Celebrate New Zealand Music Month in your classroom:

- With the added instruction that they be ready to sing at least a chorus from the song of one of these artists at their assembly year level if their class is chosen to go through to a semi final … you might get students individually or in groups to:

  Find a NZ artist beginning with each letter of the alphabet. E.g. A = Adeaze, B = Brooke Frazer … Z = Zowie

  Or, use numbers – get them to find as many NZ bands as they can that use numerals in their band names … eg. “1814” “Six60” “3 Houses Down”...

- Students might discuss and/or present an analysis of the music of their favourite NZ artists. Ask them to analyse the musical elements/characteristics – tone colours (what instrumentation is used) tempo, (speed) or feel, the production techniques, the structure of the song, the mood/meaning of the lyrics, genre… There are great listening chart templates in Sweet2 for starting them off analysing what they hear.

- Sing lots of great NZ songs!

  You might start with the songs written by students and chosen for Hook Line and Sing-along on the 31st May; “Paradise” chosen as the song of NZ music month 2013 or, “21 Degrees” (2012), “Things to Remember-Huarahi Tika” (2011) and “Made in NZ” (2010). These are available as mp3 downloads with lead sheets, different keys, backing tracks, guitar and ukulele parts … at www.hooklineandssingalong.com

  These lead sheets can be good score reading –theory exercise too.

- Hold an Interclass Singing Competition – (or rapping) again you might use the NZMusicMonth song 2013 – “Paradise” – send MP3 to all classes / put on moodle / school internet with lyrics – all Hook Line and Singalong songs thanks to MENZA and NZMC have free license and are on www.hooklineandssingalong.com to download as MP3s plus there are lead sheets and different keys … A hard copy flyer should be in your 6 May Gazette. There are 2 songs new this year. You could introduce it at each assembly in week 1 and have a final for each year level in week 4 … the challenge of creating a best ‘alternate version’ ie. a remix/a capella version could add interest also.

- ‘Paradise’ worksheets - music lessons have been created for you to use based on this new song – check out the website .

- All primary schools have the Kiwi Kids Songs series - #5 has ‘Nature’ in a good key, ‘Dance all around the world’ (#10) and so on… Older students may enjoy songs in “Sweet 2”. There is the MOE’s Hirini Melbourne resource and in recent years, Kiwi Kids Songs #15 for heaps of Waiata. The Patea hit, “Poi E” is on Natures Best – available everywhere and universally liked as well as making a big come back cos of the film “BOY” … (and transcribed in Sweet 2 for year 7s up)

  Kiwikids Songs 16 – are all Pasifica songs .

  Volume 17 (Values) has Tim Finn’s “Couldn’t be done” and other goodies...

  Sweet 2 – if you’ve lost it send for another copy from learning media / info@nzmusic.org.nz

- Get “Ihimaera” – this album created in 2011 is awesome. All the lyrics are by Witi Ihimaera and set by some of NZ’s most talented artists, including Kapisi’s “Whale Rider”, Ruia Aperahama, Victoria Girling Butcher (Lupin), Charlotte Yates and others : This has great cross-curricula lesson possibilities. Just google to find sellers of the CD…
• Radio NZ Music Month 2013 programming: The entire first week of May (4-10) is being transformed into New Zealand Music Week on Radio NZ Concert. In Global Sounds there’s the first episode in a series by Megan Collins on the music of immigrant societies in NZ. In Composer of the Week William Dart’s looking at Mozart Fellows who’ve gone through Otago University. RNZ’s own concert recordings will be played Saturday at 3pm and every night at 8pm. Also featured are Eve de Castro-Robinson’s Len Lye, the Opera’s during Sound Lounge on Tuesday eve and Upbeat will have significant NZ content too. 
http://www.radionz.co.nz/concert

• Study NZ POP history – Nature’s Best covers the decades very well over 3 CDs (and there’s a DVD and the sheet music available for most tracks). There’s information on lots of NZ artists at www.nzmusician.co.nz (on-line archives) and the artist sections of www.nzmusic.org.nz/artists NCEA level 1 “Rocket MAN” study see “arts on line” – a unit written for you bringing in NZ rock history.

