

## BPS Board of Trustees | Newsletter | Term 1 2018

Kia ora e te whānau

Welcome back to all our families, particularly those families new to our school! We hope your child/ren have settled in well and enjoyed their first term of the year.

We are your Board of Trustees, which means we represent you. Many of you may not know all of us, so next term we will host several informal sessions where you'll be able to come along to meet with us. This will also give us an opportunity to hear your feedback and to let you know more about Board plans for this year and the future. More detail about these dates will come out next term. In the meantime please feel free to come and talk to us when you see us (or email us) – we appreciate hearing your thoughts.

We are deeply committed to providing a safe, enjoyable and nurturing environment for all the students and staff at Birkenhead Primary School.

Happy teachers = happy students, so in response to staff feedback over the Christmas holidays we:

- Returned the resource room to its old location
- Made new classrooms available (preserving the library)
- Upgraded several toilets
- Provided additional staffing to support children with learning difficulties.

Other improvements on our radar for the school this year:

- Air conditioning for all classrooms to manage temperature
- Additional bathroom upgrades
- Weather-proofing certain outside areas
- Signage at the bottom entrance
- Upgrade of some of the Pikiake classrooms with new carpet, paint and Autex installed on the ceilings to help to absorb noise – making it easier for teachers and students to hear each other.

We are also working on a longer-term programme to repaint the whole school (subject to funding approval) over the next few years. In addition, we are meeting regularly with the Ministry of Education about future classroom requirements for our school given the forecasted roll growth. Last year, to meet this demand, we secured the two temporary classrooms on the top court and have a strong commitment from the Ministry that a long-term solution is underway. We will update you on the timeline and progress at our 'Meet the Board' sessions next term and in our next newsletter.

Noho ora mai

BPS Board of Trustees

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