

## Principal's Column—Whakataki o Tumuaki

*Nau mai, haere mai.* Welcome to our last newsletter for this term and, for me, my last newsletter that I'll be writing for a few months! I know that Laurel will do an excellent job ( supported by all our teachers and our new Board) while I'm away so I look forward to reading about all the exciting things that are happening while in San Francisco, London, Paris, Morocco, Singapore.... Plus a few weeks of study at Waikato Uni too of course!

This term has ended with an absolute highlight of my time here at Whatawhata School and that was our two days of time spent on Te Papa-o-Rotu marae. We don't think the school has been there for at least 13 years so it was wonderful to rebuild the relationships, for our children, staff and whanau to all be welcomed as tangata whenua for Whatawhata, and for us all to learn so much about our local marae and local history. It was great too that the child got to enjoy a range of art and kapa haka experiences while we were there, a fitting end to our arts focus this term. A huge thanks and well done to SJ for making this whole event happen.

We have recently welcomed Brooklyn, Oliver and Terae into Te Kākano, Aiden into Te Kaho 1 and Leila into Te Pihinga 1. We hope you love your learning and life here kids! Today was our roll return day where we let the government know how many children we have. This sets our budget and staffing for the year ahead. As of today there are 222 children here!

If I do not see you over the next week, I wish you and your children the very best of health and happiness and I look forward to seeing you on my return in October!

*Mā te wā*—Until next time. Matt Stockton, Principal.

## Our new class - Welome Robyn Marquand!

Our new Te Kākano class is getting ready to open with a new teacher, Robyn Marquand, joining us. I know Robyn really well as her and I used to team teach when I was Principal at Whatawhata School! Here's a little bit about Robyn...

My name is Robyn Marquand. I live over the hill and around the corner in Waitetuna with my husband Bevan and 4 children. I've been teaching since 1997, part-time since 2003. Now my kids are all getting bigger I'm excited to be coming to join

Whatawhata's great team full time.



Welcome Robyn!

The class will be working collaboratively alongside Te Kākano, with children still learning with the different teachers according to their needs. The oldest 19 of the current Te Kākano children will now be based in what is currently Te Pihinga 2. If your child will be based in this class you will receive a letter with their report next week advising you of this.

## Reports come home next week

Next Tuesday our reports come home. These documents tell you more about what your child has been learning in reading, writing, maths, Discovery Learning and Health & PE. They also provide a general comment on how your child is going in regards to our Guiding Principles. For children 6 and over there is also a page that shows you the progress that your child has made over the time at school in relation to National Standards. We hope you find these useful as they represent a significant amount of time and effort from your child's teacher. If you have any questions about this report get in touch with the teacher.

## Wearable arts show is postponed until Term 3

I have today strongly suggested to Emile and SJ that they postpone the Te Pihinga wearable arts show scheduled for next Wednesday. With so much going on, with sickness rife and with the need to turn the Learning Centre into the new Te Pihinga classroom it seemed like too much to ask of them and the children. They support this suggestion so we will reschedule into Term 3. It will be during school time so that all the children in school can see the amazing creations too.

## After school carer needed

Kuini and her whānau are leaving us at the end of this term. This means we need to find a new after school carer from the start of next term. This is for five afternoons after school, a total of 12 hours. If you are interested in the position please call in and see Matt or Warren in the next couple of days. Many thanks.

## Community news

Our latest edition of the Community newsletter will be hitting mailboxes next week. Look out for it!

## Te Papa-o-Rotu marae June 2016



## Upcoming events July—Hongongoi

- 1st Interschool Y7/8 Ki-o-rahi
- 5th Mid-year reports go home
- 8th Term 2 ends
- 11th Teacher planning day
- 25th Term 3 begins - Laurel as Principal
- 28th Australian Maths Competition

## August - Hereturikōkā

- 1st, 8th First aid training for all staff
- 5th Core Ed staff development day
- 16th BoT meeting, 6pm
- 26th Inter-schools junior football

