

Noqu Vosa Me'u Bula Taka

FIJIAN LANGUAGE WEEK

Education Resource 2016



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Acknowledgements

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Wellington Fijian Language Week Komiti 2016

Fiji Community Association of Auckland

National Fijian Language Week Komiti

Te Papa Tongarewa

Our theme in 2016 is about valuing and living our culture and language. Since the inaugural Fiji Language Week in 2013, the focus were 'treasures' of the Fijian culture which resonates in our children, youth, our artefacts and community. This year we will promote initiatives supported by NGO, community and Government in learning, speaking and living the Fijian language in Aotearoa, New Zealand.

History of Fijian Language Week

The inaugural Fijian language week was launched in Aotearoa, New Zealand in 2013. This initiative is part of the Fiji Community

In 2008/09, the Ministry engaged with a number of smaller ethnic Pacific communities by focussing on enhancing community development and identifying their priority needs for action. This engagement was formerly known as 'community compacts'. The purpose of this project was to mobilise and support pacific communities, develop partnerships for action, and enhance the Ministry's capacity to interact with smaller pacific groups. Fijian Language Week developed from the Community Action plan in partnership with the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, and the Fiji Community Association of Auckland, Wellington Fiji Community, and later Canterbury community.

Vosa Vakaviti (Fijian language) has five vaueli (vowels):

a, e, i, o, u

Vowels are mostly pronounced as they would be if there were spoken in Spanish, Italian and German:

A as in "ah" as in father

E as in error

I as in me or sit

O as in for or toll

U as in "oo" in food or too.

Pronouncing Consonants:

Most of the consonants are pronounced the same as they are in English, except for the letters b,c,d,g and q.

B – "mb" as in lumbar. Bula is pronounced "Mbu-la"

C – "th" as in father. "Yacata" is pronounced "Ya-tha-ta"

D – "nd" as in Sunday. Nadi is pronounced "Na-ndi"

G – "ng" as in finger. Gauna (time) is pronounced "Nga-una"

Q – "nq" as in finger. Qaravi (to serve) is pronounced "Nqa-ra-vi"

Note letters like k, p and t, are generally pronounced the same as they are in English, except there is not the sound of a slight breath that usually follows, so "t" would sound like "ch" when it is behind the letter "i." Also, "j" is pronounced like the "ch" as in touch and "v" is pronounced with a short "ve" sound, like in vein.

Stress:

In most cases, unless with long vowels, the stress tends to be on the NEXT to last syllable.

Examples: Ka u ta – bring, vi naka – thank you, good.

For long vowels, stress is applied wherever it appears.

Examples: Ki-la, know, macawa – sky, week

Word Order

Unlike an English sentence, which goes from noun to verb to object, for Fijian, a verb phrase followed by a noun phrase is normal. In simple terms and for basic learners, it is useful to keep this difference in mind with the examples below.

Fijian: Sa lako (verb) ki Suva (object) ko Jone (noun).

English: John (noun) is going (verb) to Suva (object).

¹ This section is taken from the Fijian Customs and Culture – A Brief Guide & Handbook – by Sai Lealea. www.fijiancustomsculture.com



Learn it!

Vosa Vakaviti | Phrases and Words

Ni sa bula vinaka	Greetings to you
Bula	Hello
Drau bula	Greetings to you two - dual
Dou bula	Greetings to three or more people - plural Greetings to the meeting
Ni sa bula vinaka	Greetings to vistors/guests
Sa vakacava tiko?	How are you?
Au bulabula vinaka tiko	I am well
Vinaka vakalevu	Thank you very much/very good
Moce	Goodbye (to someone who is going)
Moce	Goodnight
Au lako mada yani	Excuse me (to get past)
O lako ivei?	Where are you going?
Curu mai	Come in
Au lako tiko i...	I am going to the...
Io/Sa donu	Yes/OK
Sega	No

Vinaka	Good
De dua beka	Perhaps/Maybe
Rogoca/vakarorogo	Listen
Rogoci au	Listen to me
Encouraging words	
Totoka, wananavu	Awesome
Vinaka saraga	That's great Well done You are great
O rawa ni cakava	You can do it/cease the day!
Tovolea mada	Give it a go
Au na veivuke	I will help
Tovolea tale	Try again
Keitou rawa ni cakava	We can do it!
Au rawa ni cakava	I can do it
Vosa mai vei au	Speak to me
Totoka	Great

Live it!

