

Kia Ora Tatou,

The second-largest election in New Zealand is going to take place in September this year - the Board of Trustees elections! This unsung body is not often noticed by the vast majority of us, BUT it has such an important and influential job in governing the school. The Board sets the direction of the school (the policy and vision of what we want for our students), so that school leaders and staff get on and do the day-to-day work to see that vision come to life. It's all about partnership between the community, Board and staff.

So, every three years there is a call for nominations of parents or community members to put their name forward to become parent representatives, and voice your desire to see your children do well.

Have a think about becoming a Board member. If you think you are a strategic thinker and able to put the needs and desires of the community above yourself, then perhaps you are the right kind of person to become a Board member.

I am very proud of our current Board - they are big thinkers, they work hard and as a result the school is operating very well, and seen as an example of a great school. If you are thinking you might be interested in becoming a Board of Trustees member, please come and talk to one of the existing people about what the role entails. I am sure that either Simon Wishnowsky, Rachel Lane, Kristy Staples, Luke Shannon, Scott Linklater, Di Simpson, or myself would be keen to talk with you. September will roll around very quickly, and we need good people standing for election!

Have a great week,

Alastair & the 'H' Team.

## Nits

Unfortunately we have these critters at present, especially in the junior area. This is a rare thing for us as we have families who do check often and treat well. Some of our school rules help in this respect too: long hair is always pulled back, and hair length is kept manageable. Please have a check of your child's hair (and remember to check older kids and your own if you find any!), wash and treat accordingly. If you need advice please come in and see Paula in the office.

## Senior Swimming Sports

What a fantastic afternoon our senior students had at the Makino Pool last Wednesday. We had 53 events, many with multiple heats, and every student competing in at least three events. Everyone gave their very best, and should be proud of their achievements. Well done to Kauri for winning the junior relay and Totara for winning the senior relay.

A special congratulations to our 2025 champions:

- Blunden Cup: Junior Girls Champ - 1<sup>st</sup> Becky, 2<sup>nd</sup> Indi, 3<sup>rd</sup> Charlotte A
- Blunden Cup: Junior Boys Champ - 1<sup>st</sup> Louis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rylan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Miller
- Wishnowsky Cup: Senior Girls Champ - 1<sup>st</sup> Esther, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lucy, 3<sup>rd</sup> Amelia
- Wishnowsky Cup: Senior Boys Champ - 1<sup>st</sup> Finn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Josh, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ollie
- Monk Cup: Most Improved Swimmer - Xavier
- Barnett Cup: Open 50m Freestyle - Esther
- Overall House Points: 1<sup>st</sup> Kauri, 2<sup>nd</sup> Totara, 3<sup>rd</sup> Matai, 4<sup>th</sup> Rimu

Best wishes to our team of 16 swimmers who are competing in the Feilding Interschool Champs on Monday.

## Punctuality

We have noticed that a number of students are turning up late to school. This causes issues and extra administration work for us. Kids should be arriving at school no later than 8.45am (remember, our bell rings at 8.55am). That gives them ten minutes to get themselves organised, check in with their teacher and start the day in a calm manner. Kids that fly in the door late have a chaotic start to the day. Thank you for your support.

## Winter Sports

Information has now been given out to those who are interested in signing up for one of our sports teams next term. Please see Di if you have any questions:

- Y7-8 basketball - forms due today
- Y7-8 cycling - forms due today
- Y7-8 hockey - forms due Thursday
- Y3-8 netball - forms due Friday