

Brooklyn School Board of Trustees Update September 2017

School Fair

We have heard that people aren't sure where the funds from the last fair went. Our last fair in November 2015 raised \$26,500 which was to be used for a sprung floor in the new hall/gym that we were hoping to build. This did not come to fruition and the funds are still sitting in the bank account. This money will be used towards a new playground where the trees currently are – above the basketball court. The funds raised by the fair this year will also be used for this. We are hoping to be able to invest \$50,000 in this area.

We really appreciate the work that goes into our fairs, they are great community events and also raise funds for our school. Make sure you've got your diaries marked for Sunday 26 November and plan to be there with friends and family for a great day.

Digital Technologies

At our Board meeting last week Ryan Clark and Tom Boekhorst came in to demonstrate coding and robotics which we are using to help teach students about digital technology. Digital technology helps our students develop knowledge, understanding and skills for the underlying concepts of information systems, data and computer science. Students are encouraged to design and create digital solutions for problems. The focus is on creating rather than consuming.

Preparing our Students for College

We recognise that our students need to be prepared and ready to move onto College when they leave us at the end of Year 8. We have begun working more closely with our local Colleges to ensure that students are prepared for this next step.

Art Exhibition

The Art Exhibition last Thursday afternoon at school was truly amazing. It showcased diverse artwork created by students from across the school. We hope you got a chance to have a look. Thanks to all our teachers for the work they put in to make this happen.

Academic Progress and Achievement of Maori and Pasifika Students

At our meeting last week, we reviewed the progress and achievement towards of our Maori and Pasifika students. We will continue to monitor and take steps to improve the achievement of these students.

Property Update

We continue to work on our property plan and expect to complete the detailed design documents by the end of the year. Building is due to start around April 2018. Currently we are holding a series of workshops with staff and these will be important in the shaping of our detailed design.

We have some new preliminary property plans on our website showing the 3D perspective with furniture added: <http://www.brooklynprimary.school.nz/property-update.html> They are also on display on the new noticeboard outside Room 5. We will keep updated property information there, and on the website during the course of this project. These plans show a new Kiwi village, the Takahe syndicate being

reconfigured and increased in size to accommodate the entire syndicate in an innovative learning environment. The Moa syndicate is also being converted into an innovative learning environment. However, while the plans show the Moa syndicate also being done, this will not happen until we receive our next property maintenance money in five years, OR the tenders are lower than expected which would allow us to do it as part of this property project.

We welcome your feedback. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us by email: bot@brooklynprimary.school.nz or via the School Office.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7.00 pm Thursday 26th October, in the Staff Room.

Board of Trustees: Mary-Ann Butterfield (Chairperson), Liz Rhodes (Principal), Debbie Chitty, Chandra Littlewood, Dan Ormond, Nick Simcock, Mark Vivian and Glen Burdon (Teacher Representative).