Matavuvale | Family

Na, Nana, Nene, Nau, Qei Mum/Mother

Ta, Tata, Vava, Momo Dad/Father

Bu, Bubu, Buqu, Pu, Tai, Nau Grandmother

Tukai, Tutu, Tua, Tai Grandfather

Taciqu Younger brother or sister

Tuakaqu Older brother or sister

Marama Woman (singular)

Yalewa Girl

Turaga Man

Tagane Boy

Luvequ tagane Son

Ganequ Brother/sister

Vugoqu Nephew

Makubuqu Grandchild

Workplace |

Dabedabe Chair

Teveli Table

Vanua ni cakacaka Workplace

Cakacaka Work

Bose Meeting

Liuliu, Boso Boss

Manidla Manager

Vunivola Secretary

Vale ni volavola Office

Wai katakata Hot

Introductions - question and response |

O cei na yacamu?	What is your name?
Na yacaqu ko	My name is...
Na tinaqu ko...	My mother is...
Na tamaqu ko...	My father is...
E lako mai vei na nomu matavuvale?	Where is your family from?
Keitou lako mai...	We come from...
Na cava na yacamudou vaka matavuvale?	What is your family name?
Na yacai keitou vaka matavuvale na...	Our family name is...

Speak it!

Na Domo | Viti e Aotearoa (Fijian Language Radio Programme)

For all news, views and music from and for the Fijian community – tune in to Na Domo i Viti e Aotearoa every Saturday from 6:00pm–12:00am.



Wellington Access Radio 783am — Na Gauna Ni Tiko Bulabula

A health focused Programme for the Fijian community in Wellington.

Tune in every Sunday 8-10pm.

Na Gauna Ni Tiko Bulabula means health and wellbeing on air!

The Programme also includes general community announcements for the local Fijian community.

Presented by Save Daugunu and sponsored by the Capital and Coast District Health Board.

Wiliwili | Numbers

Dua	1
Rua	2
Tolu	3
Va	4
Lima	5
Ono	6
Vitu	7
Walu	8
Ciwa	9
Tini	10

Roka | Colours

Damudamu	Red
Karakarawa	Blue
Drokadroka	Green
Dromodromo	Yellow
Loaloa	Black
Vulavula	White
Lokaloka	Purple
Piqi	Pink
Senikavika	Maroon
Seninawanawa	Orange
Qele/Masikuvui	Brown
Dravu	Grey

Tikini Siga | Days of the week

Moniti	Monday
Tusiti	Tuesday
Vukelulu	Wednesday
Lotulevu	Thursday
Vakaraubuka	Friday
Vakarauwai	Saturday
Siga Tabu	Sunday



[Fijian Translation] | Days of the week

Janueri – Vula I nuqa levu January

Veverueri – Vula I sevu February

Maji – Vula i kelikeli March

Epereli – Vula i gasau April

Me – Vula i doi May

Jiune – Vula i werewere June

Jiulai – Vula i cukicuki July

Okosita – Vula i cukicuki August

Seviteba – Vula i vavakada September

Okotova – Vula i balolo lailai October

Noveba – Vula i balolo levu November

Tiseba – Vula i nuqa lailai December

[Fijian Translation] | Opposites

Katakata (hot) Batabata (cold)

Siga (day) Bogi (night)

Mamaca (dry) Suasua (wet)

Savasava (clean) Duka (dirty)

Levu (big) Lailai (small)

Balavu (long, tall) Lekaleka (short)

Makawa (old) Vou (new)

Dredre (hard) Rawarawa (easy)

Totolo (fast) Berabera (slow)

Voleka (near) Yawa (far)

Liu (front, ahead) Muri (back, behind)

Marau (happy) Rarawa (sad)

Sinai (full) Lala (empty)

Kaukauwa (hard) Malumu (soft)

Kamica (sweet) Wiwi, tutuwina (sour, bitter)

Verbs – Action words

Kaila	Shout
Dredre	Laugh
Qito	Play
Vuli	Learn
Raica	See
Rogoca	Hear
Tovolea	Taste, try
Tara	Touch/Build
Domona	Love
Solia	Give
Kauta	Take, bring
Dre	Pull
Biliga	Push
Toboka	Catch
Caqe	Kick
Taubale	Walk
Danisi	Dance
Yaloyalo	Wave

Regu	Kiss
Vosa	Speak, talk
Tagi	Cry
Vuni	Hide
Wasea	Share
Laga sere	Sing
Masu	Pray
Veisiko	Visit
Meimei	Babysit
Keve, roqo	Carry
Vakasaqa	Cook
Sili	Shower, bath
Savasava	Wash
Sasamaki	Tidy up
Masimasi	Wash dishes
Lobilobi	Fold
Boroboro	Paint
Teitei	Plant

