



The Ngaio School Board of Trustees Update

October 2021

Kia ora koutou,

The Board of Trustees would like to warmly welcome all new tamariki and families who have joined Ngaio School during Term 3. It's wonderful to have you as a part of our school community and we hope your children have settled in well.

It has been another eventful term - interrupted by a 3 week lockdown due to the Delta outbreak in Auckland.

At the return to Level 2 the Board reached out to all staff to thank them for all their hard work and dedication to the children's learning and wellbeing during the lockdown. We know this was also hugely appreciated by the wider parent and whānau community.

RECENT EVENTS/INITIATIVES:

Updating you about projects the Board is working on around the school and towards the Annual Plan.

- ★ This term the Board received reports on the children's mid year maths, reading and writing **achievement data** (see report below for an update). We also had presentations from the Principal, Deputy Principal and syndicate leaders on mathematics with a focus on how this year's **Professional Learning Development** is contributing to maths teaching within the classroom. We are always really pleased to hear about the knowledge the teachers have of the children, their educational and other needs.
- ★ We are very lucky to have our fantastic teachers, leaders and support staff at Ngaio School. **Staff wellbeing** is a key focus in this year's annual plan. A staff survey was completed by the Board in term 3. Overall this showed very good results. Please also see the academic data report below to see the results of their great work with the children. Backing from the parent community is incredibly important to the staff at Ngaio School and is a huge help to their wellbeing; thank you for continuing to support them in their busy and challenging roles at our school.
- ★ Do you know about **The Clinic**? This is a great group of parents and whānau we have at Ngaio School and they need your help! Do you have a science background? Are you a nurse, a botanist, an electronics whizz or an amateur astronomer? Or are you just interested in learning about science and technology alongside the kids? Please get in touch with [The Clinic team](#) as they are very keen to provide some STEM-based sessions for the children in term 4.
- ★ A key priority for this year is to develop a new **landscape masterplan** for the school grounds. The aim of the masterplan is to identify ideas and projects that will enhance the school environment and create more play areas and learning spaces for children. A landscape architect has been engaged to create the plan. As a first step, look out for a holiday activity coming home that asks for your ideas to inform the plan. We encourage you to complete this as a whānau!

Over Term 4 we will be seeking further ideas from children, families and staff. A draft plan will then be developed and sent out for wider community consultation.

- ★ A hugely successful **working bee** took place last weekend and the planting of beautiful native plants has now been completed behind the new retaining wall. This was a collaboration between the school, PTA, parent community and Board of Trustees. See below for our shout outs to those who organised and contributed to the fabulous outcomes of the day!

KIA ORA!

Acknowledging members of our school and local community for their special contributions.

- ★ A huge thank you and shout out to **Jessie Williams-Shigeeda** as she steps down as President of the PTA. Jessie has done incredible, tireless work for Ngaio School, organising fundraising, volunteering her time and supporting the school community. She has spent many hours behind the scenes helping make our school a special place for the children. The Board is very grateful for your commitment to the kids, staff and whānau - you leave big shoes to fill for this role!
- ★ The retaining wall working bee came together thanks to the amazing mahi of a great team, wonderfully led by the PTA's **Jen Thornburrow**. The Board would also like to thank **Hadley Boyce & Stacie Crawford (Handsome Landscapes)**, members of the **PTA**, staff members **Raewyn Watson, Louisa Marks** and **Peter Tana**, and all the awesome **parent volunteers** who came with spades and wheelbarrows ready to do the ground work on Saturday. Kia ora!
- ★ The Board has also acknowledged the support of **Todd Morton (EasySwim Swim School)**. He has been an unsung advisor, swim-education champion and trouble shooter for all things school pool-related over many years. We are very grateful for his ongoing help and advice that benefits our whole school community.

CONTACT:

We are always happy to hear feedback from the community - parents/whānau, children, staff - regarding the governance of Ngaio School. Please feel free to attend our monthly meetings advertised in the school newsletter and on the website, or you can contact us directly via the Presiding Member at: botestelle@ngaio.school.nz

Ngā mihi nui

Estelle Jaine

On behalf of Clinton Geeves, Mark Palmer, Sarah Sims,
Christian Hawkesby, Dan Byrne and Raewyn Watson.





STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:

Student learning, achievement progress and wellbeing is the Board's core focus. We receive summaries of the academic achievement data for all Ngaio School children. Our role in reviewing this data is to investigate these three key questions:

What?

The Board receives mid-year and end-of-year student achievement data presentations and reports from the School leadership team that include detailed analysis and comments.

So what?

The achievement data is weighed against the goals set down in the Ngaio School Annual Plan. The data is considered and analysed by the Board. Are there trends or patterns? What is happening over time? What factors have contributed to these results? How do the results weigh up against our strategic goals? How can we help the staff address any issues or gaps for the students at Ngaio School? What successes should we recognise and celebrate?

Now what?

