



**Edendale**  
Primary School

12 April 2019

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

Here we are at the end of Term 1 already and as usual, there have been plenty of exciting developments.

### Personnel:

We're delighted to welcome two new deputy principals to Edendale – Margaret Talbot and Bhairavi Vara. We had a wonderful powhiri on 29 March to formally welcome them to the school and we're really looking forward to starting work with them at the start of next term. Bhairavi comes to us from Oranga Primary where she has worked for nearly a decade in the roles of a classroom teacher, team leader, and Acting DP. Margaret joins us from her current role as Head of Middle School at St Cuthbert's, Auckland.

We are taking applications for a new Kitchen Specialist and Garden Specialist for our Garden to Table programme. Anna Sutcliffe has decided to do more of her work helping refugees while Jodie Little has decided to hang up her gardening gloves after eight years at Edendale and try something new. We thank them wholeheartedly for their efforts at the school which has made the programme such a huge success.

We have welcomed Deborah Perring to Room 18 and will welcome Nik Edwards to Room 19 in week three of next term.

### Property:

The project to complete the installation of a new roof on the junior block was finished just before school started back at the beginning of the year and other than a few minor tweaks has been a success. The next stage of works, to refit the interior of that area to create more flexible learning spaces for children, is currently on hold while we secure funding from the Ministry of Education.

As noted previously, we also engaged property advisers Watershed to put the management and maintenance of the school swimming pool out to tender. The factors we have to consider are how to balance the huge costs of running and maintaining a swimming pool that is only used for two terms versus getting in an external provider who will take on the maintenance and running costs and upgrade while also potentially allow us year-round access and other uses. They have come back with two recommendations for us to consider. We are due to meet with them to discuss the details and will report back more fully after that.

### **Governance and strategic planning:**

You may recall there was a flurry of post-it notes circulating at our very successful Whānau picnic, held on 12 March. This exercise was all part of our attempts to gauge what the school community's vision for Edendale is. We are in the process of collating that information with the help of our consultant Mary Chamberlain. We also want to include our new senior leadership team in this process so we will have more to update you with on that next term.

### **Spending and improvements:**

While our re-fit of the junior block interior is on hold we have decided to use some of the funds we set aside for that on furniture upgrades elsewhere in the school.

The playground equipment is now fully compliant after the improvements made last year but we will continue to monitor it and organise maintenance where necessary.

### **School policies and procedures:**

We continue to use SchoolDocs for our school policies and these can be accessed via the school website and login details provided on the website. The policies for review are notified at the beginning of each new term in the first/second schoolwide newsletter.

### **School donations:**

We're delighted to report that the percentage of parent donations received so far is ahead of the same time last year. This is a great result in terms of ensuring the fantastic programmes we offer at Edendale remain the best they can be. As a Board, we would like to thank you for supporting the school in this way.

### **Elections:**

The triennial elections for the Board of Trustees are getting closer. The next Board meeting will be held on 21 May so if you would like to see what sort of work we do, we would encourage you to come along and join us then.

If there are more nominees than there are positions available then there will be an opportunity to meet the candidates on Tuesday, 28th May at 5:30pm - 6:30pm before the voting papers are sent out on Wednesday, 29th May.

The current board members will be offering themselves for re-election.

### **And finally...**

We would like to wish everyone at Edendale a safe and happy break over Easter. See you next term!

Shameen Hayat [Chair]

Maryvonne Gray

Ben Hasler

Christine Scott

Stanley Findlay

Annie Ualesi

Kusam Fausett [Staff]

Jonathan Ramsay [Principal]