



Kia ora tatou katoa - hi everyone

No 40

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This is the last newsletter for the year. On behalf of the school I'd like to wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a safe New Year. I hope you all get to enjoy lots of sun, smiles and laughter with friends and family.



Schools are dynamic and ever changing environments because so many individuals assemble each day with their unique personalities, variable moods, diverse learning and behavioural needs. In this context we endeavour to engage, motivate and educate children in the foundation skills of numeracy and literacy as well as building their personal and social capabilities. It hasn't been perfect and it won't ever be but we do aspire to be the best we can be and to be better than the day before.



The staff collectively have done an outstanding job this year. Teachers and support staff have worked extremely hard at providing a caring and stimulating environment where children are happy and able to learn. They have been ably supported by a lot of others who contribute to the school - Tanya and Willie for Kapahaka, and all the various support agencies.

The governance and oversight of the Board of Trustees ensures the school prioritises its spending and stays focused on children, their safety and their learning.

Thank you to the PTA for their ongoing support of the school. Their fundraising contributes greatly to the resources and opportunities that our children enjoy. We have a lot of cool stuff thanks to the PTA - new furniture, play equipment and sports uniforms. They have also subsidised activities and have a very healthy donation to provide towards an exciting development we are exploring.

There are a number of families who will be ending their association with the school as their children move on to the next level of schooling or just moving on. A huge thanks to those families, and we extend our best wishes for 2018 and beyond. While we appreciate the contributions of all these families I feel compelled to mention the following families.

I would like to make special mention of Mel Isitt who will be ending her association with the school. Mel has been active in several areas in the school - PTA, netball and basketball as well as in her children's classrooms over the years. Paul also audited the PTA accounts on several occasions and has also coached basketball.



The Hutchinson family ends their association with the school also. Dianne served on the Board of Trustees, she and Michael were also active in other roles over the span of their three boys.

The Taunt family (although Megan is still employed as a teacher aide) have also had a long association over three children - pictured in their Leavers tshirts. Megan has been active on the PTA, she and Alan have been working bee regulars.



We are also losing a number of PTA stalwarts - Kirsty McNaughton, Belinda Gardyne and Michaela Black.

Our thanks go to you, the parents, for your continued support of the school in helping it provide the best learning opportunities possible for our children – thank you for your support on the trips, sport, road patrol and the list goes on!

Next year the school, and your children, will need new families to put their 'hands up' and get involved actively with the school and the PTA.

