



Edendale
Primary School

September 2021 – Term Three

BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

A message from the Board Chair

Kia ora Edendale whānau,

As we head into the school holidays, on behalf of your Board, I just wanted to thank you for the support you have shown our school and teachers over this current lockdown.

I know that many families are balancing commitments from work, managing finances, children's zoom logistics and the challenges of keeping active minds engaged over lockdown. As such, I acknowledge that this lockdown, in particular, has been a disruptive and stressful time for all of you.

You have also been integral in supporting your children's learning journey, and that has, through circumstance, been a team effort between you and our teachers to coordinate learning and, in some cases, provide extra support outside of the zooms.

As such, I want to say thank you on behalf of your Board for the work you have done to support our teachers and the patience you have shown during this current time.

So I do hope that during this coming break, you get an opportunity to spend time with friends and loved ones, as well as an opportunity to decompress and unwind.

Again thank you for all your hard work and commitment.

Ngā mihi nui,

Warner
Warner Cowin, Board Chairperson

Board changes

This term we say goodbye to parent trustee Stanley Findlay who recently reached the end of his co-opted term. Stanley has been a valued and integral part of the team who took on the role of finance sub-committee member, offering simple to understand interpretations of where things were at for the rest of the board which really made a difference when it came to decision making. We'd like to say a massive thank you to Stanley for putting in more than three years of hard mahi, and especially for kindly extending his time on the board in order to ease the transition for the next person.

On that note we would like to welcome our three newest members to the Board. From the August by-election result we welcomed Anna Ferguson and Jane Yee as parent trustees. Anna, who has a child in Year 1, has served on boards for two educational boards in Sydney, Australia and also brings 20 years' of Human Resources experience to the role. Jane has a professional history in broadcasting, digital media and publicity and has three children at Edendale, a son in Year 4 and twins in Year 2. She particularly values the role whānau involvement and effective fundraising can play in making learning more equitable. We also welcome Anthony Trigg who has taken over from Stanley on the finance sub-committee. The Board decided to co-opt Anthony due to his 25 years' experience as a chartered accountant, experience which makes a valuable and crucial addition to the Board's skillset. Welcome to the team Anna, Jane and Anthony!

Property

The Level 4 lockdown meant our Garden to Table and swimming pool projects were put on hold but pleasingly they have now been able to continue with the move to Level 3.

We're hoping the pool work will be completed by the middle of November which will mean the children will be able to enjoy a swim before the end of the year. The end time for the Garden to Table project is a bit harder to predict. Ideally it will be finished by the end of Term 4 but with Level 3 making work a bit slower it could well be a treat to look forward to at the start of 2022.





Mid-year results

The mid-year results are generally used as a pit stop to check that children are tracking well towards their end of year targets. While the data showed a similar trend to the last two years, some of which relate to the negative impact on learning that COVID-19 has had. The Board is currently exploring ways to provide funding for more resources and prioritise whānau engagement opportunities, as these are known to positively impact student achievement.

Strategy

The Board will be reviewing its strategy next term to ensure that our teaching and learning is heading in the right direction, that our resourcing is channelled appropriately and the things that make Edendale such a great school continue to be prioritised, such as our focus on art and music and our wonderful Garden to Table programme. Many of you will remember the big piece of work we did during 2019 to get community feedback on this topic. We will be reaching out to our fantastic community for input again, taking into account the post-COVID-19 world we now live in, so please watch this space.

Next term

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday, and we'll see you all again in Term Four!

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is Tuesday 2nd November at 7:00am, held in the meeting room. All are welcome to attend. Please note the early morning start time!

Contact:

Please use the following email to contact the Board chair:
board@edendale.school.nz.

We really value and appreciate the feedback and collective support you give to Edendale and the Board.

Ngā mihi nui

Board of Edendale Primary