

## TITAHI BAY SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER TERM 4, 2017

The 2017 school year is drawing to a close and we have a lot to celebrate. We are also thinking ahead to 2018 and our **10th annual school triathlon**.

### KINDNESS

The Education Review Office (ERO) visited Titahi Bay School this year, looking at the school processes that are effective in enabling achievement of equity and excellence. The Board and staff of the school were proud to share what we have been doing to support student achievement. ERO found that:

*The school's 'KURA' values of kindness, unity, respect and achieve underpin school operation and are highly evident. Students have warm, caring and respectful relationships between each other and staff. PB4L is seamlessly embedded into learning programmes and responsively monitored.*

*Collaborative teaching practices encourage students to use their expertise and share their thinking. This contributes to purposeful student engagement in learning.*

*Significant progress in developing a culturally responsive and local school curriculum has occurred. This has resulted in meaningful integration of te ao Māori in school programmes under the guidance of local Ngāti Toa kaumatua and iwi. Students learn te reo Māori as part of this. Partnerships with whānau Māori and local iwi continue to evolve and are increasingly reflected in the school's strategic planning.*

*Pacific families are increasingly sharing their aspirations to inform the school's future direction.*

*The trajectory of improvement for Pacific students' achievement is considerable since 2013. This includes increases in the numbers achieving above the National Standards.*

### UNITY

2017 has been a year of lots of teamwork in our village and school. We sent 149 children to camp and many people from our school community paid donations to help children get there. The UNITY in this community just keeps on growing. We continue to have families drop off bits and pieces for others - they do this because it helps someone else and we love this.

Rooms 12 and 13 are being rebuilt to create a modern learning environment that will be run in the same way as Te Whare Hapai (Rooms 14 and 15). The finished learning space will be able to be easily configured and used in a number of different ways to support and enable a range of teaching and learning approaches. We will inform you when the official opening is scheduled and warmly invite our community to attend the blessing of this space. You will also notice the new deck being built off our hall. This will enable us to come together as a school and community to showcase all our talent.

The Western Porirua schools have been working together as a Community of Learning (COL). The COL has been named by Ngati Toa Iwi and is called *Te Puna Matauanga - The fountain from whence knowledge flows*.

### RESPECT

In Term 1, the BoT newsletter talked about the importance of attendance and its big impact on achievement. This has been a big focus during 2017 and we have had high levels of attendance. Many of our parents found this little example a gentle reminder:

This is the attendance of a child who I will call George (not his real name).								
In	2012	George	was	away	from	school	7	days
In	2013	George	was	away	from	school	35.5	days
In	2014	George	was	away	from	school	31	days
In	2015	George	was	away	from	school	42	days
In	2016	George	was	away	from	school	38	days

And at the end of term 1 George was away 11.5 days.

In the case of George there is also a pattern of mostly being away from school on a Friday and a Monday. In George's time at school he has missed 33 weeks of education - just over 3 terms of schooling. If he continues this absence pattern he will have missed a full year's schooling by the time he leaves Titahi Bay School. As a Board, we thank you for helping us achieve our goal of high attendance.

### **ACHIEVE**

Our Principal, Kerry Delaney, has been working with the Springboard Trust to rewrite our Strategic Plan for the next 3 years. We had really good feedback at Kura on the Green 2016, our students have been interviewed during 2017 and at Teacher/Parent night 2017, we heard your voice for our vision statement: **Kura Kids are Believers and Achievers**. We will share the new Strategic Plan at the start of 2018.

The ERO report highlighted our school's strong focus on student achievement and we are proud to share some of the feedback given following their visit. The full report is available on the ERO website ([www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz)).

*Students involved in learning support programmes are appropriately tracked and monitored. External expertise and additional programmes are used to assist these learners. Inclusive and respectful practices are evident.*

*Professional leadership and teaching practices are firmly centred on accelerating the achievement of learning through growing the effectiveness of practices and intervention strategies. High expectations of staff contributes to critical reflection on teaching practice. Improved reporting within syndicates identifies what is contributing to students' progress and achievement.*

*School stewardship is centred on improving equity and excellence in learner outcomes. Appropriate priority is placed on growing professional practices and school leadership to improve teaching and learning. A focus on ongoing information sharing with families supports learning partnerships.*

*Stewardship is focused on developing collaborative wider community networks through its involvement in the Kāhui Ako (COL).*

At this time of the year our BoT would like to recognise all our Year 6 students who will go onto Intermediate for 2018. This is a great group of Kura Kids and we look forward to seeing their progress in the future. This group move onto Rangikura, Paremata, Titahi Bay Intermediate, Tawa Intermediate, Raroa Intermediate, Hutt International Boys' School, Bishop Viard College, Scots College and Plimmerton School.

As a Board we would also like to thank the energised, effective KURA staff for everything they do for Titahi Bay School.

These upcoming dates are a chance for you to catch up with our Board of Trustees

- **Thursday 7 December 4.30pm - 6pm:** Picnic night at school - bring along your tea and watch our Kura kids perform on our new deck -
- **Wednesday 13 December:** Year 6 Leavers Celebration (for Year 6 students and their whanau) **6.30pm.**

Ngā mihi nui,  
Sarah Campbell, Scott Hemsley, Lynette Singh, Sharon Thomson, Ria Tomoana, Gaby Wesley-Smith