

Brooklyn School Board of Trustees Update August 2017

Academic Progress and Achievement

At our meeting last week we reviewed the progress and achievement towards National Standards of all students. The teachers completed interim assessments against the National Standards at the end of last term and have shared these results with parents in the recent parent/teacher interviews. The results were pleasing and show that students at Brooklyn School continue to achieve well above the national averages.

However, they also demonstrate the need for us to constantly look to the achievement of each individual student and cater to their needs. Our school takes a teaching approach of developing programmes and approaches depending on individual student's needs. As part of this we have recently piloted a literacy programme called "Quick 60" with a group in the Tui Syndicate which has been a huge success and complements our other programmes particularly reading recovery. The Board has approved additional resources to help implement this programme more widely.

Matariki

Matariki gets better each year and is a highlight on our annual calendar. Yet again it was a fantastic evening whereby the community come together to celebrate Matariki and our school. The Board appreciates the organising group's sterling work and would like to thank all those involved. The event raised about \$2,500 which will be used to upgrade the school BBQs and to replace the sand in the Tui sandpit.

Fair

The next fair meeting is tonight at 7pm in the staff room. Organising the Fair is a huge undertaking and we appreciate all those who have already volunteered to be involved. However, we do need more volunteers, even if you are only able to contribute a few hours we really appreciate it as a way to support the school. Mark your diaries for Sunday 26 November and plan to be there now. All funds raised will go towards the landscaping to improve the natural play spaces at our school and complement the new classrooms.

Grants

We have been successful with two recent grant applicant applications. We received grants from Four Winds foundation for ipads for the Kiwi syndicate and the Lion foundation via Karori Brooklyn Community Charitable Trust for sports equipment. Thanks again to those organisations and to Mark McGann for making these applications.

Property Update

If you haven't already looked at the preliminary property plans, we encourage you to look at them on our website:

http://www.brooklynprimary.school.nz/uploads/2/7/2/8/27286673/m579-3021-design_notes_31-7-17.pdf

They now include a site plan so you can see where the buildings will be compared to where they are now: http://www.brooklynprimary.school.nz/uploads/2/7/2/8/27286673/m579-3021-design_notes_site_plan_6-8-17.pdf

The plans are also on display on the new noticeboard outside Room 5 and 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 and the Moa syndicate also being converted into an innovative learning environment. However, while the plans show the Moa syndicate also being done this will not be done until we receive our next property maintenance money in five years or the tenders are lower than expected and we can afford to do it as part of this property project.

We expect detailed design documents to be completed by the end of the year and building to start around April 2018.

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 14th September, 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).