

## **Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees Newsletter** **Term 1, 2019**

Welcome back to Titahi Bay School everyone! We hope you've enjoyed time with your families in our little slice of paradise. We are looking forward to another great year in 2019.

We have had a challenging lead up to our first day back at school following the fire at the Titahi Bay Baptist Church. This is a huge blow for a local church who have made a huge contribution to our community and have always been supportive, caring neighbours of our school. Unfortunately for our school, asbestos from the damaged building has blown into our school grounds and we have spent several weeks working closely with representatives from the church and their insurer, the Ministry of Education, the Porirua City Council, WorkSafe and Regional Public Health to ensure we are appropriately addressing any risk of contamination of our school grounds. We have been assured that our school is safe for staff and students. Monitoring of air and soil will be ongoing and we will continue to communicate with the community as we work through the process around the possible demolition and rebuilding of the church. We thank you for your cooperation around the use of the driveway.

You'll notice other work being carried out around the school. The drains outside Rooms 1-3 are being relaid and the deck on our South Block is being extended. The workers onsite have been fantastic and all necessary precautions have been taken around work being completed in school time to ensure the safety of students and staff. We're excited to progress these projects and know the deck will be a welcome addition to the classrooms in this block.

Our library has moved to Room 6 and the old library space is now a New Entrants classroom. This is a great space for the newest and smallest KURA kids as it's close to our office block (and Princess Kerry) and Te Manawa and has easy access to the New Entrant play area outside Room 5. This classroom will be known as Room 20. The library space is now in a quiet corner of the South Block, with cosy nooks for reading and plenty of space for class visits.

### **Kindness**

We remind all parents of the need for communication with our staff to be respectful at all times. Staff will reply the next working day to emails received after 5:00pm or during the weekend, unless the enquiry is urgent.

We encourage our community to

- Treat all people with kindness and respect;
- Work together in partnership with staff for the benefit of your child(ren);
- Respect and demonstrate our school's KURA values;
- Set a good example to students at all times (parking legally, wearing seatbelts, using the pedestrian crossing, using appropriate language etc)

Our school donation remains \$40 per child or \$60 per family. Kindness is very much a part of our community and we are so thankful to you for paying school fees and other school trip costs, and particularly to those who pay a little extra. We sincerely appreciate any and all contributions. The Maths Whizz programme continued to support the progress of many children last year and was a valuable teaching tool for our teachers. The cost of this programme is \$31.50 per child and we have again agreed to subsidise the full cost per child.

### **Unity**

We look forward to KURA on the Green - 20th February, 4pm - 5pm going into classes and 5pm to 6pm eating your dinner and listening to a BAY band. Come along, relax, meet the team and enjoy some great music.

Our current Board consists of the following trustees, who each bring specific expertise and skills to the table:

Sarah Campbell (Chair, Policy)  
Kerry Delaney (Principal)  
Scott Hemsley (Property)  
Lynette Renouf (Pasifika Strategy)  
Sharon Thompson (Staff Trustee)  
Ria Tomoana (Maori Strategy)  
Gaby Wesley-Smith (Finance, Home & School)  
Leanne Parsons (Co-opted biking)  
Anna McGavin ( Co-opted- to be decided)

Board elections will take place in June 2019. We will provide information on the nomination and election process. If you are interested in running, you are welcome to contact us ([bot@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:bot@titahibay.school.nz)) and a current board member will contact you to talk through what it means to be a trustee. NZSTA will also be running events for aspiring trustees which our school will be involved in.

### **Respect**

The annual triathlon is our school's primary fundraiser and is always a huge event. This year the money raised will be used to join the current junior playground to the spider fort. We're so thankful to all who contribute to this wonderful event, which is simply not possible without huge community collaboration and effort.

Home and School grants and fundraising this year will go towards our new playground connecting the current Junior area with the Spider fort. As always, we thank the Home and School Committee and team of volunteers for all they do throughout the year. It's so rewarding to see our children benefit directly from their fundraising activities and it's a really great way for our families to contribute to our school's culture and environment. If you'd like to get involved or to even just find out a little more about this engaged group of parents, you can email [homeschool@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:homeschool@titahibay.school.nz)

### **Achieve**

Our Year 6 camp will take place early in Term One. This will be a time for our new school leaders to build relationships and grow their confidence through a fun, challenging few days at El Rancho in Waikanae. We know they will come back to school inspired and full of energy for their roles as Year 6 role models, Buddy Patrols, Enviro-Monitors and Sports Monitors. We thank those parents who have volunteered to attend, as well as the teachers who will be giving up their own time to provide an amazing learning experience for this group of children.

Have a wonderful first term everyone and we look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming Triathlon and KURA On The Green Events.

Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees

*Sarah Campbell, Kerry Delaney, Scott Hemsley, Lynette Renouf, Sharon Thompson, Ria Tomoana, Gaby Wesley-Smith, Leanne Parsons, Anna McGavin*