Siwa, qoli	Fish
Lade	Jump
Vuka	Fly
Qasi	Crawl



At School

Qasenivuli Teacher

Koronivuli School

Vuli Learn

Varorogo Listen

Wili vola Read

Droini Draw

Soqoni Add

Lave liga Raise hand

Galu Quiet

Kalu Whistle

Taro Ask

Tovolea, sasaga Try

Veitauriliga Hold hands

Vakarokoroko Show respect

Vakamuria Follow

Donu Right

Cala Wrong

Sau Clap

Gonevuli Student

Kalasi Class

Kila Know

Vaka i tavi Take part

Volavola Write

Vakasama Think

Vakanananu Idea

Nanuma Remember

Laga sere Sing

Dredre Laugh

Saumi taro Answer, reply to question

Dabe Sit

Tucake Stand

Veivuke Help, helpful

Vei liutaki Lead

Liuliu Leader

Sota Meet



Activity ideas for Fijian Language Week 2016

There are lots of ways to celebrate and participate in Fijian language week in 2016!
Check out some activity ideas below:

Speak Vosa Vakaviti everyday

Embrace Vosa Vakaviti by finding ways to use it everyday.

Explore Fijian Myths and Legends

Fijian Bole & Cibi

Talanoa (discuss) Fijian Leaders and Chiefs

Being Fijian in Aotearoa New Zealand

Discuss how you feel being Fijian in Aotearoa New Zealand. Is this the same or different to that of being Fijian in Fiji. Has being Fijian in Aotearoa New Zealand changed for you over time? What helps you to maintain or grow your Fijian identity in this country?

Many ways to be Fijian

Talk about Fijians who have made Aotearoa New Zealand home and are thriving in their respective fields.

Cultural exchange

Have a cultural exchange day, where you can share about your Fijian culture (e.g. food, dance, dress, music) with people from different cultural backgrounds.

Maintaining your own Vosa Vakaviti

In order for your home language to thrive, you need to be using it regularly and with purpose. In what ways do you think you can personally sustain your Fijian language in Aotearoa New Zealand?

You might listen to/sing Fijian songs or listen to Fijian language radio, read the Fijian bible, or speak with other Fijian Language speakers.

Draw pictures and make a wall display containing all your ideas.

Stories and songs

There are lots of great Vosa Vakaviti and bilingual language resources out there to support your Fijian Language Week activities. Here is just a small selection that we feel have strong ties to our theme for 2016.

ISA LEI SONG

Isa Isa vulagi lasa dina
Nomu lako au na rarawa kina
Cava beka ko a mai cakava,
Nomu lako au na sega ni lasa.

Chorus:

Isa Lei, na noqu rarawa,
Ni ko sa na vodo ena mataka
Bau nanuma, na nodatou lasa,
Mai Suva nanuma tiko ga.

Vanua rogo na nomuni vanua,
Kena ca ni levu tu na ua,
Lomaqu voli me'u bau butuka
Tovolea ke balavu na bula.

(Chorus)

Domoni dina na nomu yanuyanu,
Kena kau wale na salusalu,
Mocelolo, bua, na kukuwalu,
Lagakali, maba na rosi damu.

(Chorus)

Vosa Vakaviti champions - Our nation-wide initiative

Everyday efforts and environments nurture, and invest in, the development of Vosa Vakaviti language. That means there are many people, across our communities, who are our champions of Vosa Vakaviti- whether children, young people, adults and elders, our role models or celebrities.

This Fijian Language Week, the Ministry of Pacific People (MPP) want you to acknowledge these important people, and share the messages they have regarding Fijian Language Week/Vosa Vakaviti.

How do I get involved?

Step 1: Put forward a person from your community who you think should be recognised in 2016. Discuss why you believe this person is a Vosa Vakaviti champion.

Step 2: Utilise the certificate templates on pages 27 and 28 (or create your own version that better reflects you, or your centre, school or organisation). Make sure to write or draw the reasons why you have selected your champion on the certificate.

Step 3: Present your certificate to your champion, telling them why they are your Vosa Vakaviti champion in 2016.

If your champion can't receive their certificate in person, you could post it (via mail or email) along with a letter or drawing outlining your reasons.

Step 4: With your champion's permission, post the picture of them on social media (Facebook, Instagram or Twitter), along with a short explanation. Make sure to include the hashtag #VosaVakavitchampions.

