



The Ngaio School Board of Trustees Update

July 2022

Another term has been and gone and we are now half way through 2022. The Board would like to thank everyone for your ongoing support, especially around COVID-19 and the challenges it still presents for our community.

A reminder of who makes up the Board of Trustees. There are currently four elected and two co-opted parent representatives, the school Principal and a staff representative. We meet as a Board monthly and also communicate regularly regarding school governance plans and issues.

The current Ngaio School Board of Trustees:

Estelle Jaine (Presiding Member) botestelle@ngaio.school.nz

Raewyn Watson (School Principal) principal@ngaio.school.nz

Dan Byrne (Staff Representative) d.byrne@ngaio.school.nz

Clinton Geeves (Parent Representative) botclinton@ngaio.school.nz

Mark Palmer (Parent Representative) botmark@ngaio.school.nz

Christian Hawkesby (Parent Representative) botchristian@ngaio.school.nz

Helen Musson (Parent Representative) bothelen@ngaio.school.nz

Joe Winton (Parent Representative) botjoe@ngaio.school.nz

BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTIONS:

The next **Parent Representative Board of Trustee Elections** will be held this year in September 2022. Nominations will be open in mid-July and close on August 3rd.

Info on school Board elections: <https://www.schoolboardelections.org.nz/becoming-a-board-member/>

We welcome anyone interested in finding out more about what the role involves to contact any of us, or to come along to one of our meetings. Our next meeting is Thursday July 28th, 6:30pm, in the staffroom.



COVID-19:

We take the opportunity to highlight the increase in cases of COVID-19 and other winter illnesses in Wellington over the last few weeks. Our COVID-19 Health & Safety committee are regularly reviewing the situation and are supported with advice and guidance from a school parent who is a Public Health Medicine Specialist. These reviews will continue through the holiday period.

There are several important prevention measures for COVID-19 and other winter illnesses that form the basis of the COVID-19 prevention strategy. These include:

- Staying at home when unwell
- Masks strongly encouraged at school indoors for Year 4 and above
- Regular hand hygiene
- Ventilation of indoor spaces
- Vaccination against COVID-19 and influenza

Support from home and encouraging your children in measures such as mask wearing and washing/sanitising hands is appreciated by teaching staff and helps to keep everyone safe from infection.

Thank you especially for keeping children home when they are unwell. This is incredibly important and as parents ourselves, we realise how challenging it can be with work and other commitments. Thank you to everyone for all you have been doing for our school community. He waka eke noa!



ANNUAL PLAN:

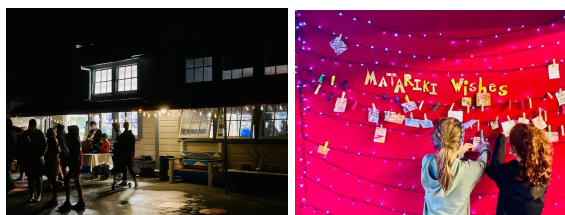
The annual plan highlights specific areas the school is focused on this year and is linked here again as part of the [Ngaio School Charter](#).

The Ministry of Education is currently undergoing a review of planning and reporting for schools that will likely come into effect at the end of 2022 or 2023. The Board is always thinking about ways to report back to the community about student achievement and other planning progress in a meaningful way. This MoE work will provide more guidance for this, including any new regulations put in place as they complete their review. One focus they have already highlighted is around how schools are giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. At Ngaio School we are already exploring many different ways that we can strengthen how we honour Te Tiriti and embrace tikanga Māori as values we practice every day. In 2022 this includes through governance and management practices, heightening the teaching and learning of Te Reo Māori, creating relationships with tangata whenua, prioritising kaitiakitanga for our local and wider environment, and placing a focus on cultural identity, wellbeing and belonging. Growing Ngaio School in these areas is linked into our 2022 annual plan and has benefits for our whole school community.

Raewyn and Sarah Simpson, Deputy Principal, are currently reviewing the format of achievement data reports that come to the Board at mid and end of year. Parent trustee Joe Winton is supporting this review, also looking at how we report results and information about how the children are achieving back to the community.

RECENT EVENTS/INITIATIVES:

- ★ The Ngaio School **Matariki celebration** saw a large number of our school community enjoying kai, sharing conversations and listening to the tamariki singing under the stars. A focus on welcoming the community back into school life is an annual plan goal and it was fantastic to see everyone together again after all the COVID-19 disruption to school events over the last couple of years. Thank you to all involved including staff, kids, families, PTA volunteers, the Xu family, Giuliano Serrao and Matt Boucher from the Wellington Astronomical Society.



- ★ A draft of our **Landscape Masterplan** has been undergoing community consultation and we are now looking at the next stage in the process. Thank you for all the feedback we have had so far.

KIA ORAI!

After many years as a valued teacher aide and NOSCAR Supervisor **Charlene Mitchell** is moving on from Ngaio School. The Board extends our gratitude for everything you have given to the children and whānau of the school, you will be greatly missed.

A shout out to the **Enviro Club** who have been working away really diligently, taking care of lots of areas of the school and also out in the wider community. A wonderful way to learn more about kaitiakitanga - protecting and promoting our natural environment. Ka mau te wehi tima!

This week is 'Tu Meke Tumuaki' week and the Board recognises the dedication and hard work of Ngaio School's Principal, **Raewyn Watson**. Over the last two years with all the extra pressures that principals have had to deal with, she has prioritised the wellbeing of the students, staff and our community. Tēnā rawa atu koe.

The Board would also like to acknowledge all the **support staff** who are such an important part of the school's team. You make a difference at Ngaio, ngā mihi nui for all you do.

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

Kia pai to hararei. Have a great holiday,

Estelle, Helen, Raewyn, Clinton, Dan, Joe, Mark and Christian

