

Igyararmut Qallemcit



Inside this issue:

Welcome 2016!	1
Wangkuta Qanriarait Yugestun	2
Cisslaq	3
Makuryak: Yupik Class	4
Makuryak: The Murres	4
Makuryak: Weird Winter Weather	4
Makuryak: Basketball	5
Makuryak: Hawaii/LA	5
Makuryak: Kaitaia School	6
Makuryak: Polynesian Reflection	7
Makuryak: What I learned in New Zealand	8
New Zealand Snaps and photos of Favorite people	9-10
Announcements	11

Welcome 2016!

By Ida Nelson

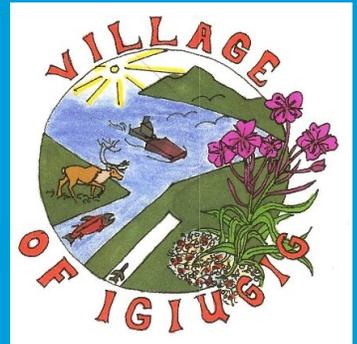
Welcome 2016! We welcome you with open arms and a great sense of adventure! Quyana to those whom donated and made our Cultural Trip to New Zealand a trip to remember! Traveling across the world with 42 people into a country we had no clue we would fall in love with so quickly: New Zealand. Half way across the world and yet their values, traditions, and ethics are very similar to our own. We are working on reviving our dance and Yup'ik language culture and bringing it back to our village with appreciation of our elders present, past and future.

Apapigainaq has been working diligently with the Yugestun program and we now have a routine. She can tell you more about it in her article and you can evaluate the cisslat she put together too.

Makuryak students have been busy writing articles, Kaylee has a wonderful article of the Yup'ik classes we been having in school. Simeon wrote a snip about the dying murres found on our beaches and you can read about Kiara's article on the warm weather we've been having since we returned from New Zealand.

Fewnia wrote an awesome article about their basketball trip to Kokhanok. Below her adventure you can find Tia's article on her trip to Hawaii and LA and how much she loved it!

Dolly has written wonderfully of our experience at our first school in New Zealand; Kaitaia School and you can read about it in her article found on page 6. Tate Gooden has a Polynesian Reflection about New Zealand and awesome host Mike Murray. Following Tate's article you will find what Taty has learned in New Zealand. Turn the page and you will find snaps of New Zealand and your favorite local people and finally your announcements for Igiugig.



March Birthdays:

- 3rd - Martha Crow
- 10th - Lydia Olympic
- 21st - Jon Salmon
- 24th - Terek Anelon
- 26th - Jeff Bringhurst
- 28th - Lukas Zackar

Wangkuta Qanriarait Yugestun

By Apapigainaq

Our Yugestun program has finally achieved a routine and Igyararmiut are making impressive progress.

Uivigmi (In December) the program supported the 5 apprentices and project director on a Kura Kaupapa Maori training abroad in New Zealand. We spent 4 days at Kaitaia School, a K-12 immersion school. When students enroll, many are already fluent in Maori, and all studies are taught in the language. The library is filled with all Maori translated books. Principal Mike Murray inspired us all – apprentices, educators, students – with sharing of their cultural curriculum, community involvement, and the question that is fundamental to the schools' existence: "Why are we doing this?" If we understand the why, we can keep moving forward, despite changing governments and landscapes. Our language and customs can be carried forth by our offspring, even as they participate in the global economy. It just takes a community driven effort and as leaders, we must work to sustain this interest.

We then spent 3 days at Haumoana School with Principal Jane Gallen and the Matahiwi community. As part of the cultural exchange with both schools, we had the opportunity to share Yup'ik songs and dances that we learned through a grant from the Alaska Native Fund. We tried to use Yugestun as much as possible throughout the trip. During the powhiri (Maori welcome ceremony), it is customary for the visiting group to give a speech in their Native language. One of the language apprentices, Piitaaq, stepped up and gave a short speech in Yugestun to represent our group. In newsletter articles to come, you are sure to learn more of the cultural exchange and outstanding hospitality experienced at our homestays.

