



Greenhithe School Board Of Trustees Term 2 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to the end of Term 2. We hope you are all ready for a break, rest and recovery before Term 3. Our School Board members: Kathy Frame, Presiding Member, Scott Rees, Deputy Presiding Member, Samantha Ebel-Brown, Bevan McDonald, Angela Smith, Kenny Bhosale, Zara Fletcher and Stephen Grady, Principal, hope you and your family have had an enjoyable Term 2.

At the end of each term the Board likes to give a short update on where the school is currently at and any updates of key initiatives for the rest of the year. In this newsletter we have upcoming Board Elections in September, we provide an update on our 10 Year Property Plan, give you dates where you will be able to talk to the school and board about our future, and understand the support the Board is providing our teaching staff.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out through the school.

Board Elections In September

2022 is the year for School Board Elections and, this year, they are going to be held slightly later than normal on 7 September as the Ministry of Education has extended the Trustee term this year due to Covid. Being on the School Board is a rewarding experience and an opportunity for you to give back to our community.

Nominations will be called on Friday 15 July for any interested candidates, with nominations closing 3 August. This year we will be using an external election company to manage the nominations and elections, and it is also hoped that the election will be electronic. If you have any questions regarding becoming a candidate for the Board, please contact our Principal, Stephen Grady.

Property 10 Year Plan

Stephen and our Board Property Committee of Bevan McDonald and Samantha Ebel-Brown have worked this year, alongside the Ministry of Education, to produce our next 10 Year Property Plan. This will include some important infrastructure work, such as drainage and continuing renovation and modernisation of the class spaces. This work, undertaken by our Board, ensures the school will continue to be a safe, well maintained and suitable learning environment for our children.

Room 17 and 18 Flooding In 2021

After the disappointment of the flooding of Rooms 17 and 18 in Term 4 2021, we are pleased to see these classrooms have been renovated and are ready for the return of the classes in Term 3. While it has been a challenge to get these rooms back available with the building industry supply issues, the work has been completed and we look forward to seeing the children back in these classrooms again.

Talks With The Board

The challenges at the beginning of this year, with being in the Red Light government setting and ensuring the school is maintaining its health and safety protocols, has meant we haven't had all of the opportunities we would have liked to have you come into school and discuss with the Board the school's strategies and plans. Your voice is vital to the School's Board and Leadership team to ensure the best learning experiences for your children. Unfortunately, the School Disco was postponed and the Board had planned for a consultation that night during the Disco. We will repeat this with the rescheduled date of 26 August.

There will also be a number of other events where the Board will be available to discuss our school and its strategic direction, these include:

- Whānau Open Day 11 August
- Disco Consultation 26 August
- Maths Open Evening 1 September
- The Art Expo 14/15 September

Please come and talk with the Board and Leadership team, your input is valued and important.

Supporting Our Teachers

Professional Learning Development

The Board, with school leadership, has been focused on our teaching staff's professional learning development for the last few years, by ensuring sufficient funding. PLD, as it is known, for the start of 2022 has been focused on Maths, Digital Learning, the new Histories curriculum and Wellbeing of our children, through the Mitey Programme, organised by the Sir John Kirwan Foundation. As a Board we also have had the curriculum leads for the Local Curriculum, focusing on how our local environment, culture and history is brought into teaching for all subjects, and Maths present at recent meetings. We certainly hope you are able to see some of this work at the events and talks that had been previously scheduled but are now coming up next term.

Sickness

Like all schools within our school cluster, we have been impacted by Covid sickness, isolation and the flu season. This term has been the hardest period for staff sickness in many years. The Board would like to thank the Leadership team for stepping back into the classrooms, along with the organisation of reliever teachers, to cover those days we have been short of teaching staff. We have been very lucky to have not had to close the school on certain days, unlike some of the other schools that neighbour Greenhithe.

School Donations & Activity Fees

We would be remiss not to mention our school donations and class activity fees. Thank you to those of you who have paid this year, it helps support the school and the education the school is providing the children. Your donation goes towards funding the school's Ministry of Education shortfall to ensure we are able to have additional teachers, support staff and relievers available to teach in the classrooms.

The School has recently moved to the Kindo payment system and we have noticed an improvement in the uptake of donations and fees. We hope this has made it easier for you, but please let the school know if there have been any difficulties or you have any questions.

Have a safe School Holidays and we look forward to seeing your children back for Term 3.



Scott Rees
Deputy Presiding Member
Greenhithe School Board of Trustees