



**Hunua  
SCHOOL**

Board Newsletter Term One, 2019

Kia ora koutou

A question to start things off – where has this term gone? It seems that no sooner were we sending our children off on their first day of school, than we are reminding them to bring home jumpers, hats and shoes because it is the last day of term. Or was that just me ... and my son who thinks school is an extension of his wardrobe?

This term saw quite a few changes for our school including a new Principal and new Deputy Principal in place. It is a testament to both Kris and Nick, and the rest of the teaching team that the transition has been as positive and seamless as it has been. However, we also know that there has been a lot of work going on to make this possible. As a Board we approved the Budget and Strategic plan for the year, and have been working with Kris to improve reporting on student achievement. Some of you may not be aware of the appraisal system at the school: while the Principal works through performance appraisals with the teaching team, an external appraiser works with the Principal. We now have someone in place to work with Kris and as Board Chair I will be meeting with them once a term to check in on progress.

We also had the Term One Board Walk ...



*As usual this walk through the classrooms was a wonderful insight into the variation of learning activities going on at Hunua School. Purapura were totally engaged in story telling on the mat with Mrs D learning about sentence structure related to what they had done on the weekend. Ms Thompsons Purapura class of Yr 1's and 2's were learning about 'rainbow maths', adding numbers and following the rainbow colours to each number. We had some great conversations about what adds up to ten.*

*Kahikatea Yr 3's were about to start reading comprehension and were listening intently to Mrs White. Groups were sorted and they all settled into their work eagerly discussing what they had to do together.*

*Mahoe Yr 4's and 5's were so involved in their art activity we felt as if we were intruding. This class was listening as Mrs Acton read out a descriptive scene and each child was drawing their interpretation. There were many incredible sketches and it is safe to say all three of us were suitably impressed.*

*Rimu Yr 6 were spread out across the class working in small groups as they solved maths problems. Miss Clegg was available for individuals to come up and check if they were on the right track and try to solve the main issue of fitting a square/s into a rectangle.*

*Rimu Yr 7 & 8 were totally engrossed in writing on a whiteboard overlay of a maths problem. Mr Gage was facilitating the session with a large number of students taking the initiative to stand up and vocalise their thoughts, putting them up for discussion*

*Cherie Harris.*



And a reminder – we have Board elections next term. If you are interested and want to find out more, please feel free to get in touch ([cr.woods@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:cr.woods@auckland.ac.nz); 021 467631).

Hope everyone has a great holiday.

Chris Woods

Hunua School Board Chair