Upon our return to Igiugig, we welcomed Language Mentor Evelyn Yanez. Originally from Togiak, Evelyn has spent her life as a bilingual teacher and then more recently as a consultant for UAF, interviewing elders and transcribing the Yup'ik for the "Math in a Cultural Context" development.

Iralull'ermi (In January) we started our "community classes" every Monday-Thursday from 12:45-1:15, learning basic conversational Yup'ik and mastering sounds of the Yup'ik alphabet. We began "Unglu" our head-start program for children aged 6 and under for 3 hours per week. These children are our target audience for the whole program, so parents are encouraged to attend so that Yugestun is reinforced in the home, where it matters the most.

All 5 apprentices and myself are enrolled in a UAF course, ANL401, a 5 credit Master/Apprentice program requiring 10 hours per week with an elder mentor. Evelyn has helped to organize our notes from these sessions, and collectively we have 24 typed pages thus far, plus a growing archive of recordings.

Working hardest of all are our 4 elders and Language Mentor – without whom none of this would be possible. Quyana cakneq to Mike and Dallia, Alice, and Annie for welcoming us into their homes and patiently teaching us, with praises and smiles. We treasure this time with you, we aspire to speak as effortlessly and eloquently as you.

Quyana to everyone who has helped welcome Evelyn to our community, our allaneq until May. Let's continue to make the most of our short time together!



Unglu being taught in the classroom



Yugestun immersion class led by Evelyn Yanez

Kanruyauciq

Waqaa. Kituuyet? Qaill' ayuqsit? Qaill' ayuqa ella? Cauqa Unuamek?



Agayuneq	Pekyun	Aipirin	Pingayirin	Cetamirin	Tallimirin	Maqineq
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Groundhog Day Mary Hostetter Anutiiq				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Gregory Name Day Kaligtuq Anutiiq (MLN)	New Iraluq					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Valentine's Day George Wilson Anutiiq	Presidents Day	Simeon & Anna Name Day				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Iraluq Muirtuq				Tess Hostetter Anutiiq	
28	29					
	IVC Time Sheets Due!					

Makuryak

Yup'ik Class

By Kaylee Hill



Kaylee helping Mavrik during Unglu

Evelyn Yanez, a retired Yup'ik language teacher from Togiak, came to live in Igiugig to teach us Yup'ik. She is really nice and patient. She teaches everyone during the week, and on Saturdays she teaches the kids that are six years and under. AlexAnna Salmon, the director of the program, also helps teach the Yup'ik class. She said, "I am impressed with the progress we have made so far and I hope the students are enjoying learning our language as much as we are." Together they have taught us many Yup'ik words, like how to introduce ourselves and how to tell the weather. Many of the people taking the class think that the words are hard to pronounce, which is not surprising because of the different sounds in Yup'ik. Some people also feel nervous when called on. But with a lot of practice we can get really good at speaking Yup'ik. We have played lots of games too. One game we play is where we all line up on one side of the gym. Then Alex says a Yup'ik word and we all have to act it out. If we get it right then we take one step forward. The first person to the other side of the gym wins. It's a blast. We also sing songs and play many other games. So far some people's favorite words are "Ataneq" (boss), "Maruuta" (wolf howling), "talliman" (five), "Quill' ayuqa ella" (What's the weather like?), and "Taqsuqua" (I'm tired). Quyana for reading.

The Murre

By Simeon Zackar



Two dead murrens on the beach
Picture credit: Sherry Nelson

The Murre population is going down rapidly because of starvation that's why they try and come here. Once you get past Glen's there are 100 dead on the beach. The Murrens on the beach died because they had no food on our lake. After the big storm they started coming here for food but they couldn't find any. They found Murrens as far as Fairbanks. The Murrens are

found mostly on the beaches or in creeks. On the beach they look like big white rocks scattered around. They eat pelagic fish a kind of fish in the ocean. They usually live on the coast of Alaska but they have no food. What's going on?

Weird Winter Weather

By Kiara Nelson



No snow above Igiugig. Picture credit: Christina Salmon

The weather in Igiugig has been very unusual. It has been getting warmer and warmer throughout the year. According to Ida Nelson she said that the usual temperature 20 years ago was between 20-35 degrees below zero

and the snowdrifts would be as big as Gabe Gust's house. Now today there is no more snow and ice for kids to go sledding and ice skating due to the warm weather. What's also weird about the weather is that the hibernating animals are coming out earlier than they used to be. Like there was bear tracks on the beach in king salmon. Last of all why we are having a weird winter is that the warm ocean winds from Hawaii which is also called the pineapple express, are traveling to Alaska.

