



Reports to the
Board of Trustees

Meeting
20 February 2017

Principal's Report

Curriculum

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 1

Some of last year's dancesport team demonstrated their ballroom skills at the music assembly. We are currently the Interschool Champions.



Mrs Bradbeer the teacher incharge of International languages has had an article published in the Ministry of Education's Learning Languages Newsletter 1 2017. It is about our school hosting a trainee teacher from the University of New Caledonia in 2016. You can read the article at:

<http://ilep.ac.nz/Portals/15/Documents/Newsletter%20Term%201%202017.pdf>

We have developed a new science Quest titled Food for Astronauts. Over the Waitangi weekend 81 of our students worked here at school as buddies for 120 students from Ningbo, China and three of our teachers. They completed a mini science Quest that looked at how astronauts will be fed on a long space journey to Mars. After listening to video interviews with a scientist from China and hydroponics experts from New Zealand they went on to plant three seedlings in a large hydroponic setup we have in our Technology Centre. All the students involved are to be congratulated for the friendly way they helped our visitors from China. We have been growing and looking after plants using hydroponics and so far our results have been good.

'We have been using 'Fair Testing' and comparing whether it is better to grow plants in dirt or water. We have been monitoring the plants for a week and most look healthy. We will be looking after the plants for eight weeks, measuring them every Friday and letting the students from China know how their plants are going by using 'WeChat'. 'WeChat' is an application where you get to see and talk

to people through a device. You can use a phone, tablet, a computer or a laptop. We are enjoying learning about hydroponics and researching with our buddies from China. We cannot wait to see the final results.' Shadae (R15) and Ellie (R2).



We are hosting a group of students from Korea through Hello New Zealand, who will be with us for the next three weeks. They are settled in class with their learning buddies.

We are starting the year with a science Quest that looks at how animals survive in the tough environment of the rocky shore. Teachers will be sending notices home over the next few weeks asking for parent help on the field trips we are arranging. The scenario is - Every second year groups from our school monitor our local rocky shores to see how well life is surviving in this harsh environment. It adds to our understanding of the Hauraki Gulf which is so important to the life of our city. This year it's your turn to make a report. Your task is to become the class experts on a particular animal or plant and using skilful parts-whole relationships report on its special features for survival. As part of this you are to form a question about your chosen species that can be investigated at the shore. How is your species a survivor?

There has been a lot of high quality applications from our students this year for the 2017 Sports Academy initiative. We are going through the applications to determining who will represent Birkdale

Intermediate in the 2017 Sports Academy squad.

Documentation and Self Review

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 2

Policy Review

Policies from last meeting for confirmation

- Protected Disclosures Policy
- Science Policy
- Sensitive Expenditure Policy
- Smoking Policy

Please read the following policies and be ready to comment at our next meeting.

- Social Studies Policy
- Special Needs Policy
- Staff Development Policy
- Student Council Policy
- Suspected Child Abuse Policy
- Teacher's Laptop Policy
- Technology Policy
- Technology in Education Policy
- Trusted Class Policy
- Uniform Policy
- Visual Arts Policy
- Accounting Policy
- Achievement Reporting Policy
- Administration of Prescribed Medicine Policy
- Allocation of Units Policy
- Animal Code of Ethics Policy

These policies can be read online at www.bis.school.nz

Personnel

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 3

Roll Number - 384

Students have elected their council and house captains. The student council has elected their executive.



Community Relations

Nil

Finance and Property

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 4

Property

The Ministry of Education is moving Room 18 and 19 off site. We have made a trade with ownership of Room 17 coming to us and ownership of Room 19 passing to the Ministry of Education. This should happen over the next few weeks.

We are arranging to paint the inside of the administration block from the foyer through to the staffroom. We have quotes and we should be underway soon.

New curtains and backdrop for our theatre have been added to the stage area in our theatre and our caretaker Mr Brown, and specialist teachers Mrs Bradbeer and Mrs Thompson have been painting the backdrop ready for this year's production.



The heating pipes that run from the Hall to Tui Block along with cables for sound, data etc will be placed underground using Ministry 5YA money sometime in early Term 2.

The drain and uneven concrete around the shuffleboard court will be repaired in about 4 weeks. Once done we will lay outdoor carpet around the court to reduce damage to the pucks.

The storm water drain that burst last winter with a small fountain pouring down on to the main courts will be repaired over the next four weeks. Work will include cleaning drain lines and cesspits.

If we can put a concrete pad and wire cage behind the hall to rehouse our bins we could look at opening up a doorway between the hall and the old changing room where the bins are presently stored. This would allow us to move some of the hall seating off the court area. This will only partially solve the problem of seating being in the way of games being played in the hall but at least it is a start. To completely solve the problem the hall seating needs to be replaced with individual stacking seats and the toilet in the old changing room removed to enlarge the storage area. When this happens the toilet across the small foyer will need upgrading and a door put in to separate it from the cleaners storeroom.

We have received planning consent from the Council for the Green Room. We expect the building consent in the next few days. Pricing with subcontractors is underway with building underway in about three weeks if all goes to plan.

The Room 9 toilet upgrade is planned for the next holidays.

The shuffleboard court is getting good use at lunchtimes.



Three new fish have been purchased for the library aquarium.



Finance

See attached reports.

We are again holding a book fair during the 'Meet the Teacher Evening' on Tuesday, 21 February. This is a great way to purchase more books to improve our school library.

Health and Safety

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 5

Students responsible for our road patrol have received training from Constable Steve Harwood. He discussed with the group of volunteers the importance of the role and trained them to be a confident Road Patroller. After the mini workshop, students went out and applied their new skills in a practical situation. Every student who volunteered, demonstrated confidence whilst being safety conscious.

Keri Woods, our school's counsellor, is again available each Monday. Keri works with students experiencing a variety of issues either school related or external. The Board pays her salary as the Ministry of Education does not yet fund such a position.

We are repairing the edge of the carpet at the main entrance from the foyer into the hall as it is lifting and could become a trip hazard.

Legislative Requirements

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 6

I have checked with a solicitor and we can not go ahead ourselves with the sign for the Arts Centre as it would break copyright. I also asked the artist but he is not happy for us to make a copy.