



BOARD ON TOP

Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

July 21st 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Board met the last week of Term 2 and just like that we are halfway through the year!

It was great to finish the end of term without any dramas and see the students enjoying being back together with their friends and getting on with their learning.

Curriculum Review - Literacy (Oral Language)

The Board received its tri-annual report on Oral Language.

Oral Language: The ability to communicate by speaking and listening is as fundamental to any society as it is to learning. It is well understood and established that oral language underpins written language. It is vital for children to listen and speak in order to develop a grasp of language and how it is constructed.

General Analysis of Data

- 89% achieving within required curriculum level.
- 82% Maori students are achieving within or above expectations for their time at school.

This is a very pleasing result.

Kāhui Ako - Community of Learning (COL) - Update

The Leadership Group (consisting of all members Principals) continue to meet twice a term.

The Stewardship Group (consisting of a Board of Trustee representative from each school/centre plus the Lead Principal) are in the establishing their role in the CoL stage and will continue to meet once a term.

All our teaching staff and teacher aides are involved in enquiry C-A-K-E Groups with staff from all 6 centres and all of our staff are benefitting from their participation in these groups.

Jane Stuart has been successful in her application to extend her Across Community Lead Teacher position for another two years starting from Term 3, equivalent to 2 days a week. This is an exciting opportunity for Jane to continue on her hard work for the CoL and the Board congratulates her and wishes her the best of luck. Tammie Fiveash will continue covering Jane's release until the end of the year so effectively your children will not see any change with their teachers in Team 2.

Learning Activities Report

This is a very informative report as teachers provide a comprehensive overview of the learning that is taking place across the school including the how and why these learning activities take place. Some of the highlights for Term 2 were:

- **Learner Quality** focus: **Connected**
- The Value focus for Term 2 is: **Excellence** (Students reminded of all our Values)
- The Key Competency focus for Term 2 is: **Participating and Contributing**
- COVID-19 Distance Learning (5 weeks)
- Pyjama Day for Mrs McKenzie
- Sport - West Otago Cross Country *postponed*

- Eastern & Southland Cross Country - *cancelled*
- Sports Activator → two lessons per class this term
- Kapa Haka continues → performance at BMC
- PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning (MoE Contract)
- Emphasis on hauora / well-being
- House Captains elected

Property

Team 3 are loving being in their “new” space. It was great to finally move the students into the completed rooms in Matai and in particular for the Year 6’s to enjoy the new spaces before they leave Tapanui School, even for a few months. Be sure and stick your head in and have a look at the upgrade during school interviews later this week, it looks great!

Work is slowly continuing in Phase 2 of Matai and a new ceiling has been installed in the corridor.

General

I hope you all enjoyed the break over the holidays and managed to get away for a few days and explore a bit of NZ. It is so good to be able to move around freely and socialise without any restrictions (in NZ) and have kids back into sports/ clubs etc.

The next meeting of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees is to be held on August 18th at 5.30pm and as usual anyone is most welcome to attend.

Kind regards,
Zita Young
Board Chairperson