The Board supports the teaching staff with resources, including professional learning development (PLD), to keep all children on a path towards achieving their full potential. Annual goals focus on areas that need strengthening, extra attention or refreshing to bring up to date with current best practice. In 2021 this area is **mathematics**.

At our August meeting, alongside the mid-year data reports, we received presentations from senior leaders about what mathematics at Ngaio looks like in the classroom. It was fantastic to see what is happening in this area of the curriculum across the school and how the latest PLD is being implemented. Each child currently below expectation, and particularly those 'of concern', has a personal learning story and the teachers have immense knowledge in this area.

There are some excellent results across reading, writing and maths at the mid-year point for 2021. Teachers set high expectations and select learning tasks to target the specific learning needs of each student. The Board is very pleased to see that:

- **93% of students are 'at' or 'exceeding' the mid year expectation in reading**
- **85% of students are 'at' or 'exceeding' the mid year expectation in writing**
- **93% of students are 'at' or 'exceeding' the mid year expectation in mathematics**

The following tables show the **Mid-Year OTJs** (Overall Teacher Judgements) for all students at Ngaio, including those new to the school. Percentages reflect the proportion of children who have been judged to be within that section of the mid-year expectation zones.

READING MID-YEAR 2021		Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding					
93% of students are 'at' or 'exceeding' the mid-year expectation in reading							
Curriculum Level	Reading Level	Above mid-year expectation At mid-year expectation Developing (close to expectation) Below mid-year expectation					
Level 4	Reading texts beyond 12 yrs					13%	16%
Level 3	Reading 10-12yr texts			15%	13%		
	Reading 9.5-10 yr texts					67%	82%
Level 2	Reading 8.5-9.5 yr texts	7%					3%
	Gold		39%			85%	17%
Level 1	Purple			79%	3%		
	Turquoise						
	Orange						
	Green		49%	5%			
	Blue	93%	9%				2%
	Yellow						
	Red			4%			
	Magenta						
	YEAR LEVEL	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6

WRITING MID-YEAR 2020		Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding					
85% of students are at or exceeding mid year expectation in writing							
Curriculum Level	Writing Level	Above mid-year expectation At mid-year expectation Developing (close to expectation) Below mid-year expectation					
Level 4							5%
Level 3						1%	
Level 2							81%
						59%	9%
Level 1						93%	33%
						87%	4%
Level 1		100%				13%	
						16%	
	YEAR LEVEL	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6

MATHEMATICS MID-YEAR 2021		Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding					
93% of students are 'at' or 'exceeding' mid year expectation in mathematics							
Curriculum Level	Mathematics Level	Above mid-year expectation At mid-year expectation Developing (close to expectation) Below mid-year expectation					
Level 5	Stage 8						
	Early Stage 8						11%
Level 4	Stage 7					23%	
	Early Stage 7						
Level 3	Stage 6		8%	6%			
	Early Stage 6						82%
Level 2	Stage 5					73%	6%
	Early Stage 5					70%	5%
Level 1	Stage 4			80%	90%	6%	
	Stage 3				3%		
	Stage 2	100%	10%		1%		1%
	Stage 1		2%				
	YEAR LEVEL	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6

The Board has also received a supplementary report at the September meeting on writing for Year 5 to ensure that we understand what is needed to assist these students to meet end of year expectations for writing. The teachers have great knowledge of the children and the additional work is already underway. Senior leaders have indicated that most of these students are on track to reach end of year expectations in writing.

Analysis of achievement data has also included **individual progression**, which is monitored closely to ensure targeted teaching and resources are put in place where required. It's great to see the vast majority of students have made progress or accelerated progress from the mid 2020 OTJ placements.

Targeted literacy and mathematics programmes continue to be extremely important and the Board will continue to support these for children who need these extra resources.

'Now What'

A number of initiatives are in place to address areas that can be improved and generally continue to enhance academic achievement at Ngaio School. This includes:

- Continuing a strong focus on student health & wellbeing, especially during and after lockdown
- Identifying and closely monitoring focus students, which includes children with non-academic challenges
- Making explicit links between reading and writing to consolidate literacy progress
- Continued teacher collaboration, communication and moderation across all year levels and syndicates
- A range of intervention programmes for students who require extra support with their learning, such as Quick 60, Hooked on Books & Words, focus spelling groups, Reading Recovery and in-class tailored teaching
- The SPRING into Maths programme that provides support in small group situations for some children struggling in mathematics
- Ongoing focus on transition of new teachers and teachers transitioning between levels at the school
- Gifted & Talented Extension (GATE) opportunities within class programmes and school wide extension initiatives
- A range of professional development for teachers and teacher aides, including mathematics which will continue into 2022

As a Board we are also given regular updates about other areas of student achievement such as **arts & culture, leadership, kaitiakitanga, sport, social development & friendships**.

The Board thanks all the teaching and leadership staff for their dedicated mahi towards the achievement of all tamariki at Ngaio School.

Ngā mihi,

Estelle Jaine

On behalf of Raewyn Watson, Dan Byrne, Mark Palmer,
Clinton Geeves, Sarah Sims & Christian Hawkesby