But the question is, what will our winter be like next year? Will it be the biggest winter on record? Or will it be even warmer?

Makuryak

Basketball

By Fewnia Zharoff



Simeon jumping against Alex Nielsen with the Kokhanok Warlords

Our team is made up of the whole High School and our Coach Terek. Alicia was our chaperone to Kokhanok. Hopefully she will be joining us for our Perryville trip. Since we are going to have a seat open. Kaleb and I are the captains. The first scrimmage we had was good, but we have improved because of our Coach. We had a last scrimmage against Igiugig residents, before going to Kokhanok on Saturday the 6th of February. We played against all the LPSD teams. I believe we did well in Kokhanok. We lost only once, to the Perryville, Eagles. We played 8 games out of 28 other games. Our record is 7-1. We observed how the other teams played because we were going to play against them. Our team travels to Perryville on the 29th of this month,



Kaleb shooting a free throw and playing against Chignik Lake & Bay

which means we have about two-weeks to get ready. The captain Kaleb will sadly not be here, he is a big part of our offense and defense. The Coach and team are thinking of ways to adjust to his not being here. It is going to take a lot of work and hustle.

Hawaii/LA

By Tia Hobson



I had a wonderful time in HI, LA with sister and Alicia. While sister, Alicia, and I were in HI for the night and day we went walking all over the place got to see new things. After walking around we went to the beach all day before we left. We liked the beach so much, they took a nap and I was up watching all the people do everything. We didn't want to leave Hawaii. It was fun being there with those two girls. While the three of us were in Los Angeles we got to drive around, we didn't walk around as much it was raining

most of the time there. Got to see the Hollywood Walk of Fame, we went to the Hollywood sign but it was raining so we just went there later. The last few hours we had there we went to a movie and ate dinner, then it was time to come back home. We all miss being in Hawaii and Los Angeles hope to go back there soon.

Makuryak

Kaitaia School

By Dolly Zharoff



At the light house, the northernmost part of New Zealand Photo credit Sandy Alvarez

During our trip to New Zealand we stayed in two beautifully crafted Maraes. The first Marae was located in Kaitaia in the middle of a well-built school; we stayed there three nights. It was such an amazing stay. We were welcomed into the Marae by an elderly woman and then seated with the men in front. We learned about their Marae and of the important objects and art within it.

There was a spokesman who we listened to while he spoke and then every Maori sang beautifully after the speech. Which is the traditional way of welcome. After their speech and singing our group sang our Yupik songs and danced in our colorful kuspeqs, headdresses, dance fans, and drums. We ate some mouthwatering food for dinner and we were gifted with more great Maori singing while everyone ate, relaxed, and talked. Taty, Alicia, Fewnia, Sim, and I went for a walk after dinner. It was so gorgeous out, the sun was shining and there were many green plants and big trees. We walked onto a bridge and met a man who showed us there was eels in

the river and Taty took a picture of him feeding the eels.

When we got back to the school everyone started getting ready for bed. It was a nice sleep. We went to a light-house and then the lagoon that was near the ocean and had lunch there. It was so fun, the lagoon had a river that met the ocean and there were lots of shells and little crabs that the kids liked finding. After everyone had a good swim we journeyed back to the school and made delicious tacos! They were such yummy tacos. We also celebrated Dannika Jewel's seventh birthday!

The following day we went to 90-mile beach. Alicia and I went for a walk and found many great shells. When

we got back to the others we learned about undertow in the ocean because Kaylee and Fewnia were out there swimming and then this man told everyone to get out of the water and then went out and brought Kaylee and Fewnia onto shore. Undertow drags swimmers below the surface with the tide.

After the trip to 90-mile beach we went back to the school and the Marae. Some of us played kick ball on the basketball court and then we were called into a classroom where Mike showed everybody videos of the haka and other dances performed by dance groups. People got ready for bed after that and got ready for leaving to the second school the next day.

