



## Wadestown School

### News from the Board

Kia ora koutou

The School Board held its first board meeting of the year on Monday 27 February.

#### **Presiding member**

The Board has elected Genevieve Hancock as its Presiding Member (previously called the Chair). The Presiding Member is elected at the start of each year.

#### **Donations**

Thank you to all those families who have already paid the annual voluntary donation. We do appreciate that these are challenging times for many families.

No student will ever miss out on a curriculum related activity if their family has not made a voluntary donation. However, some of the resources we provide at Wadestown School are not funded by the Government. We rely heavily on the generosity of our parent community to continue to provide an exceptional level of education and resources.

Voluntary payments and donations make up approximately 20 per cent of the school's operational expenditure (which excludes centrally funded teachers' salaries and land and buildings grants). The funding is used for things like library resources, school technology and teacher resourcing, including funding teacher aides and additional teacher professional development.

Please also remember that, depending on your individual circumstances, school donations and voluntary contributions qualify for a tax rebate of 33 per cent from IRD. The school office provides the required receipts for rebates.

#### **Whakatau**

A huge thank you to the team that organised the two Mihi Whakatau that the school held at the beginning of the year. These events welcome our newest students and their whānau and are also used to welcome our new teachers. Now that COVID restrictions have been eased, parents are welcome to attend Whakatau and we encourage you to do so. These are wonderful occasions that provide a connection with students, whānau and staff as well as reflecting our commitment to Te Ao Māori and Tikanga.

#### **Adverse weather**

When there is an "adverse weather event", the school with support from the Board, does a special check of school facilities before the school opens. With Cyclone Gabrielle and then the small earthquake that we had, we did several of these special adverse weather event checks in the space of a few days. A special thank

you to our caretaker Tani Tumoana on this front, who was at school at 7am each of these mornings, checking the facilities and making sure our drains were clear.

## **Rata Block Refurbishment**

We are close to appointing a preferred tenderer (contractor) for this significant project.

As a reminder, during the initial establishment phase for the contractor (likely to be in the April 2023 school holidays), there will be no access to the Rose Street school grounds except by prior approval of the Contractor. This will be sign posted at all entry points to the school grounds during this time.

We still expect that the building work will take until at least the beginning of the 2024 school year. Once we have the contractor appointed we will update you on the timeframe.

The school's current plan is for the library and Year 3 and 4 classes to remain in the Rata Block for Term 1 and then move these classes and library to rooms 14, 15, 7, and 8 for the remainder of 2023 or until the refurbishment is finished. The school hall will remain empty as a shared area for team and school assemblies.

The drawings for this project are on display at the school office. Please take a look.

More information including the current scope of this project is set out in our December 2022 News from the Board. If you have any questions, contact Tania Williams at [tania.w@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:tania.w@wadestown.school.nz)

## **Board contact details**

As always please do get in touch if you want to discuss anything. Community members are welcome to attend Board meetings which are usually held on Wednesdays in the third and seventh week of each term. These dates are published in the school newsletter and on our website. Board reports are also available to view at the office before the meeting. Minutes of meetings are published on the school website once approved at the next board meeting.

Ngā mihi maioha (with appreciation).

## **Wadestown School Board**

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