*“To foster, to learn, to nurture, to enable full potential”*

**School Board Newsletter**

**April 2022**

*“Maimoatia, Akonatia, Raupitia, Kia hua aka he pito mata”*

Kia ora, Waterview Primary School students, parents, caregivers and Whānau!

**COVID-19**

With the Omicron variant outbreak sweeping through New Zealand and the Waterview community Term 1 – 2022 has not been without its challenges for students, staff, and Whānau. Its effects have been felt on many levels and will likely continue to present challenges in the months ahead. The Board wishes to acknowledge Brett, all school staff, students and Whānau for their positivity, support, and efforts during this difficult time. Together we will get through this.

**Sports Field**

The school has received funding from the Ministry of Education to carry out remediation works to the sports field. This will put right an historical issue remaining from the stage 1 rebuild works. The field will be levelled, stones removed, and the area reseeded with grass. The work is to be carried out in May and will mean that the field will be inaccessible whilst the grass establishes. We look forward to seeing the kids make full use of this once the works are complete.

**School Pool**

Code of Compliance for the pool building works has been granted by Auckland Council. This is a big milestone in a long running project that was not without its challenges. It’s been fantastic to hear how much the children have enjoyed regular use of the pool together with the Water Skills for Life programme. We look forward to continued use of this great facility and extending its use to the community in due course.

**Official School and Pool Opening**

The official opening of the new Stage 1 and 2 school buildings and pool has been delayed due to Covid restrictions. This is now scheduled for 1st July 2022 and will be celebrated together with key stakeholders and the school iwi, Te Kawarau ā Maki. The event proceedings and attendee numbers will be in accordance with Covid protocols at the time of the event.

**Nga Ringa o Te Auaunga Oakley Creek**

The school welcomes Friends of Oakley Creek Te Auaunga who have the early stages of their new nursery up and running within the school. The organisation brings together volunteers who help protect, maintain, and restore Oakley Creek and its surrounds. Recently their involvement has extended to include the Waterview Heritage Area. The nursery is located at the Oakley Ave entrance in the strip of land which borders the kindergarten. Eventually this space will contain a shed, glass house and shade cloth area and will be used on Wednesday mornings. When Covid restrictions allow, stop by, and say hi. They are always looking for people to get involved.

**Emma Henshaw**

You will have heard that the wonderful Miss Henshaw is taking one year’s leave from the end of Term 1. Emma has taught at Waterview for 16 years and has also been an elected staff member on the School Board for several years. No doubt Emma will be greatly missed by students and staff as will her contribution to the Board. We wish Emma all the best for the year ahead and look forward to welcoming her back in Term 2 - 2023.

Ngā mihi,

Margi, Brett, Emma, Surya, Helena, and Louise