

Board of Trustees Update March 2017

ERO (Education Review Office)

As you will be aware, we recently welcomed ERO to our school. ERO evaluates and reports on the education and care of children and young people in early childhood services and schools. This is an important opportunity to ensure that the board, the school management, staff, and we are fulfilling our obligations. It is also a chance to get external feedback. While we are still waiting for their written report, the verbal feedback was very positive and showed that the school is being well managed, we do expect them to identify areas that we can work on further, which we will communicate to you in future updates.

We thank Liz Rhodes, the leadership team, and all the staff for the preparation and time given meeting ERO. It involves a significant commitment of time, but is very important in ensuring that we are providing the best possible education for all children at Brooklyn School.

We expect their final report next term, and it will be published on our school website.

Property Update

The property design team have started work on the replacement of the five teaching spaces in the Kiwi Village, repairing the Administration Block and extending the current hall to make it usable for a range of school activities, into which the Government is investing \$3.5 million.

We have been working with the Ministry of Education to ensure there are opportunities for the school community to input into the design. There are some important dates coming up:

4 April - Design team meet with staff to do further work on design priorities

11 April - Mark Osborne, an expert from Core Education, to run a staff session on future focussed learning and innovative learning environments

11 April - Mark Osborne speaking at an evening meeting for school community on future focussed learning and innovative learning environments

2 May - Property project steering group meeting

4 May - Board and Ministry of Education combined school community consultation workshop on our property design and an opportunity to input

It is important for those interested in the future of the school buildings, and our approach to teaching, attend the two evening sessions. The new classrooms will be based on an innovative learning environment and we will be looking to convert other classrooms in the school to innovative learning environments at the same time. Our teachers are already teaching in this way and updating our classrooms will enhance their ability to do this.

Therefore, we encourage everyone to attend the following meetings in the school hall:

Tuesday 11th April:

- **7.00-8.30pm Information Evening with Mark Osborne**

Thursday 4th May:

- **7.00 – 8.30pm Ministry of Education & Board of Trustees consultation workshop**

To help our planning, please RSVP by emailing: office@brooklynprimary.school.nz indicating if you are able to attend either or both sessions.

Fundraising and PTA (Parent Teacher Association)

Thank you to all those who returned the fundraising forms at the start of year. We had 155 responses, which was great. There were good numbers interested in each event especially the School Fair and baking. The school and board of trustees appreciates this fantastic input from the school parent community to run these events.

As part of this, we asked for the school community thoughts on a PTA at Brooklyn School. Of the 88 who responded to this question, 80 % thought we should look at having a PTA, 15% were uncertain and 5% said no.

The second question was asking who would be interested in being on a PTA. Of the 48 who responded to this question 69% said they would be interested on being on a PTA, 21% were uncertain and 10% said no.

With this level of interest we will take this further with the next step being a meeting of those interested in setting up a PTA and establishing the constitution. This process will take time to set up if there are enough interested participants, with view to potentially launching a PTA in 2018.

In the meantime, we will press ahead with this year's School Fair. Our first meeting is on Wednesday 5th April 7:30pm in the staffroom. We encourage you to attend.

Tui Literacy and Numeracy

With new syndicate leadership in place we have taken the opportunity to review our Tui and Kiwi literacy and numeracy results. As a result, we have adjusted our programmes and put a new approach in place to enhance learning and reporting. We discussed these at the Parent Information Evening, but anyone interested in further details feel free to ask one of the teachers or make a time to see Margaret.

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 18th May, in the Staff Room.