

Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees Final Newsletter – 2018

We have reached the end of a great year at Titahi Bay School. We thank our school community for all the small and large acts of kindness shown towards our children and staff this year. From donations towards camp, triathlon sponsorship, raffle donations and to baking and treats for the staffroom – we are grateful that we have such a giving, caring community.

HIGHLIGHTS

Our 10th triathlon was a great success! Our Home and School Committee gave up many hours of their own time to pull this event together and we acknowledge the huge amount of preparation and work on the day by an army of volunteers and our dedicated teachers and teacher aides. Our tamariki get so much out of this event – confidence, resilience, enjoyment, a sense of achievement. It is a true KURA event and we are fortunate to have so much support to make it possible.

We would like to formally acknowledge the many years of service to our school by Carryn Poki and Rachel Griffiths. These amazing women have put in hours of work behind the scenes. Carryn has been a driving force behind the Home and School Committee and the triathlon and chaired the Committee for many years. Rachel has made a huge contribution through her successful grant applications to help fund numerous resources around our school and is well-known for her “get in there and do it” attitude, always with a smile on her face. Thank you to these two KURA superstars.

Our board were excited to see the completed Rooms 12 and 13. Although there was some disruption while this work was completed, we are proud of how well Miss Wood’s and Mr Tan’s classes coped with this and we know they have enjoyed being in such a fantastic new space. The deck outside these classrooms has become an extension of the classrooms and it is great to see this space being used to create a flexible and innovative learning environment. The board has agreed to fund the extension of this deck along the whole block, creating additional teaching and learning spaces for other classrooms.

As a board, we have had a big focus on property this year and there continues to be work around the school to ensure our students and staff are working and learning in a safe and attractive environment. You might have noticed work on the drainage outside Rooms 1-3 and new flooring in the toilets in this block. We have accepted a tender to paint parts of the school and to carry out maintenance on weatherboards where needed. We have an agreed plan with the Ministry of Education to remove the asbestos that was located last year in a safe and minimally disruptive manner. This will be carried out in phases during school breaks to ensure the safety of our staff and students. In 2019, we look forward to seeing the refurbishment and extension of our junior playground. Our students have had a say in what this will look like and we can’t wait to see the finished product.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the amazing staff at Titahi Bay School. We are fortunate to have a wonderful leader in Kerry Delaney and we celebrate her vision and dedication to building a strong team of teachers and support staff, living and breathing KURA. Jamie Merrick and Miranda McMahon continue to support and grow this vision. We acknowledge Jamie’s work in leading the compilation and reporting of student achievement data to the board in a clear and cohesive way. We acknowledge Miranda’s dedication to continuing to develop and build PB4L in our school through our KURA values and building relationships throughout our community.

The new teaching hubs have been a great success and we celebrate the hub leaders and their teams for driving their hubs and delivering the curriculum in an innovative and inspiring way, with a huge focus on every student achieving. Our wonderful teacher aides work tirelessly to support students and teachers on a daily basis. Our office and grounds staff keep our school running and looking great –

thank you. Sharon Thompson, as our staff trustees, continues to provide a valuable teaching perspective in our decision making.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Lynn Lang for her time as our Board Secretary. She has ably supported the board for many years and we wish her all the very best for her retirement.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and we look forward to a fantastic 2019 at Titahi Bay School.

Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees

Sarah Campbell, Scott Hemsley, Anna McGavin, Leanne Parsons, Lynette Singh, Ria Tomoana, Gaby Wesley-Smith