



Wadestown School

News from the Board March 2024

Tēnā koutou katoa

A warm welcome back from the Board, to all, for 2024. To our new families, we are delighted to have you join our Wadestown whānau and we look forward to partnering with you and your children during their time with us.

Board Member Update: Presiding Member

The Board elects a Presiding Member or chair person at the beginning of each year and we are pleased to announce that Genevieve Hancock has been re-appointed to this position. Genevieve has indicated that she would like to step down from this position during the year given her other commitments. With this in mind, the board is working on a succession plan.

Board Member Update: Casual Vacancy

We warmly welcome Richard Nacey as our latest appointed board member. Richard filled the Board's casual vacancy at the end of 2023. His knowledge in accounting and finance is a true asset to the Board, and the school as a whole.

Strategic Planning 2024 - 2025

The school's Strategic Plan 2024 - 2025 is nearing completion. We are aiming to provide a meaningful, thorough and well thought out plan for our school. While we are building on the board's current strategic plan, we are using the community engagement results to develop it. We aim to have this completed in March, and will keep in touch with the community when it is ready for viewing. As we have previously communicated, the Board is intending to build on the previous strategic plan, consolidating and building on several areas, and we are not expecting dramatic changes.

Student Achievement Results

At the beginning of each year, the Board reviews the school-wide Overall Teacher Judgment (OTJ) data for the previous year, in the core curriculum areas of reading, writing and mathematics.

The 2023 school-wide OTJ data shows that Wadestown School continues to have excellent student achievement with 73 percent to 86 percent of students achieving at or above in reading, writing and mathematics. Wadestown students achieve at a particularly high level in reading, with 86 percent of students achieving at or above. In mathematics, 79 percent of students achieve at or above.

This year our key curriculum focus for teacher professional development (PLD) from the school's OTJ analysis is writing. Writing has the lowest achievement results in the 2023 OTJs with 73 percent of students achieving at or above.

Our whole school focus on Structured Literacy is connected to this PLD, as teachers continue to enhance their literacy pedagogy in writing. Teachers will continue to focus on explicit, systematic and cumulative teaching in the areas of spelling and handwriting before moving onto writing. Drawing on the science of learning and the brain, the teachers will continue to use this research to inform their understanding of how and what we teach impacts on student learning.

In terms of Māori students at Wadestown School, the 2023 OTJ results show 67 percent - 76 percent achieving “at” or “above” the expected level of the New Zealand curriculum in reading, writing and mathematics. In 2023 there was a higher percentage of Wadestown School Māori students achieving above in all three curriculum areas, than in 2022.

The Board continues to be mindful of the impact of Covid 19 and we are continuing to track the impact on our students' achievement, and in particular, in writing. A summary of the 2023 OTJ data is available here: [Student Achievement Data](#). We are in the process of adding previous student assessment data to the school website.

Rata Block



We are very happy to have our teachers and students making the most of our refurbished Rata Block:



The school is hoping to have an event celebrating the completion of this significant project. Keep an eye out for details coming soon.

The Board continues to be extremely grateful for the support our parents have consistently shown towards every facet of our school and its community life. Our dedicated teachers have started another year with real commitment to educating our students. We also remain immensely proud of our students, not only for their ongoing academic achievements but also for commitment to sports, the arts, and cultural studies.

You can email the Board directly to an email address which goes to all members on board@wadestown.school.nz You can also get in touch with any member of the Board, should you have any questions.

Nāku iti noa, nā (Yours sincerely)

Wadestown School Board

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