

Kia ora te whānau

This is the last (brief) issue of Trustee News for the year.

The Board of Trustees met last week and reviewed the student achievement data for the year. We were impressed by the progress made by our tamariki and thank the school staff and you as whānau for working together for the benefit of our children. As well as the data, staff considered and recommended areas to focus on for next year in direct response to the trends. We also discussed many of the other wider curriculum programmes that are on offer at Kilbirnie School, with lead teachers providing a reflection on the year and aims for 2019.

Thank you to those who completed our community survey last month. These results were also discussed at a high level, and the more detailed data and comments will be used when clarifying the strategic plan for the coming year.

I was also lucky enough to attend the leavers dinner last week and wish our year 6 students all the best as they move on to intermediate school. As well as our students, this year we farewell several families who have had a long association with the school. It was agreed in the speeches that it is the input of everyone that helps to create the strong community that is Kilbirnie School, so thank you all for your involvement.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all staff of the school for all of the work that they put into making school such a fun, interesting and safe place for our tamariki. The industrial action this year has put the spotlight on what I have known for some time - our teachers are very special people who do what they do for the love of their profession, and our community. They work long hours, are accountable to many 'masters' (school, Ministry and whānau), all the while having to think about the unique needs of each child in their class. I do hope they have a well-deserved break.

Ngā mihi

Chris Montgomerie  
Chair, Board of Trustees