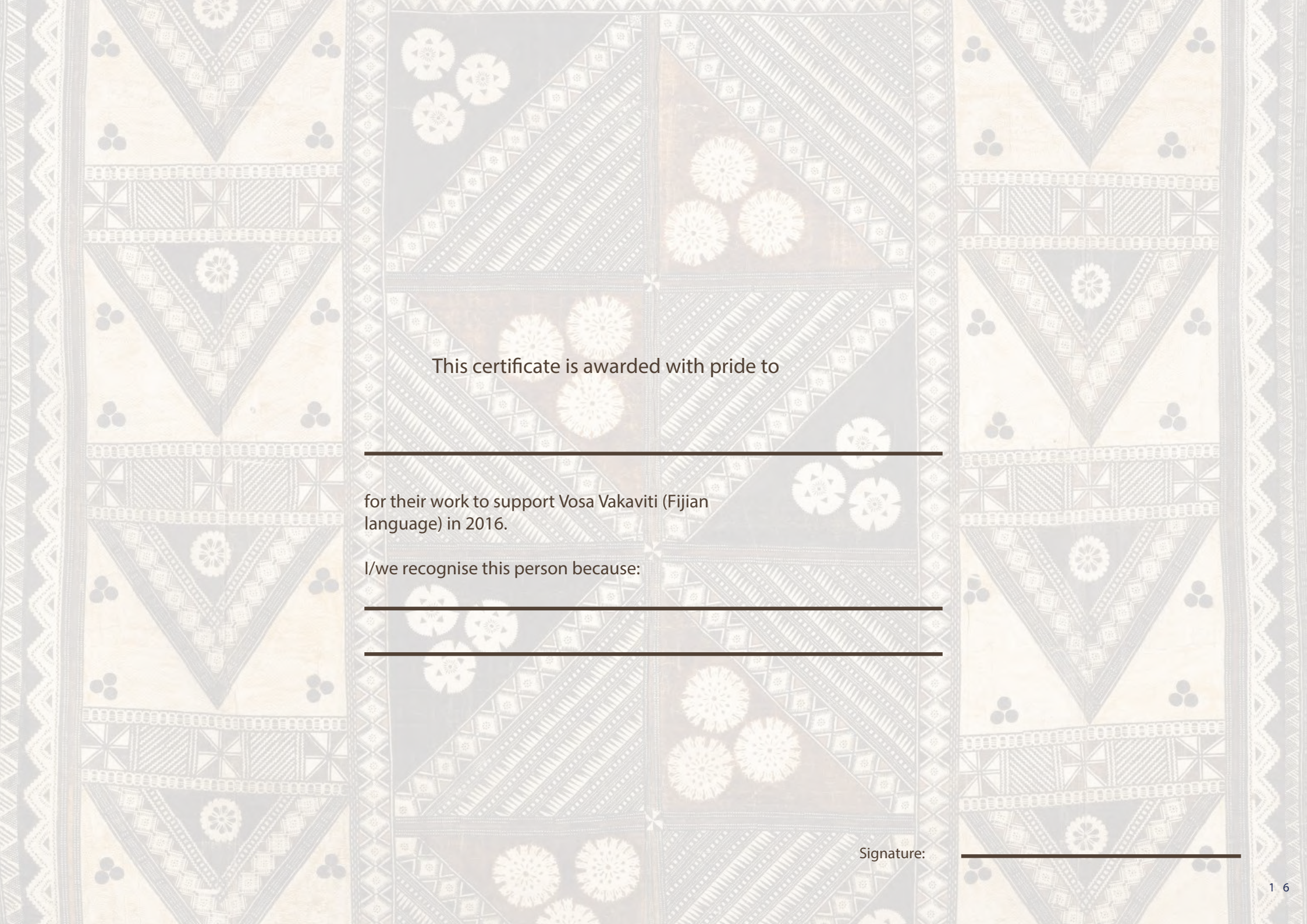
For example:

Jone Viti is our Vosa Vakaviti champion. He is a grandfather of 8 and teaches Vosa Vakaviti to the children in his family. He encourages parents and grandparents to find time to teach their children Vosa Vakaviti, and have fun doing it.

#VosaVakavitiChampions

Step 5: Use the hashtag to search out other Vosa Vakaviti champions, recognised by people all around Aotearoa New Zealand!

Make sure to check out champions featured on the MPP Facebook page throughout Language Week too.



This certificate is awarded with pride to

for their work to support Vosa Vakaviti (Fijian language) in 2016.

I/we recognise this person because:

Signature: _____



Certificate of Recognition

This certificate is awarded with pride to

for their work to support Vosa Vakaviti (Fijian language) in 2016.

I/we recognise this person because:

Signature: _____