



## BUCKLAND SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### TERM 3 NEWSLETTER 2020

#### KIA ORA PARENTS AND WHANAU

As a result of the resurgence of Covid-19 in the community, and the subsequent Alert Level 3 lockdown of Auckland, this newsletter from your Board of Trustees looks a little different than we had anticipated. We understand that this has been a very difficult year for everyone and share in your disappointment that things have had to be cancelled or postponed again, just as we all felt we were getting back on track. We wish to give a big thank you to our school staff, students, parents and caregivers who have all worked so hard to adapt to the challenges of home learning (again!). It has been really heartening to see our school community step up and support each other. In particular we wish to thank those teachers who have been working with students on site throughout Alert Level 3, when others weren't able to due to travel restrictions. We can't wait to have everyone back at school very soon.



"Take care of our children. Take care of what they hear, take care of what they see, take care of what they feel. For how the children grow, so will be the shape of Aotearoa."

– Dame Whina Cooper

#### RETURN TO SCHOOL IN ALERT LEVEL 2

As per the announcement from Government on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August, schools will reopen to all students under Alert Level 2 on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August. You will have by now received an updated health & safety plan outlining how school will operate under Alert Level 2, from Mrs Glasgow. We understand that some children may be feeling anxious or unsure about returning to school, particularly given that this is the second time around. Rest assured teachers and staff are ready to support all our students and help them feel safe and secure when they return.

#### PROPERTY UPDATE

The Board has recently completed our school Property Plan and this has been submitted to the Ministry of Education, awaiting approval. An application for a new Tiger Turf to resurface the existing concrete court on the back field, as well as installing new basketball/netball hoops has been approved, and will be getting underway very soon. This project is being partly funded by our school PTA and we thank them for their generous contribution. The new turf will be a fantastic additional play area for our students and we are looking forward to seeing it installed. Additional office space and a new decking area behind the library are also in the planning stages. More information from our Property Plan will be shared with the school community in due course.

#### BOARD MEETINGS

The Board meets every month to discuss, review and plan governance related issues. Board of Trustee meetings are open meetings and parents/caregivers are welcome to attend as an observer. Dates for meetings will be advertised in school newsletters, Skool Loop app, and on our electronic sign. Our most recent meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> July. The Board discussed several items; including mid-year student achievement, property matters relating to our long term Property Plan, and reviewing our Health & Safety policies. While we continue to work through the issues of Covid-19, we agree that it is important to keep the school moving forward as much as we can.

Next BOT Meeting: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September



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#### FRIENDSHIP SEAT

The blessing of a new friendship seat for the school has sadly been postponed due to lockdown, however we look forward to this being rescheduled as soon as possible. This friendship seat will honour the memory of Mrs Gwen Francis, who holds a special place in Buckland School's history. We hope you will be able to join us at the blessing when it takes place.

#### VISTAB DIGITAL SIGN IN AT SCHOOL OFFICE

You may have seen/used the new VisTab digital sign-in system at the entrance to the school office. VisTab is an online log-in programme that enables our school to keep an accurate record of details like students leaving during the day, and visitors and relievers coming and going. As you can imagine it makes knowing who is on school grounds at any given time much more efficient and allows us to access critical information for health & safety or in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Under Alert Level 2 it works really well for contract tracing, and therefore we require that all visitors who come onto school grounds use this system to log in and out. It's nice and easy to use, don't worry!

#### AG DAY UPDATE

Due to the recent change in alert levels, the Board of Trustees is currently reviewing how the Ag day animal judging can work within the new health & safety restrictions. We are still aiming for this to go ahead if at all possible and will provide a more detailed update as soon as we can.

#### CONTACTING YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

If you would like to contact the Board regarding any queries, you can email us at: [Board@buckland.school.nz](mailto:Board@buckland.school.nz). It is important to remember that there are proper channels and procedures in place for concerns and complaints, and these can be found on the school website here: [Home>BOT>Concerns and Complaints Policy & Procedures](#).

If you need assistance and would like a Board member to support you in following the correct processes, please do not hesitate to ask. Additionally, say hello and have a chat next time you see us at school!

Your Buckland School Board members are  
(left to right in photo):

- Sarah Herring
- Andrew Maunder
- Mavis Glasgow (Principal)
- Dave Honiss
- Brandon Foster
- Darryl Goldsack (Chairperson)
- Lisa Robertson (Staff Rep)