A big thank you to Mike Murray from Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Pukemiro. You are the best, Mike!



Doll and Alicia on their walk at 90 mile beach. Photo credit: Dolly Zharoff

Makuryak

Polynesian Reflection...

By Tate Gooden



Arriving in New Zealand photo credit Dolly Zharoff

In this frenetic modern world, reflection time is often rare. By the very nature of an incredible Polynesian trip I find myself thinking back to our journey....the experiences, the people, the landscape, the logistics of 41 people, two of them pregnant, from Igiugig traversing through the New Zealand countryside. The main thing I keep returning to is part of the reality of what makes New Zealand such a special place: People, Place, and Culture as the forefront of existence. This is readily apparent from interactions with New Zealanders and how they inhabit the landscape, their relationships with each other and outsiders, and to the way they operate their schools. There is a real sense of national pride that pervades the entire country and it touches all aspects of their daily lives. This national and cultural pride is also a part of Alaska. However, the authenticity of Kiwis and their actions to promote People, Place, and Culture is a degree greater than that of the Last Frontier.

Kiwis have this bond to their geography and culture that I have not experienced before. It is a very rich existence. It pervades their learning and behavior. It is this deep connection with their place that creates individuals, families, and communities that you would be glad to know. I realize I may be a bit of a romantic, but when one looks at what's available in many U.S.

communities, particularly outside of Alaska, you realize NZ takes stock in families, communities, and place, while the U.S. is as a whole a lot more insular and disconnected to geography and culture.

NZ education is planned and implemented by and from the school and community for the most part. This is in stark contrast to the U.S. top down approach where education mandates abound from State and Federal agencies. The U.S. education system leaves a trail for parasitic trophic like organisms whose sole existence is to make money off a contrived system, selling rescue remedies and just the right mix for you to increase test scores. Are the Kiwis worried about test scores? I don't get the sense that the Kiwis are worried much. They're busy investing time and energy into People, Place and Culture.

I could write a book about Mike Murray and his easy confidence backed up by a deep respect of his Maori roots and his place in the universe. If you like character development in literature, this is your national bestseller. The Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Pukemiro school and community are fortunate to have him. We have a new slogan in our classroom, "Be like Mike". Mike if you ever venture to the northlands of Alaska, plan on staying a while, for once you get here the folks of Igiugig will not let you get away. Sweat as and Heaps as, brother!

A big roaring Yawp to Jane Gallen, Layton Lowe, and the community members of Haumoana School and marae. We are forever in your debt. Taking care of us as if we were family, feeding us via traditional hangi, taking us on an incredible and tempestuous tractor trailer trip to visit a gannet colony...all during your Holiday! Please let us know when you will be arriving in Igiugig. We miss you guys already.

One last note to all the folks who supported the NZ trip.... Our No-See-um village only has so many pockets. This trip was made possible by the donations from compassionate folks who know the value of travel and authentic education. We are forever grateful to you.

Makuryak

What I learned in New Zealand

By Taty Zackar

I think New Zealand was an excellent place for a cultural exchange. They're so advanced in their culture compared to our village. The Māori people teach their kids the native language first before they teach English and they talk in Māori at home too.

Their curriculum and teaching was way different than ours. They still have to go through their government with everything but it's more open than ours. They found ways to combine their culture and schooling. I think it's awesome. All of the communities support them fully and would do anything to keep the schools open. When one of the schools first got started some of the community members came in and taught for free until they got funding to pay the teachers.

The landscape was so different compared to Igiugig. There were lots of hills and grass. Their trees were really different than ours. There was one place where I thought there were spruce trees but they had really long needles and they were drooping, they were called wilding pines. Wilding pines are not native to New Zealand.

The New Zealand trip was amazing. We learned so many new things. I don't think that I would have thought of a better place to experience a new culture. If I had the chance I would definitely go again. Thank you to all who made this trip possible

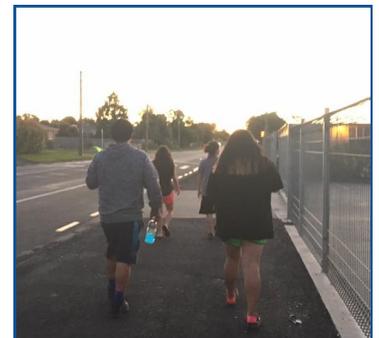


Igiugig Dance group at Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Pukemiro dancing at sunset in Kaitaia School.