• Take a look at NZ (Music) History online: http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/culture/music-month and 31 reasons to love NZ Music Month... useful info, video clips and some classroom lessons at Level 4 - back again every day on this site so do take a look!

• www.kiwihits.co.nz/hitdisc/catalog
This is great, for tracking down NZ classic pop hits in the back catalogue or checking out what’s current.

• Secondary schools – don’t forget to use the “Making Music” (interviews and music of 40 NZ musicians), “Give it a Whirl” DVDs (not to mention Sweet! and Sweet 2) Some are on www.nzmusic.org.nz/education to stream.

• Write some new songs/music – get students to write their own! For e-copies of “Song writing tips from NZ Musicians” and the Charlotte Yates edit – how to do it in with a whole class... check other educational resources at www.nzmusic.org.nz

• Song Comps – Obviously the Music Month song has been chosen (get them to take a look at the top 5 on www.hooklineandsingalong.com but there are heaps of other opportunities for students coming up … Smokefree Rockquest of course and Smokefree Pacifica Beats early June (main centres)
www.smokefreepacificabeats.co.nz
The Peace Song (closes July 22), The Lion Foundation Songwriting Comp (closes 22 July) – all info for these 2 can be found at www.playitstrange.org.nz and Auckland University’s Schools Songwriter of the Year is now NATIONAL so all schools can enter. Comp’ closes 28 June 2013, songwriter@creative.auckland.ac.nz

• “Untouchable Girls”, THE TOPP-twins doco— the music, the (recent) history, the humour ... explore musical comedy- were they forerunners to The Concord??... (The “Untouchable Girls” song score is in Sweet2) The DVD is widely available. (I got mine very cheap in the ‘red shed’!)
• Free NZ Music Month Launch gig at Christchurch Central Library, 7pm on 1st May with The Eastern, Luckless and Katie Thompson. As well as the launch, there will be performances throughout the month at local libraries and venues.

• Check out SOUNZ www.sounz.org.nz This is the Centre for NZ music site... Heaps of info about NZ contemporary classical and choral music. Great website.

• The Dunedin Public Libraries are putting on a series of performances to showcase local talent. These are taking place every Thursday from 2 May, with one lunchtime performance and three evening performances.

• Taonga Puoro- traditional Māori instruments – play CDs like “Te Ku Te Whe” (Richard Nunns and Hirini Melbourne) and other artists such Moana and the Tribe, (SEE SWEET2), Tiki Taane (‘Tangaroa’ is on You Tube) You’ll find the instruments are used in a contemporary way by many artists... (on the Ihimaera album too). Take a look at this years NZMM song – “Paradise” and the instruments featured on that track.

• Study at how the NZ music industry operates. Email NZMC (info@nzmusic.org.nz) for free copies of THE MAY BOOK 2013 – up to date music industry information. Students might design a venn diagram re the different parts of the industry and how it all fits together. There are quarterly statistics re. the economic impact on the Commission website also.

• Students might design their own “Play more NZ Music” campaign poster incorporating the ‘bulls eye’ – brainstorm the positive economic and social outcomes of promoting NZ music and discuss WHY we have a “New Zealand Music Month”. Take a look at some statistics re. music sales in NZ (see the NZ Music Commission website

• Technology! Music is full of opportunities to incorporate this aspect of the curriculum – designing and making instruments, recording, broadcasting, making music videos, setting up a MySpace site ... track the demise of the “78”, the cassette tape to the rise of i-pods and downloading (This might also lead on to discussions and debates re. copyright issues and IP - ‘intellectual property’. (Take a look at www.lovemusic.co.nz)

• Smokefree ROCKQUEST (25 years old this year) starts 11 MAY, take some students along for ‘a look’ ... www.smokefreerockquest.co.nz

• Get students to think about entering Smokefree Pacifica Beats – its not too late to enter - www.smokefreepacificabeats.co.nz to find entry forms and info ...

