



BOARD OF TRUSTEES HE PANUI (NEWSLETTER)

MAHURU/SEPTEMBER 2021

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou. Welcome to the last few weeks of Term 3, and what a term it has been. To continue with our partnership between home, school and the community, we bring you an update from the Board of Trustees.

We would like to thank you all – especially our teachers and staff for all of the support and efforts during this term, particularly through lockdown and the different alert levels. The planning carried out over the last 12 months came into play (unfortunately) but it did demonstrate how much more ready the school was in terms of supporting each other and the learning opportunities at home.

The main focus for the Board this term is around student learning, our learning environment & the people who support our student's learning. This relates to all students & all of our school staff.

Reflections on Term 2

Term 2 was busy as usual, with mainly settled weather & Level 1 Covid restrictions allowing for a variety of sports events, class outings and the continuation of a number of lunchtime activities. Thank you to everyone that has helped support the school and allow the children to partake in so many extra activities. The regular newsletters work to highlight just some of the positive school and learning experiences that are being enjoyed by our students.

A big achievement in Term 2 was the completion of the new playground. **Thank you to all those who helped in some way with the many years of fundraising for the playground.** The fundraising allowed for the purchase of the swing set and any extra funds will be put towards the additional play area around the bike shed.

Ngā Hui o ŌBS Board of Trustees: 2nd November & 30th November 2021

Policy Reviews: The Board carries out ongoing review and update of our School Policies to ensure they are relevant and useful. They provide the high level outline for how the School operates and can be accessed via the school website. Ōhope Beach School uses the School Docs policy set which is used by many schools throughout New Zealand so we have consistency with what others do.

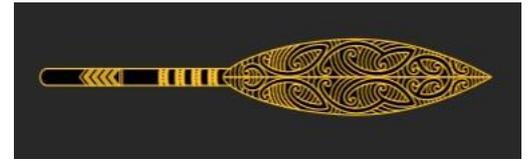
This term, the Board, staff and whānau will be reviewing the 'Concerns and Complaints' and the 'Behaviour Management' policies to ensure that they remain suitable and fit for purpose. We would really appreciate your input in relation to these policies. **Consultation is via the SchoolsDoc website**, which can be accessed through the school website. Click on the 'Current Review' tab to review and provide your comments: https://www.ohopebeach.school.nz/1/link_sets/9-school-policy-site

If you have any issues with the form or would like a hard copy please let the office know.

Māori Language Moment: While this was celebrated on Tuesday 14 September, all of New Zealand is encouraged to continue to explore and enjoy te reo Māori. Your moment can be as simple or as hard as you want it to be. You can do it on your own or with whānau! Whatever you do, it counts!

For more ideas, check out reomāori.co.nz

ŌHOPE BEACH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE



Cultural Competency & the Hautū tool

In Term 2, the Board also undertook two professional development sessions as an introduction to Hautū: A Māori Cultural Responsiveness Self Review Tool for school boards. The aim of this tool is to enable school Boards to assess, develop and implement a school environment where Māori enjoy and achieve educational success as Māori. The Board is only at the beginning phase of this journey, working to first understand the tool, then to try to define what cultural responsiveness could look like at Ōhope Beach School. Understanding our school's needs is critical and we will look for input from our school whānau as this develops, but we strongly believe this is something that will assist all our students. Keep an eye out for further updates pertaining to developing our cultural competency.

Health & Safety: As mentioned previously, our school has provided a number of key learning experiences in/around health & safety. In addition, we continually reflect on policies and practices to ensure we are upholding our responsibility to provide a safe learning environment. The most obvious work recently has focused on how we work through this current pandemic situation, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students, their whānau and our staff.

At the end of this term, the Board will be sending out the Curriculum Survey via parent-registered email addresses & hard copies will be available at the school office. We are also looking to future engagement opportunities, we will let whānau know when & what will be happening as soon as possible as this will be dependent on Covid alert levels.

Health and Physical Education Consultation: Thank you to those who provided their thoughts around the curriculum of our school in relation to health and physical education. This information will be used to plan a two year programme for the school in and around Health and Physical Education. We learned that we are on track for most of the key areas and are now looking at ways to ensure that we continue to provide the space for other important learning experiences deemed important. Here is a summary of findings:

- Mental health and wellbeing: Priority areas identified include (but are not limited to) respecting others, problem solving skills, skills to prevent and deal with conflict and developing a growth mind-set for resilience and perseverance.
- Healthy food/lifestyle choices are already thought to be important and most of the Body Care and Sexuality Education section was regarded as very important, with value placed on both personal hygiene and how the body grows/changes.
- Health and Safety: we are covering this area of learning well with a congruence between areas of importance and learning opportunities already provided this year.
- Physical activity, sport studies and in particular regular fitness activities were highlighted as important and you will have noticed (via the newsletter) the opportunities provided more recently, such as skipping and sporting events out of school which contribute to education outside the classroom (EOTC) as well. EOTC is valued for trying new and different activities, and deemed very important.
- There is clear support for the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme as a part of the schools Health Curriculum. Keeping Ourselves Safe is a resource provided by NZ Police, which helps children to recognise healthy/unhealthy relationships and to develop strategies for seeking help if they feel unsafe.

Student Support: We know that the school staff all appreciate feedback and support from school whānau, acknowledging the hard work to support our students and contribution to our community. The strain of 2021, especially with Covid-19 front and centre causing uncertainty during the last 18 months is being felt. At Ōhope Beach school we have a dedicated Learning Support Coordinator, Angela Gouk, who carries out this role as well as facilitating the reading recovery programme. The Learning Support Coordinator role was created by the Ministry of Education with the purpose being to support children and young people who have learning support needs. Angela is an experienced teacher and works collaboratively with staff, whānau and various services when seeking support for our students. Please make contact with the class teacher and Angela Gouk if you wish to discuss learning support for your child.