



West Park School

Te Kura O Papa Hauāuru

Every student matters, every moment counts.

Broderick Road, Johnsonville, Wellington 6037, Phone (04) 478 7074, Fax (04) 478 7593

22 November 2019

Kia ora West Park School Community,

We're rapidly heading towards the end of the year, so I wanted to provide you with an update on what the Board have been working on.

Community Consultation

Thank you so much to those of you that completed the Community Consultation survey at the start of this term. We had a great response, with the winning class being room 11! The parents and kids in room 11 enjoyed their prize of a pizza lunch this week.

The feedback you gave through the survey, told us that the top priorities you would like the Board to focus on are student wellbeing, staff wellbeing, student achievement and student engagement. The Board, along with several members of staff, attended a strategy planning day last weekend, where we reviewed the school's current strategic priorities. The aim of the review was to ensure that the community, staff and Board priorities are all reflected within the school's strategic plan. As a result of this review, the current strategic plan, or 'Charter' as it is referred to by the Ministry, will be updated over the coming months.

The survey feedback also indicated that a large portion of the school community are not aware of the school's plan for the future. The Board will be running a session in term 1 next year to discuss the school's strategic plan with the community, to ensure everyone has the opportunity to understand what the school's plans are over the coming 1-3 years.

Two additional questions that were asked in this year's survey were whether the community wanted the Board to consider introducing a uniform and/or a 'bring your own device' policy for years 4-6. The Board are reviewing the responses to these questions at the next Board meeting and will decide on whether either of these initiatives will be progressed.

Property News

It is likely that you will now all know that rooms 7 and 8 have been vacated so that the work can start for the removal of the wall between these classrooms. Starting the work now means that it will be completed by the beginning of term 1. It was very important for us to ensure we could start the school year with this work completed, as in term 1 we will be beginning the work on rooms 3 to 6.

We realise that moving the year 5's and 6's in together for the rest of this term is not ideal. However, given that there is camp for one of the weeks, we felt this would be the best time to complete this project. We really appreciate the positive attitude the senior teachers have taken to moving and to ensuring that the kids enjoy their next few weeks together (the last weeks at Primary for the year 6's!).

You will have also noticed the lack of progress on the library front! This is very frustrating for us all, as we are as keen as all of you to have a library up and running at the school again. Unfortunately, the Council has made life quite difficult for us, requiring ground testing to be completed before we can get consent for the container to be placed at the school. We are doing all that we can to try to ensure that the container arrives and is all fitted out for the beginning of term 1 next year. Fingers crossed for no more delays in this process!



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Staff Updates

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our Deputy Principal, Erica Leggett, at the end of this year. Erica has been an integral part of the school's management team and we will miss her thoughtful approach, smiling face, positive outlook and her kind and generous nature. We wish Erica all the best for her new role at Trentham Primary School.

We also say goodbye and good luck to Tania Bailey at the end of the term, as she heads to another school closer to home. I know Team Totara in particular will miss Tania's enthusiasm and cheerful demeanour.

New Board Member

The Board recently went through a selection process to fill a vacancy in one of the parent Trustee positions. I'm pleased to be able to announce that Haley Marsh has been selected for this position.

Haley has two girls, Addy 5 and Jordyn 3. Addy has recently started at West Park and Jordyn has just started at Johnsonville West Kindy. Addy has Cerebral Palsy, so Haley is passionate about sharing her journey and ensuring that inclusive education and the benefits that this provides to everyone, is considered at every level, including the governance of the school. We are thrilled to have Haley bring this perspective to the Board table and are excited about the contribution she will make to the school.

I think that's it! I want to thank all parents and caregivers who have given their time during the year to support the school through the Home & School Committee, volunteering at events, helping on patrol, school trips, in the bookroom and in classrooms. Without your support the school could not provide so many wonderful opportunities for our children, so your time is really appreciated.

Please feel free to contact any of the Board members if you have any questions by emailing board@westpark.school.nz. We have one final Board meeting this year, which will be held on Monday 16 December in Rooms 14 and 15 at 6pm. You are welcome, as always, to attend and observe this meeting.

Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

Nga mihi nui

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(On behalf of the Board of Trustees)