

Tales of Maggie the cockatoo



JUNE 2017

KIA ORA LILIA

FROM DAY 1 I HAVE NOTICED THAT YOU MY FRIEND HAVE A REAL AFFINITY FOR ALL OF PAPATUANUKUS CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL. YOU LOVE TO HOLD OUR GUINEA PIGS. ESPECIALLY MAKIMAKI. I HAVE A PHOTO OF YOU AND CHARLIE GRINNING FROM EAR TO EAR HOLDING THE GUINEA PIGS WHEN YOU FIRST STARTED WITH US. YOU CAN OFTEN BE FOUND ROLE PLAYING THE ROLE OF A PUPPY OR A KITTY WITH YOUR FRIENDS. YOU OFTEN COME IN TALKING ABOUT YOUR PUP ROCKY AND YOUR CHICKENS THAT NOW LIVE AT AUSTINS HOUSE

I TALKED TO YOUR MUM AND IT BECAME PRETTY APPARENT THAT YOUR AFFINITY WITH ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL BEGAN AT AN EARLY AGE AND IN FACT WAS THE MOTIVATION BEHIND YOU BEGINNING TO CRAWL. AS YOU WERE DETERMINED TO GET TO A DOG!! ALL OF THIS MADE ME PONDER ABOUT YOUR MOIHIOTANGA AND YOUR ANCESTORS AND WHO THIS PASSION MAY HAVE COME FROM?

I POSED THIS QUESTION TO YOUR FAMILY ON STORY PARK AND LEARNT THAT THE ANIMAL LOVER IN YOU RUNS DEEP AND STEMS BACK GENERATIONS. YOUR GRANNY TOLD ME THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF FARMERS IN HER FAMILY TREE AND THAT SHE HERSELF HAD A MEANINGFUL CONNECTION WITH ANIMALS AND PASSED THAT DOWN TO HER DAUGHTERS YOUR MUMMY AND YOUR AUNTY KATHERINE. I ALSO LEARNT THAT YOUR GREAT GREAT GRANDFATHER PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE AS A HORSEMAN WITH THE ROYAL DRAGOON GUARDS AND HE PASSED THIS ONTO YOUR GRANDAD AND OF COURSE YOUR DAD HAS A HUGE LOVE OF DOGS AND ALWAYS HAD ANIMALS GROWING UP. ALL OF THIS REALLY HELPS ME GAIN A DEEPER SENSE OF WHO YOU ARE AND WHERE YOU HAVE COME FROM.

I HAVE RECENTLY LEARNT THAT YOU AND GRANNY HAVE A WEEKLY RITUAL OF DROPPING INTO THE ANIMAL SHACK WITH NEWSPAPER FOR THE PETS. GRANNY TELLS ME THAT YOU ENJOY SEEING ALL OF THE ANIMALS BUT YOUR FAVOURITE IS MAGGIE THE COCKATOO. YOU LOVE TO TALK TO MAGGIE AND GIVE HER A SCRATCH. YOU ARE NOW VERY CAUTIOUS WITH MAGGIE AND BRING A CHOPSTICK TO SCRATCH HER WITH.

TODAY YOU CAME INTO KINDERGARTEN BEARING SOME PRETTY YELLOW FEATHERS. I ASKED YOU WHERE YOU GOT THESE FROM. "FROM MAGGIE KIM" YOU REPLIED. "WHO'S MAGGIE?" I ASKED. "SHE'S A BIRD" YOU TOLD ME. GRANNY EXPLAINED TO ME THAT MAGGIE IS A COCKATOO WHO LOOKS LIVES AT THE ANIMAL SNACK. DO YOU KNOW THAT WHEN I LIVED IN AUSTRALIA WE HAD MANY WILD COCKATOOS, COCKATIELS, GALLAHS AND LORIKEETS WHICH LIVED ALL AROUND US. AND THOSE CHEEKY LORIKEETS USED TO HANG DOWN OFF THE TREES AND SCREECH AT ME. MAYBE I CAN SHOW YOU SOME PHOTOS OF THE WILD LIFE IN AUSTRALIA?



I'm showing my feathers to Kaylee. From the pet shop. It was called Maggie, she was a bird. A awful bird. I like visiting Maggie at the pet shop with Granny. I always look at the animals and the doggies. I look at the little tiny bird. But cuddles has died. He was at the pet shop yesterday and now he's gone... He's in fish land. In a new home"

Lilia you were a bit upset today when Grannie left and clutched your feathers tightly as you cuddled me. I suggested that you show your teachers your feathers, you skipped off and showed Kaylee and Keely proudly telling them all about Maggie. This shows me that your confidence at Kindergarten has grown volumes as you are talking lots and lots more to your teachers and friends.

Lilia you are such a sweet natured girl with a huge heart and a passion for papatuanukus creatures. Spending time with animals helps to develop your empathy and take responsibility for caring for a living thing...

I hope to increase your experiences with animals by hopefully having some calf club animals come to visit and by taking you and your friends to the Waiau Pa School Calf Club.

Arohanui,

Kim Callis

