

## Level 3 Non-fiction – Making Radio Waves

The students at Lyall Bay School in Wellington are making waves – radio waves. Their school’s radio station, MaranuiFM, broadcasts twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Whether it’s music, news, weather reports, or interviews ... there’s always something to listen to.

Year 5 and 6 students at Lyall Bay School have been running MaranuiFM since 2008. This involves all kinds of *challenging* tasks. The students write **business plans**, sell advertising, and make deals with sponsors. They plan and research the daily shows, and finally, they host these shows. It’s radio, and it’s live. Anything can happen – which is why the students say they love it!

Today, Elisabeth and Ollie are buddies for the Rita Angus hour. This is a show sponsored by a local retirement village and aimed at the people who live there. The students sit together in the radio station, a room that contains most of the broadcasting equipment. There are computers, microphones, a **mixer**, and a transmitter. On the wall, there’s a big clock and various lists that remind the students of things like the station’s website address and social media URLs. It’s easy to forget things when you’re under pressure.

Written by Iona McNaughton, featured in School Journal, October 2015