
ROSENEATH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Term 1 Newsletter

It has been a fantastic start to the new School year; with a visit from Justin Lester and the completion of a new area to our playground.

The Board has been busy with: the annual report (and Audit) which is now under way; Ministry of Education reporting of our achievement data (spoiler alert. It is good. Very good); keeping up with possible changes to Tomorrow's Schools; and planning for the Trustee Elections later this year.

We thought it time to put together a newsletter.

Playground update

In early March we were able to open the new play area on the bank. We changed the plans a little as it became apparent that a slide between the 2 viewing decks was going to be very expensive for what it was actually going to add.

A retaining wall had to be added for compliance with the unexpected bonus that it gave us a nice new area for planting - hopefully the plants we've put in can handle a little breeze!

The concrete paths look great and the transformation of this previously under-utilised area of the school is pretty fantastic. There was a weekend of madness before the mayoral visit getting the area ready. Many thanks to all who turned up to lend a hand!



Opening the Crows Nest

This week the double slide has been put in to the Old Adventure Playground which means 2 out of our 4 playground developments are now complete. These are 100% paid for through school



New slide in Old Adventure

fundraising and we thank the community for your generosity, and the Friends of Roseneath School for organising our great fundraising events.

On the maintenance side of things, we have the classic kiwi problem of Pohutukawa roots messing up our drainage so there is some work being done at the school over the April holidays to remedy and future proof this. We are also working with a Ministry-funded Property consultant on our 10 Year Property Plan and looking to repaint the outside of the school as part of that plan.

Student achievement in 2018

End of year student achievement data shows that we have maintained our excellent academic performance in 2018: 96% percent of our students are 'at or above' the expected curriculum level for reading; 84% are 'at or above' the expected curriculum level for writing; and 89% are 'at or above' the expected curriculum level for maths.

The extra effort in our target students has been successful in accelerating their progress. We have been really pleased with the increase in the number of our boys achieving above their expected reading level (31% in 2018 compared to 18% in 2017).

Credit to our students and teachers for the work that they have put in.

Our school curriculum focus for 2019 is developing our learners to be more actively involved in mathematics. Staff are participating in professional development, and supporting children to set relevant goals, take more ownership over their learning and to develop an "open, creative mindset for mathematics."

The big theme for the year is “Think Bigger!” Our topics include Big Histories: Ancient Civilisations, Big Universe: Space, Make it Big: Wearable Arts, and Big World on our Doorstep: healthy communities, Education Outside the Classroom and school camps.

Tomorrow’s Schools Taskforce

The Government is reviewing Tomorrow’s Schools – the name given to the reforms that dramatically changed the governance, management and administration of our schools nearly 30 years ago.

The Taskforce reported its findings to the Minister of Education in November 2018. The report has now released for public consultation. The report covers eight key issues: Governance; Schooling Provision; Competition and Choice; Disability and Learning Support; Teaching; Leadership; Resourcing; and Central Government Agencies. It can be found at: <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/assets/TSR/Tomorrows-Schools-Review-Report-13Dec2018.PDF>

The Taskforce’s report makes a number of recommendations for changes to the current education system. Many of the changes impact the relationships between schools, the Ministry of Education and the community.

The Taskforce is also seeking feedback through a survey (<https://consultation.education.govt.nz/tsr/survey2019/>) and formal written submissions (tomorrows.schools@education.govt.nz).



Understanding play based learning as part of a review of Key Competencies

Board elections

Trustee elections being held this year and the Board has been considering a succession plan to maintain good governance through this period and to build on the many achievements of the School in the current term.

Over the next 5 years we want to ensure we continue to be well represented from across the school so if you'd like to see how our Board works, please come along to a meeting (the dates are on the ‘Skool Loop’ calendar) or talk to a current Trustee and find out what it is all about.

The New Zealand School Trustees Association (“NZSTA”) is also running a programme for parents interested in becoming a Trustee: Kōrari programme.

Did you know?
All our School policies, minutes and the agenda for our Board meetings can be found on the Board of Trustees page under ‘Our People’ on the School website.

Kōrari

The NZSTA has been working on ways to encourage more parents to stand for election and to build understanding of what the role entails. They are offering a new programme, Kōrari, which is designed to recognise the experience of existing trustees and help to encourage potential new trustees to come and find out what it really means to serve on a school board.

People who want to understand what school governance looks like can come along and find out more. The hui will be facilitated by a regional adviser from NZSTA who will talk about the reality of being a trustee, the support and training that is available and encourage existing trustees to tell their story.

NZSTA will cover the cost of the hui including refreshments and will provide all resources needed. Dates and times for the programme in the Wellington region are:

Location	Date	Time
Wellington High School	Monday, 1 April	6.00pm
Crofton Downs Primary School	Tuesday, 2 April	6.00pm
Tawa Intermediate	Wednesday, 10 April	7.00pm

Ngā mihi nui,

Roseneath School Board of Trustees