



12 November 2020

Dear Parents, Caregivers & Whanau

Tena kotou katoa

I trust everyone is settling into Term 4 well. It is so good to be able to have the school fully open once again. Well done and thank you everyone for the ongoing adaptability shown in this most disruptive of years. The purpose of this newsletter is to share with you how the Board intends to spend the School Investment Package (SIP) and existing Board held funds to augment the Ministry of Education (MoE) spend on our new classrooms.

The Board's direction and decision making is guided by our school charter and strategic plan, which are available on our website, and these plans include finance and property goals. One of our strategic objectives is to provide a physically and emotionally safe environment that contributes to enhanced student achievement.

As a Board, we are excited by the progress made to our new 10 classroom block building, which is on track to be completed by the end of the year. The new build has taken nearly 8 years to complete from when talks first began between the Board and the MoE. Clarinda and the leadership team have worked exceptionally hard to ensure that the build is of the highest standard and meets the school's current and future needs. We know that teachers and students are excited to move into the new teaching spaces in the new year, and that this will be a space we can all be proud of.

While the MoE has funded the new build, it does not pay for the area in front of the build to be upgraded. Nor does it meet the full cost of setting up and resourcing the new classrooms. For these reasons, the current and previous Boards have been focussed on setting money aside to complete these works and fulfil the vision of providing a modern learning and play space while maximising our total recreational space. For example, as a result of the new build we have lost the covered pergola area and one netball court, both of which offered year-round outdoor spaces.

As you may be aware, the SIP announced by the Government earlier this year provides schools one-off cash injection to improve infrastructure. This could not have come at a better time for Hauraki, as together with funds that the Board has been setting aside, the SIP will allow the Board to complete the following projects:

- Relocating the junior playground to the front of the new build. Clarinda and the Board are committed to the sustainable choice of moving the playground, rather than completely building a new one. As part of this process, the playground will be upgraded to meet safety standards, including replacing wooden joinery, and installing shock pads and astro-turf.
- Building a new outdoor shaded space in front of the new build, including a safety wet pour to make the space child friendly.
- Building a new astro-turf court to replace the court that has been lost because of the new build.
- Installing proper drainage in the field to ensure that it can be used year-round by our students.
- Purchasing classroom and outdoor furniture and acoustic backed flooring and carpets.

As part of the process to identify these priority projects, we also sought input from the senior management team to ensure they have the resources needed to deliver the curriculum to the very best standard they can.

The Board would not have been able to fund these projects without the significant parental and community contributions that have been made to the school. We would like to acknowledge and thank our past and current parents and community for their contributions and support.

Finally, the Board would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the PTA who have been working hard on the Cool School Pool project, which involves building a new 25m pool where the junior playground currently sits in 2021. The Board supports this project and to ensure that all classes can also swim this summer, we are purchasing a new pump and filtration system that will be compatible with the new pool. The Board will also meet the cost of moving the junior playground forward to sit in front of the new build, so the PTA can focus on raising the remaining funds to complete the pool.

Thank you again for your continued support of our school and enjoy the rest of the year.

Yours sincerely

James Greenway
Chairperson
Hauraki School Board of Trustees