

Waikino School BOT Newsletter

Term 1, 2019

As Term 1 concludes, it is a fantastic time to reflect on how the year has started and to look at our direction as we head into Term 2. It is an opportunity for the board to celebrate...

As with all schools in NZ, we are in a Board of Trustees election year. Our Election will be held on Friday 17th of May 2019. We have five parent representative positions to be filled. You will receive a nomination form in the post in mid April and you can either nominate yourself or get someone else to nominate you. These have to be back to the returning officer by 12:00 pm on 3rd May 2019 with your 400 (max) word statement about who you are and what skills you could bring to the board. These will then be collated and if we have more than five nominations it will go to a vote. The new Board will officially take office from the 24th May 2019, with a new board meet and greet at 5pm on Thursday 23rd May 2019.

There has been talk over the years about whether we should investigate the process needed to allow Year 7 and 8 students to attend Waikino School. This process is called recapitation. A decision was made to complete an application so we could at least see if it was an option or not. Earlier this month the application was submitted. All going well we will have an answer by the end of the year. If we get permission to extend our school to include Year 7 & 8, we will hold a hui to inform parents, whānau and community what this could mean for the school and our tamariki.

With every classroom now spending time in our ngahere it is clear to see that Forest Schools at Waikino is well underway. To support the use of the Forest School's philosophies and ensure our tamariki benefit fully from the rich experiences available to them, our teachers continue to develop their practice with ongoing professional development. This term also saw the beginning of our Waikino One Day Forest School. This programme is for students from other schools and is run by Joanna Wheway. These students pay to attend every Wednesday to learn and explore in our forest. The income from this is used to top up our staffing budget so we can provide opportunities for our students.

It is so exciting to see our outside spaces completed and ready to be used by our students. The shipping container kitchen and outdoor classroom that sits next to it, along with the tīpee, will form the backbone of our teaching and learning and provide students with opportunities to engage in various STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Maths) activities. As a school we are always looking for experts from our community who would be willing to come and share their skills and knowledge with our students in any area eg sewing, robotics, coding, architecture, woodwork, cooking etc. Please let us know if you have a skill to share.

Also, the Waihi Kahui Ako (Community of Learning) has a new lead principal in the form of Angela Main from Central school. She is working to get the vision of our kahui ako communicated to all stakeholders. Joanna Wheway will keep the community updated regarding these developments.

As a way of celebrating and reflecting on the successes of Term 1, we would like to view these alongside some of the strategic goals set by the board in the 2018 School Charter:

Strategic Goals	Core Strategies for Achieving Goals 2019	Progress made towards achieving goals 2019
<p>LEARNING OUTCOMES</p> <p>Strategic Goal 1:</p> <p>To maximise individual potential and achievement in literacy, numeracy and the wider curriculum</p>	<p><u>Achievement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -To continue to lift achievement of all students at Waikino in the key areas of Literacy and Numeracy, especially in line with our 2019 targets <p><u>Student Ownership and engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Embed the use of kid-speak goals so students can articulate what they are learning and why. -Trial the use of kid speak goals in The Arts - Develop kid speak goals in science <p><u>Professional Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Collaboratively share expertise within and across schools in Literacy PLD that builds the adaptive expertise of our teachers to raise achievement -Engage in collaborative PLD in The Arts -provide PLD in Forest School for all staff 	<p><u>Achievement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Target students identified and extra supports put in place to cater to needs such as Quick 60 reading, Learning Assistants to support groups, RTLB. <p><u>Student Ownership and engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The use of kid speak goals for Writing, Reading, Math and The Arts are being used as part of daily teaching and learning. This is developing a greater student ownership of individual learning pathways. Check out your child's class dojo for updates on the goals they are working on. <p><u>Professional Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff are working together to share their expertise in Literacy to support the combined focus of raised achievement in writing. - All staff continue to engage in forest school PD - Teachers have been developing their skill in the Arts and the children are really enjoying the extra time in the week to be creative.
<p>ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Strategic Goal 2: To take action for our school, community and wider environment</p>	<p><u>Environmental</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the enviro schools inquiry model and develop an action inquiry learning model that extends our beyond Green gold enviro status -Increase the biodiversity of our school and community environment -develop a garden to table model utilising our community expertise 	<p><u>Environmental</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Developing a garden to table model is taking shape with our pizza oven complete, raised garden beds being utilised and the shipping container kitchen almost operational. -The development of a local curriculum has begun. The focus is to ensure it reflects our unique environment and integrates bush classroom and science teaching and weaves literacy and numeracy into all we do -This is being supported with our involvement in Science Leadership programme

	<p>-Develop a local curriculum that reflects our unique environment and integrates bush classroom and science teaching and weaves literacy and numeracy into all we do</p> <p>-Continue to develop Forest Schools as the Waikino Bush programme</p> <p>-Engage in Science Leadership programme</p>	<p>-The development of our Waikino Bush programme continues to grow after a fantastic start in Term 1.</p>
<p>Strategic Goal 3: To develop Waikino School as the heart of its community BoT Goal</p>	<p><u>Partnerships</u></p> <p>-BoT are communicating with our community around the governance and direction of the school</p> <p>-Website becomes an interactive and informative place for parents and reflects our vision and values</p> <p>-Ensure strong Reciprocal relationships with our community</p> <p>-Transitional relationships between kindergarten/ school/ college are enhanced</p>	<p><u>Partnerships</u></p> <p>-We are continuing to build relationships with our community. This was seen at our Harvest Festival.</p> <p>-Transitional relationships between kindergarten/school/college are continuing to be enhanced. This can be seen with the continuation of the the playgroup that operates out of Te Kauri on a Friday morning and the use of our ngāere by Kiwikidz kindergarten to run their own version of bush school. Positive relationships with other Principals have been formed too.</p>
<p>Strategic Goal 4 To foster creativity, innovation, inquiry and problem solving for our learners, teachers and whānau</p>	<p><u>Teaching as Inquiry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the pedagogy of collaboration through T as I • Learning Talk developed across the school • Develop understanding of working in a Professional Learning Community • Collaborate on ways to foster and engage learner agency in innovative and creative ways to personalise learning utilising outdoor classroom spaces eg tīpēes, kitchens, gardens, bush <p><u>eLearning</u></p> <p>-Development of a digital learning strategy to ensure all children are highly digital literate</p> <p>-eLearning is used as an effective learning tool by all</p>	<p><u>Teaching as Inquiry</u></p> <p>-The arts focus has gotten off to a great start and the teachers are often commenting that they have discovered that students have a skill or passion for an area of the arts that had previously been unnoticed</p> <p>- Staff are continuing to collaborate on ways to foster and engage learner agency in innovative and creative ways to personalise learning utilising outdoor classroom spaces eg tīpēes, kitchens, gardens, bush</p> <p><u>eLearning</u></p> <p>-Students and teachers have spent term 1 getting used to the new student portfolio system - Class dojo - and how to share their learning via this platform</p>

If you have any questions or ideas you would like to share with the board then please email brad-bot@waikino.school.nz