



Dear Parents & Caregivers

At this month's Board of Trustees meeting the Board received reports on student progress in Numeracy and Literacy. The data had been collated following the mid year assessments carried out by the class teachers.

Literacy

In summary the Literacy data indicates that on the nationally normed asTTle assessment for Year 5,6,7 and 8 students:

- a number of our students did very well and were well above the national average, there were also a number who were either below or well below the expected level of achievement. Parents will be informed of their individual child's performance in the end of term reports. The Board hopes that parents will take the opportunity to discuss their children's assessment with the class teacher and their child and take appropriate steps to assist their children in the recommended areas. Many of our underperforming readers need to read more at home.
- Our Maori students were over represented in the group not achieving.
- There is a need to look at spelling programmes to ensure that consistent effective teaching of spelling was occurring across the school.

Our teachers will be looking more closely at the assessment data with a view of developing action plans to address the students who are underachieving to see what additional resources are required to address their under performance.

Numeracy

The Numeracy Data indicated that:

- Following intensive Professional Development for our teachers there is now a greater consistency of how the assessment tools were being applied and a better understanding of what students require to move them to the next stage of their learning.
- Our children achieve highly in the knowledge areas but lower when their strategy use is assessed. This means that while they can work out mathematical problems they may not always have the most efficient strategy for solving the problem or they may over rely on one strategy.
- Students who are at risk of not meeting the National Standards have been identified and target groups have been identified in each class.
- The teachers will be continuing their professional development in Numeracy to ensure that there is a cohesive, sequenced, consistent approach to the teaching of mathematics across the school.

The Board was keen to hear about how they can further support our teachers and students to ensure that there is every opportunity for our children to achieve the best possible results. The senior management team will be making further recommendations to the Board about additional resources required to ensure that this occurs.

The Board of Trustees

Car Park:

The Board of Trustees spent some time discussing student safety with regard to the car park. Following an incident this week the Board are asking again that parents consider carefully their parking behaviour and attitude when it comes to dropping off and picking up children.

The major areas that the Board would like to focus on are:

- the double and often triple parking, that means children have to weave their way through parked cars to reach their parents vehicle.
- the speeds through the car park and
- parking in the drop off zone.

Over the next few weeks Board members will be stationed in the school car park to remind everyone of what is and what is not acceptable parking behaviour. Shortly a judder bar will be constructed at the entry to the car park and we hope this will ensure that car speeds are reduced. We hope that parents will assist the Board to ensure that our children are safe and not exposed to dangers within our school car park. **Please be part of the solution and not part of the problem.**

Portacom building: Due to our school roll growth our teaching staff have lost their workspace. They have been making do with using their staffroom for a work room. To address this the Board have purchased a portacom building as an additional work and resource storage space. Over the next week or two the portacom will be outfitted with storage shelves and the exterior painted. We hope that this will address the needs of our teachers to have space to work and test students as well as open up Room 1 to a full size room again.



Board member Profile. Justin Wallace (as viewed by Imogene Wallace)

My dad has three fantastic kids who go to Sandspit Road School– Imogene in Year 7, Claudia in Year 4 and Robson in Year 2. He works at the mine site for New Zealand Steel. He is really involved in helping all of our school sports teams and really likes to support us in everything that we do. I think that having Dad on the Board of Trustees will be a good thing because he will work hard to make our school an even better place. When he's not supporting us or working he likes to watch the rugby and likes to get dressed up as a gorilla.

Board of Trustees.

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