• Invite in a local musician, composer or songwriter to visit the students. Interview them about creating music. Find out what inspires them. Find out what music they enjoy...

• Plan and make a music video (View and discuss some of the latest ones to receive ‘NZ on Air’ funding on C4 or on www.kiwihits.co.nz (also a good sources of NZ hits through the decades

• Primary Schools – expose your students to live music - invite young musicians from the neighbouring high school/intermediate to perform for your students. Take them along to hear the secondary schools in the BiG SING in your town this term...

• Students might create a poster advertising either an imagined or actual concert (or Festival) of New Zealand Music. Choose particular artists or groups to feature as ‘headliners” – past, present or future.

• 10 May, the NZ Symphony Orchestra will be debuting a fresh initiative called ‘Hear & Far’, where the orchestra celebrates home-grown contemporary compositions, alongside the works of international composers in a concert dedicated to Modern Masters. In this inaugural performance, John Psathas’ composition Orpheus in Rarohenga will be performed with the NZSO and the Wellington Orpheus Choir, who the piece was written for.

• Auckland Philharmonic (APO) have this amazing opportunity they are offering: Secondary schools of Decile 5 or below can attend Connecting With Music concerts for free, with bus and pre-concert musician visit included. A few places are left for the Auckland Town Hall Connecting With Music 1 concert on 27 June, 1pm – this concert features Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No.1 Email leem@apo.co.nz
• **Teachers** – make sure you have signed up to music primary-net or music-net on www.tki.org.nz so that you are getting all the latest info re. Music in schools, MOE resources and curriculum changes, PD opportunities etc. Strengthen the place of music in schools - get your school to join MENZA (Music Education NZ Aotearoa) the national music teacher association - if they haven't already!

www.menza.co.nz note MENZA courses in 8 regions on the 10th MAY ... (You’ll never get cheaper or better PDL opportunities!)

• Upload your pix of NZ music events in your school onto music months flicker page, pinterest, facebook etc... www.nzmusicmonth.co.nz

Remember, Music is the most important subject in the curriculum – make no apology – you can teach and learn anything with and through Music! (You can knock off the key competencies, literacy, numeracy and all the learning areas in one lesson not to mention a month)

Join in singing at noon, 31MAY; see MENZA or NZ Music Commission websites for help, songs, backing tracks and to register you school so we can tally the no.s

Explore the web – there are many good kiwi music websites – youtube is wonderfull useful resource too...and MENZA has put many great links up on their site. To name a few others:

www.kiwihits.co.nz
http://nztop40.co.nz
www.filmarchive.org.nz/readytoroll/
www.folksong.org.nz/waiata
www.indies.co.nz
www.musicnz.co.nz
www.apra.co.nz
www.amplifier.co.nz
www.myspace.com/kiwihub
www.youtube.com
www.sounz.org.nz

• And applause to the General Conference of UNESCO 'cos they’ve proclaimed the fourth week of May 2013 as *International Arts Education Week*. It will be marked for the first time from 21 to 27 May 2012 and should highlight the importance and usefulness of arts education – make sure your BOT and Principal know this!

• When you get some great work in – the best NZ rap or song or poster about a NZ musician... do let us know at the NZ Music Commission and we’ll be happy to send out something ‘cool’ involving our NZMM bulls eye logo for these students. Email me or info@nzmusic.org.nz

2013 Ts found at www.amplifier.co.nz

**Have a great month!**

Stephanie Lees & Catherine Walker

(the Education Team At the Music Commission)

stephanie@nzmusic.org.nz
catherine@nzmusic.org.nz

PS. Looking for something to wear? Uniform for May 2013 ...in ‘rockstar black’ ...