



Thank you so very much for your grant of \$4000 to enable us to purchase items to assist in delivering our 'One of the family' programme. We purchased Rollup Banners, a laptop computer and a data projector with this grant. Enclosed is some media e feedback on the programme for your information. Kind regards Madeleine Sparks.



## Norm shows where animal cruelty can lead

By Cameron Leslie | 30th June 2011

On the rugby field, he was a hard man but when it comes to getting tough messages across to children, ex-All Black Norm Hewitt has an approach that has youngsters hanging off his every word.

Hewitt delivered his powerful message at Whangarei Intermediate yesterday as part of the "One of the Family" programme, in conjunction with the SPCA.

The pupils were enthralled as he told them of the link between cruelty to animals and domestic violence. The *Dancing with the Stars* winner told the kids about domestic violence in his youth.

"Domestic violence wasn't something that happened every day but when it did, it was ugly.

"I remember times when mum would get up in the morning and I wouldn't recognise who this lady was," Hewitt said.

Studies showed that youth who abused animals often went on to commit crimes against humans. Hewitt said violence was not normal, it was unacceptable, and he had chosen to break the cycle. Animals had helped in that.

"I think it's hugely important what animals give human beings. They bring families together. The SPCA is the vehicle that allows us to talk about quite a tapu topic."

SPCA national educational co-ordinator Shelley Ryan said the changes as a result of the programme were amazing.

"It's almost like you can see this light going on in their heads as they get the message and realise they have the power to choose what kind of person they want to be in the future," Ms Ryan said.



**BREAKING THE CYCLE:** Norm Hewitt delivered a powerful message about the link between animal cruelty and domestic violence when he visited Whangarei Intermediate School yesterday. Photo / Michael Cunningham

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Animals have feelings like humans

It's an awesome feeling to know I'm making a difference helping one helps others - Norm Hewitt

I am teaming up with the SPCA to make a stand against animal cruelty - Norm Hewitt



Learning compassion through understanding helping one helps others! - Norm Hewitt

If you love animals they will love you back

SPCA  
Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals

I learnt that your pet is like an animal is like you

I learnt that animals should be respected like humans.

Created by: Celine Russenberger, Kayleigh Ryan, KC, Allison