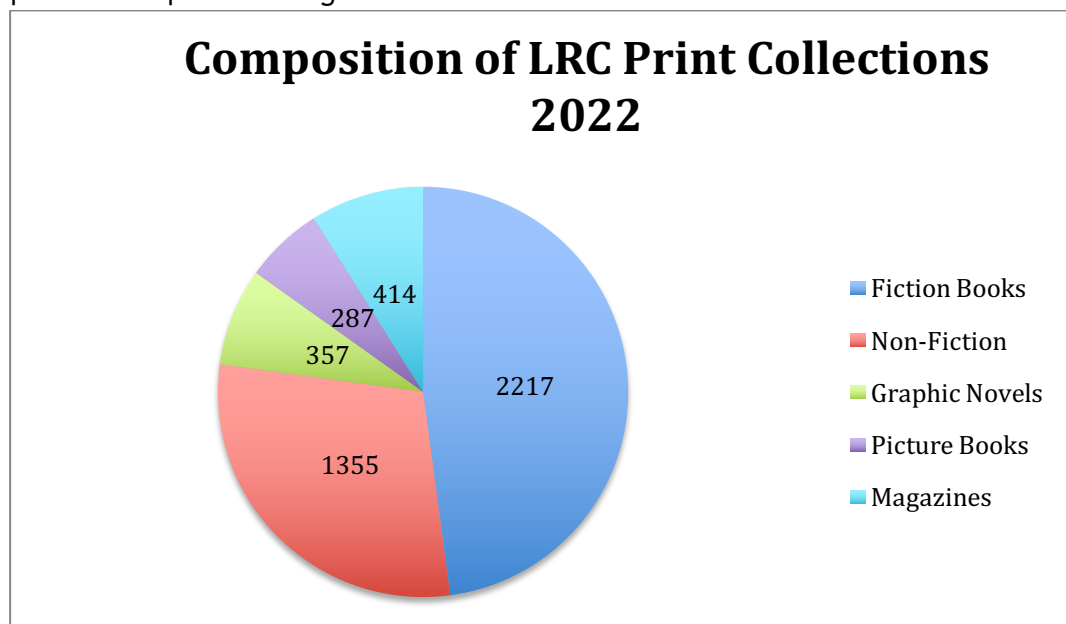
Overall this is a **7% increase in borrowing** compared to 2021.

The graph below shows the breakdown in issues by type of item.

## Annual Borrowing Statistics



There are a total of 4,216 books (including graphic novels) in the LRC Collection, plus 414 copies of magazines.





## LRC Budgets and Buying

**308** books were added to the LRC Collection in 2022. Ten of these were donated and 18 were acquired with Scholastic Rewards.

The LRC Book Budget of **\$3,000** was used to purchase the remaining 280 items. These consisted of:

- 141 Fiction books
- 63 Non-Fiction books
- 62 Graphic Novels
- 14 Picture books

A focus of the LRC Buying Plan this year was to increase the diversity of the book collection to reflect diversity among students, for example to ensure we have stories with neurodiverse or LGBTQ+ characters, and that people from different cultures are represented.

This year 17 new books have been catalogued with the subject “Rainbow people – diverse genders and sexualities”.

We have nine fiction books which feature autistic characters.

A new Pasifika Collection was established and currently contains 17 items.

The LRC Consumables budget of **\$1,900** was spent on library supplies, subscriptions to Journal Surf database, magazines, Wheelers Audio Books, games for LRC lunchtimes, and beanbags.

### Class Novels Collection

The Class Novel Collection was expanded again this year with 90 copies being added. There are now 94 different class novel titles available, with a total number of 1,076 copies.

There have been **1,542 issues of class novels** this year, compared to 1,145 in 2021.



## Supporting Inquiry

Information resources for Inquiry topics (Cultural Diversity, ANZAC Day, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Human Rights, Astronomy, Aotearoa NZ Histories, and “Navigating the Journey”), were curated and were available via the LRC [Inquiry Topics](#) webpage. These included links to relevant websites and details of books available in the LRC collection, including books on loan from the National Library.



## The LRC Website and LRC Catalogue

The [Heaton LRC website](#) currently consists of 19 webpages, providing information and resources to support students’ research and reading, a link to the LRC Catalogue, and a Teacher Resources webpage.

During a 30 day period in September the LRC website had **2,360** page views.

The [LRC Catalogue](#) (AccessIT Web App) allows students and staff to find items in the LRC Collection and includes links to e-books and websites. Students can also use their Borrower Number to view their borrowing record, renew loans, place reserves on items, and add their own book reviews.

The LRC Catalogue is available to anyone with an internet connected device, anywhere, anytime.

During 2022 a total of **7,924** searches were conducted on the LRC Catalogue.



## Other Notable Events in 2022

- A report was released in June 2022 [Great School Libraries in Aotearoa: A Qualitative Study](#) from the Ministry of Education, showcasing best practice in NZ school libraries. Heaton Intermediate featured as one of 13 schools from across the motu identified as having a successful school library. The report examines the positive impact a well-supported school library can have for learners.
- The Heaton LRC Coordinator presented at the SLANZA (School Librarians Assoc.) P.D. Day 2022 on the topic “More Zooosh, Less Shush: How to Maximise Student Engagement When Teaching in the Library.”

## Looking Ahead to 2023

The LRC Annual Plan 2023 will provide specific details, but in summary in 2023 there will be a focus on:

- New reading promotion initiatives to generate more “book buzz” and further develop the reading culture of the school.
- Collaborating with teachers, especially Whaea Chrissy, to assist with the Aotearoa NZ Histories unit.



A class taking part in a “Speed Date A Genre” session in the LRC.