



## News from the Board Learning and Student Achievement

13 November 2024

Tēnā koutou kātoa

As you may know one of the school's four strategic goals is learning. Learning is at the heart of the school's purpose and sits alongside our three other goals - wellbeing, culture and sustainability.

As part of our focus on learning the Board has agreed to look at how each area of the curriculum is being taught across the school.

This work will help build on the current, and future, approach to delivering the curriculum. Having a clear overview of our direction will also underpin clear communications to parents and whānau about how the curriculum is being experienced by students.

We have a fantastic school which continues to provide a host of rich learning opportunities and curriculum experiences and our students are supported by talented and caring staff. The Board hopes this curriculum work will continue to build on these strong foundations and provide information for future boards to continue to develop the school's distinctive character.

When we engaged with the community last year, we found the majority of parents wanted the school to focus on reading, writing and mathematics. However, there were a number of other wider curriculum areas that parents also noted as being important to their children's education at Wadestown School.

As part of our ongoing community engagement, we will be sending a short survey to gather further views from the community on the delivery of the wider curriculum. Please do take the time to complete this as the views of our community are an important input into all planning.

### **Student Achievement**

The Senior Leadership Team reports to the Board several times a year on student achievement.

At our last meeting, the Board reviewed the mid-year Overall Teacher Judgement (OTJ) reports, noting the school continues to have a high percentage of students achieving at the "at" and "above" across reading, writing and mathematics. Wadestown students continue to achieve a particularly high level in reading with ninety percent of students achieving at or above.

Writing continues to be a focus for the school and the Board noted that as part of the recent teacher only day, the teachers spent half the day focusing on whole school writing moderation. The Board is also focused on how we ensure students continue to succeed in mathematics and along with other New Zealand schools, we will begin to trial the new mathematics curriculum from Term 1, 2025. The new mathematics curriculum is based on structured mathematics and we will be looking at how this fits with our current approach.

The Board also reflected on the importance of the individual learner journey, and that it is the progress of each individual student that is the most important thing to keep in mind. Our academic goals are supported by an overarching desire to see all students be confident and contributing New Zealanders.

You can read more about the school's academic data on the website <https://www.wadestown.school.nz/student-achievement-paetae-akonga-otj-results/> and <https://www.wadestown.school.nz/our-school/student-achievement/>. The full set of results for 2024 will be loaded to the website in early 2025.

If you have any questions about the school achievement data, and how the Board reviews the data and analysis, then please get in touch with the Principal, Amanda Frater.

The Board has also been delighted to see the outstanding success of our students at recent Wellington region school events such as Mathswell where schools from all over Wellington compete with each other in mathematics. The NIWA Wellington Science and Technology Fair is another excellent example of student achievement, where Wadestown School proudly brought home an impressive 19 prizes which was the most prizes given to any school in the Wellington region.

Events such as the science fairs and mathematics competitions also rely on the support and commitment of parents, and we remain humbled and grateful for the ongoing support of our community.

The Board is always happy to hear from parents and whānau, and you can contact the Board about any matter at our shared email address [board@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:board@wadestown.school.nz)

Ngā mihi

Wadestown School Board

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