



Hello from the Board of Trustees and welcome back to term three, the year is certainly flying by!

### **ROLL GROWTH AND CLASSROOMS**

As we are all aware our school is growing and we are getting many questions about what we are doing about it and how we are going to manage, so we wanted to give you all an update on some of the queries we have had

- ***What is the plan for the new classroom?***

We want to assure you all that we are working on this as fast and hard as possible. We have very regular contact with the ministry and the teams required are in progress with site selection, build vs. prefab, funding etc.

At this time we are unable to give a timeline as we don't have one to give but we will keep everyone in the loop as much as we can when we get the information.

- ***What are doing now?***

- We have freed up the library and created a teaching space to alleviate immediate pressure putting Tui (Y2-3) in there and
- We have created Keruru (Yr1) to reduce pressure in our reception class
- We have given our long term Tennant in school house notice and she will be leaving us in September
- In September when we have access again to that space we will be evaluating it and moving our library there (to the lounge spaces) to enable the whole school to again have access to our library facilities. We will be making this a nice space with reading spots, bean bags etc.
- Eventually we envisage redeveloping the house space to a better format to house other spaces for us but this comes with a cost and needs to be well planned
- We are looking at all spaces in the school and looking at getting the best flow and use of space that will fit with our learning needs in the future

- ***Will we need 2 classrooms?***

Maybe yes...this is discussion that is being held currently and we have asked the ministry to re-project our numbers moving forward as we have hit previously projected targets for the future (estimates from 2 years ago) already.

- ***The school needs to be zoned its growing too fast...***

We are hearing this comment quite a bit and are mindful that with a growing roll comes change and complexity but this can also be a trade off with more resource and development depending on how you consider each issue. Our community is growing and the board are very mindful of the size and keeping the small country nature of the school at our heart. We have engaged at our last meeting with the ministry regarding zoning, and if it is a requirement from their perspective or a desire from ours. Much of the discussion comes from site size and resource and if the community is growing versus the school attracting from outside what would be perceived as our zone (please note actual zone is yet to be determined).

The general feeling from the Ministry is that the school will need to be zoned in the future and we will be discussing this further as to next steps.

- ***We need assemblies...***

We hear you and are working on coming up with some format to conduct these. The logistics of 120 kids and moving them off site for a weekly assembly with the required supervision ratios is a challenge and eats into time available. Please celebrate with your children, the principal's awards that are still given in House Assemblies every 2 weeks.



### **E-TAP SCHOOL WEBSITE AND APP**

The new website and app are up and running and we encourage you all to try it out. Debbie has put in some hard yards in getting our electronic interfaces better for our community and in a more professional and secure electronic environment. If you need a hand with this let Deb or Jan know and they will help you!

### **POLICY REVIEWS**

This is the boring stuff but it keeps us safe and on track. We (Board, Teachers and Parents) review policy every month and use a system called School Docs. When these are listed in a newsletter we encourage you to look at them and to use the feedback function within them to let us know if there is something that doesn't fit for us a school or community. It's a good way of knowing what governs how the school functions.

This term we are looking at Complaints and Behaviour Management Policies, follow the link to see what you think.

<http://kaiparaflats.schooldocs.co.nz/>

### **CHROME BOOKS**

Many of you will be aware we have put in Chrome Books in Kea with great success. The kids made us a video and they love them! We are looking toward increasing the volume of these so we can match the work with curriculum requirements across more classes...watch this space!

### **WORKING BEE**

Thank you to those who turned up to help keep our school looking super, your support is greatly appreciated and is a productive way of bringing us together as a community. Our caretaker Odette has done a great job adding gardens and colour and has many more plans to help bring the grounds alive and support the teachers to bring learning outdoors.

### **BUSES**

Please see attached information regarding the bus network

### **SHOW DAY**

Show day is coming November 3rd!

The PTA is hard at work organising show day. The organising of show day is a huge undertaking and our key fundraiser for the year and we appreciate all they do to support our school

- Please feel free to contact the PTA to offer help, this is a community event
- The PTA will soon begin sending information, please read it and support them where able every small bit helps!
- While it was with great regret we had to make the call to exclude calves this year after taking professional advice due to the M.Bovis outbreak, we will relook at this again for show day next year as our school has a long history with calves at show day and as a country school we don't want to lose this activity.
- A reminder that all lambs for show day need to be born on or after August 1<sup>st</sup>



## **BOARD MATTERS**

Please feel free to contact any member of the board. We are trying to keep on top of all issues that face us in this exciting time of growth change and development but we are human and may miss things from time to time.

We appreciate questions and commentary, for us it means we have engagement and transparency. From our side we endeavour to keep you in the loop as much as we can but encourage you to read the board minutes which are available on the school website.

If you have ideas and time we would like to remind you that board elections are again happening in 2019 and we will need some replacement members. If you want to know more we are all happy to help fill you in on what we do and we encourage you to consider it as an option.

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