



21 December 2023

Board of Trustees Newsletter 2023

It is hard to believe we are once again farewelling you for another year. And what a year it was! Beginning with the much anticipated Centenary, which also acted as the opening of our refurbished classroom block and library. This event had seen its share of obstacles - having to be postponed a number of times. It was a real credit to the Centenary Committee that it managed to go ahead - albeit slightly later than hoped! We had visitors from all around New Zealand and even from overseas - it was a wonderful celebration of all things past and present at Hataitai School. The opening of the new library was a real highlight for me - including the induction of our fabulous librarian.

Thank you to all our parents, community and staff members for participating in the recent survey "Engaging with our Community". We received 22 responses to the survey. It was a fantastic opportunity to touch base with our school community. There are a significant number of positives that have come out of this survey, as well as some important areas for reflection. The most common words that were given to describe our school were "community", "safe" and "high-achieving". It was also clearly highlighted that our vision statement and values are very closely aligned with the values, skills and competencies that parents and caregivers want for their children to come away with from their time at Hataitai School. We understand and appreciate that, as a Board, there are areas that will require reflection and further discussion. The main focuses that have arisen from the survey are our neuro-diverse programmes, ensuring all cultures are recognised and respected, and giving parents and caregivers more opportunities to engage personally with staff and senior leadership. The survey will be analysed in depth and used by the Board to guide planning for the future.

We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to the HSPG for their continued support of the school and community this year. It is exciting to hear of their plans, and brilliant to see the Fair back on their calendar of events for 2024. Thanks also to the Hataitai School Community for your continued support. This support is shown in a range of ways and it really is appreciated.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the senior leadership, teaching and support staff for their continued support of our students and families. It is clear that the growth and development of our learners is at the forefront of everything they do.

Finally, we would like to thank Amanda, Sarah and Cameron for their tremendous contribution to our school over the years. We wish them many happy professional years ahead. We would like to bid a fond farewell (for now) to our departing students, including those Year 8's who are journeying off to college in the New Year. We wish you all the best and hope you come back to visit us.

From the Board of Trustees, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year - we hope this time brings you rest, relaxation and special time with your loved ones.

Sarah Bracewell
Board Chair