

## A message from the Departing Chair...

*"Our fantastic school remains in great hands"*

We have just elected our Board for the next three year term. This is my final "Message from the Chair" as I have decided to step down from the Board after serving for six years. It was my pleasure to have helped alongside Matt, Angela, and Kelly who made fantastic contributions and will also no longer be continuing in their respective roles. Thank you to those families who voted and to those candidates who put their names forward for election. Congratulations to Liz, Darryl, Andrew, Andrew (not in order of importance), Hannah, and Ann on your appointments to the Board. I can assure you that we continue to have a high calibre Board that represents the families and community we are part of and will help to maintain the high standards of our school.

And speaking of high standards, what an amazing ERO report we received. The short version is that what we do as a school (thanks to Mrs Glasgow and the teaching and support staff) is very well aligned to the standards and expectations of the ERO. That's no fluke. It is a result of hard work and clear focus on the learning needs of our children. This is fostered in a school culture that expects and encourages participation and excellence from our students (and staff). We can all be very proud of this achievement. Please be sure to have a read of the report if you want the longer version.

I was thinking about our school and community recently and had an observation that I think is worth mentioning. My family has been in this community for nearly 17 years. We have directly and indirectly been part of the Buckland school community for almost as long – since our children were babies. One of the characteristics that I have always enjoyed is how everyone contributed to the sense of community through school trips, EOTC week, camps, parent help, the BoT, PTA, and our magnificent Ag Day. Over the last few years I have noticed a shift in this aspect of our community. Buckland has grown and a number of families have come in and that sense of participation has decreased a little – just a little. My experience is that it can feel a little tricky to fit in to a community if you haven't grown up here but I would like to encourage every family to be a part of this warm community and wonderful, unique school. It's you and I who make this community, and our joining in makes it great.

Shane Harris

## Building Update

Firstly we would like to thank the whole school community for your continued understanding and cooperation during the construction of our new classrooms.

With windows and cladding nearly done, roof on and linings starting the new classrooms are progressing well and are on track to be completed mid September.

The junior playground is due to be reinstated in its new position starting during the July holidays but work on this will run into term 3. We would like to thank the PTA again for their contribution that allows us to upgrade from bark to a soft fall matting.

We are about to start planning for our next project so watch this space.

Darryl Goldsack



## Health and Safety

There have been a number of recent changes to the Health & Safety legislation affecting schools.

As a board we wanted to let you know that we continue to stay well informed of these changes and regularly update our school policies to reflect these requirements.

Kelly Deihl



## ERO at Buckland School 2016

The Education Review Office is responsible for regularly reviewing every school's **quality of education** and their **care of students**.

Our latest May 2016 Report (find our full report here: <http://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/buckland-school-11-05-2016/>) gave Buckland School a very positive appraisal of our school; its processes and systems, its leadership, and importantly, the results being achieved by all our students.

The report and the reviewers were very complimentary about:

- The high percentage of students achieving National Standards

- Our success in the acceleration of progress for our Maori children, and all our children

- The proactive and constructive engagement with our school community and partnership with parents and whanau

- The role and involvement of the trustees in the governance of the school

- The strong pastoral care and emphasis on children's well-being and engagement.

The Board of Trustees, leadership team and staff are already working on the constructive recommendations the review officers made, such as continuing to foster good bicultural practices; and continuing to strengthen children's ownership of their learning.

In conclusion, the Board are very proud of the report and the great work Mavis and her staff are doing, and look forward to the next 4-5 years of continuous improvement from a very solid foundation.

Liz Roozendaal (New BOT Chairperson)