Photo Credit: Sandy Alvarez



To the right: Taty, Simeon, Fewnia, and Dolly going for a walk in Auckland.
To the left: A picture of our people movers we rented in New Zealand leaving Auckland heading for Kaitaia School



New Zealand Snaps

90 Mile Beach, New Zealand



Our group in New Zealand after an 18 hour flight time



Betsy at the airport in New Zealand



Tanya, Dolly and Avery in Rotorua



Christina, Jeff, Danni, Keilan, Aiden (taking the picture) at Hell's Gate



Ida, Taty, Sim, Kiara and Shea walking around in Auckland



Karl, Stacy, BJ, Kaylee and Kaleb at pancake rocks South Island



Sheryl and Sherry in New Zealand



Pancake rocks, South Island New Zealand



Sandy, Randy and Jon at Hobbiton



Keisha, Vera and Shea playing outside



Mike, Dallia, Alice, George, Yako, and Jer during Russian Christmas



Mike during Master/Apprentice time



Natalia and David enjoying New Year's dinner



Annie Celebrating her birthday



Christina with Wyatt in Newhalen

Announcements

Clinic News

The Igiugig Emergency On-Call # is:

907-533-1206.

If you have an emergency you can call the Nilavena Emergency On-Call PA phone at **907-444-4588** for the

Physicians Assistant on duty. Christina Price our intenerate health aide will be returning March 1st.

Igiugig General Store
Hours: Monday to Saturday
3:00 PM to 5 PM *

*Newly relocated to the white house near the Zackar's house-call 907-533-3069 to open or for questions

REMEMBER In Igiugig We:

- ⇒ Keep your Dogs Tied up or on a Leash.
- ⇒ Turn Off Lights when leaving a public building.
- ⇒ Recycle: #1 to #7 plastics, aluminum cans, glass, tin cans. We also separate batteries and e-waste.
- ⇒ Do Not Park in front of the hangar or the white trash trailer.
- ⇒ Do Not Litter, we confront those that do, and we pick up trash that we see.
- ⇒ We Compost! Bring it to the greenhouse, please no dairy or meat products.
- ⇒ Contribute to the Newsletter! Send photos, news, important events to Ida: nelsonida2901@gmail.com
- ⇒ Love Our Village! Join Igiugig Village Info Zone on Facebook if you haven't already.

Winter Library Hours

Monday– Friday:

3:00pm to 5:00pm

Saturday:

12:00pm to 2:00pm

The village council is accepting donations for the Dan Salmon Memorial Fund, if you'd like to donate you can find the form online at <http://www.igiugig.com/forms-publications>

Important Dates:

High School basketball to Perryville February 29th to March 3rd

Kokhanok Carnival March 11th to the 13th

Quyana! To everyone that donates and supports our school! Without your support none of our activities, trip, and supplies would be possible. Thank you again for your continued support and love for our students. *Success doesn't happen over night. It*

happens day by day with forward progress both large and small.

~ unknown

Igiugig Village Council

IVC Board and Main Staff

AlexAnna Salmon, President
Randy Alvarez, Vice-President
Kevin Olympic, Member
Christina Salmon, Member
Karl Hill, Member
Joel Jacko, Administrator
Sandy Alvarez, Director of Accounting & Finance
Tanya Salmon, Social Services Director & Librarian
Stacy Hill, IGAP Director
Ida Nelson, Tribal Clerk & Newsletter Editor
Renee Grounds, Grant Administrator
Jiles Pourier, Tribal Clerk
Loretta Peterson, Tribal Clerk
Sheryl Wassillie, Tribal Clerk

Visit us on the web & like us on Facebook
www.igiugig.com



PO Box 4008
Igiugig, AK 99613

First Class Mail

Front Page Photo Credit: Haumoana School, New Zealand, Picture of the Igiugig Group in New Zealand
Back Page Photo Credit: Kaylee Hill, picture of the sunset in Igiugig

Igiugig Tribal Village Council Newsletter