



ON BOARD

The Ngaio School Board of
Trustees Update

TERM 1 2024

Welcome back

Can you believe it is March! A huge welcome back to our tamariki and whānau and a warm welcome to all our new tamariki and whānau that have joined us this year!

Kia ora!

After many years leading the Pōhutukawa Syndicate, Bronwyn O'Halloran stepped down from this position at the end of 2023. The Board extends our gratitude for everything Bronwyn has given to the children and whānau of the school in her role as Team Leader, and we look forward to continuing to work with her as she continues in her role as a junior school teacher. Tēnā rawa atu koe.

2024-2025 strategic plan

In December, we shared a draft of our Strategic Plan for the next two years and a high level view of the annual implementation plan for 2024.

The strategic plan (which sets out the areas we want the school to focus on for growth or development in addition to the normal 'business as usual' focus on teaching across the curriculum) has been finalised and you can take a look [here](#).

The 2024 Annual Implementation Plan (which gives you the details of how we will complete this year's goals) will be published on the [Our Board](#) page of our website in early April.

The community survey that we conducted last year has played a big role in the content of the strategic plan, there was also some feedback that the Board and school were able to address straight away, including changes to the way whānau pay for activities, communication and sharing information about the curriculum.

Activity Donations and MyKindo

As discussed in the [Term 1, Week 4](#) Newsletter, we will begin using MyKindo to request Activity Donations in 2024. Previously, a single Activity Donation was requested alongside the Family School Donation, to cover activities for the calendar year. This year, in response to feedback from our community, requests for donations to support activities will be made event by event, and once set up, via MyKindo.

Changing the way donations for activities are received will help us manage our budget activity by activity. Moving to MyKindo will also mean you will have improved ongoing information about the costs of each activity, as well as the ability to more easily spread the cost of activities over the school year (as compared to one lump sum payment previously). As always, the school will never exclude anyone from a trip for non-payment and have a pastoral care budget to help with this. There is however a limit to the school's capacity to cover the shortfall for trips not completely funded by the donations, therefore significant non-payment of the Activity Donation may limit the number of events towards the end of the school year.

Open afternoon

This year our teachers hosted a Meet the Team Evening for whānau to come into school, hear about how each Syndicate works and visit the classrooms. It was great to see so many of our school community attending.

ROCKET Carnival

Following a lot of feedback around a school gala or fair, the school and PTA are busy planning a ROCKET Carnival for Thursday 21 March, 5-7pm.

Please mark your calendars to attend this fun community evening of food, entertainment and games.

There is a Google Form being sent home to gather volunteer support for this event, so we hope lots of you will put your names in the mix. The amount of support for this event will provide a 'taster' for interest in the possibility of future, bigger events.

Your Board

Your Board is made up of five parent representatives, one staff representative and the Principal. Together we are responsible for the governance of Ngaio School. We meet twice a term, (dates advertised in the school newsletter and on the [calendar](#)), and in between, as sub-committees (to discuss topics including finance, property, and policy). At our first meeting this year, we appointed a new

presiding member (Board Chair), Joe Winton. Thank you Joe for taking on this role for the Ngaio School Board, and a huge thank you to Craig Fairhall, who has been holding the seat since we established in September 2022.

Parents are welcome to come along to observe our regular meetings, but if you would like to speak to the Board or discuss a particular topic, please get in contact with Joe in advance and he will work out the best way to make that happen.

CONTACT

We are always happy to hear feedback from the community – parents/whānau, children, staff regarding the governance of the school. If you see us around then have a chat at drop off or you can contact us directly via our presiding member, Joe, at botjoe@ngaio.school.nz

Noho ora mai

Joe, Emma, Rachael, Daniel, Dan, Craig and Raewyn