



Reports to the  
Board of Trustees

Meeting  
27 March 2017

# Principal's Report

## Curriculum

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 1

All our classes have now completed their science field trip to Castor Bay rocky shore as part of their studies into how animals survive there.



The school had a great day at Birkenhead College's swimming pool for our annual swimming sports. Five students have gone on to represent us at the North Shore Intermediate competition.



Our Pasifika Group has been active since the beginning of the year. We have three parents Ramona Leuluafi, Lia Matafa and Val Tauti who motivate, engage and train our Pasifika students. Whaea Kat is in charge of the sound and props. Mrs Choromanski supervises the group every Wednesday during lunchtime. There are 20 girls and 10 boys. Our group has been invited to present a short cultural item at Birkdale North School later this term. We have also had interest from Murrays Bay Intermediate School who has offered to pay a small koha for our students to present at their school later this year.



We have had an exhibition of the works of Dargmar Dyck. Dargmar was the first Tongan female to graduate from Elam School of Art, University of Auckland. Her bright coloured paintings and prints have been much admired by the students. She is currently a teacher and has kindly exhibited some of her latest artworks in our gallery. Other exhibitions have been by Simon Darlington which is a much enlarged exhibition due to the kind donation of his art works by the Darlington family, and the present exhibition by a group of special needs people from our community.



We had the pleasure of hosting our International students from Korea. They were totally immersed in our culture of learning.

Our girls' cricket team competed at the Girls' Cricket Zone Day. They played 2 games, versus Wairau and Northcote, and our team remained undefeated. The boys' team played cricket against two other schools, Northcote and Rosmini. As there was only one pitch, the team's first game was a friendly game against Rosmini which they won. Unfortunately, they lost their second to a different Rosmini team.

We hosted American Poet, Ken Arkind, from the Michael King Writers Centre. He ran poetry workshops with two groups of students. The focus of each session was Matariki. Students were encouraged to be creative and have fun with poetry. Ken inspired the students using games and beatboxing with his harmonica.



2017 Sports Academy squad of 15 student has been chosen and is underway.

Our annual Junior Top Team Games has been held with three local schools coming to compete. Kauri Park, Verrans, and Birkdale North, where they split into 24 different teams that all cycled through the twelve activities, each playing their best against an opposing team.



We have completed the hydroponics unit, Food for Astronauts. The students snipped off the edible parts of their plants and organised them into groups. They weighed each group with Spinach being the heaviest. They have shared this information with their Chinese buddies in Ningbo using a phone app. called WeChat.



Two of our students went to Papatoetoe Pony Club to represent Birkdale Intermediate at the Equestrian Zone day. The Birkdale Intermediate team came home with nine placings in a range of events, including five fifth places and one fourth placing. They also came second in 'judge's favourite' and 'rider on the flat' and came third in 'best turned out'.



## **Documentation and Self Review**

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 2

### Policy Review

Policies from last meeting for confirmation

- 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

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

- Appointments Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Attendance Policy

These policies can be read online at [www.bis.school.nz](http://www.bis.school.nz)

## **Personnel**

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 3

Roll Number - 381

A group of teachers are meeting for the next three Wednesday afternoons to refresh their practice on administering running records which is an assessment for diagnosing students reading ability. The assessment results help teachers to identify next steps in teaching reading to raise student achievement in reading.



Our annual three way conferences are where our students, teachers and parents talk about their learning. The school was very busy with a 92% attendance/contact rate.

Mrs Choromanski attended the one week, fully funded Transnational Education Summit in China. Lead educators from USA, UK, Canada, China, Australia and NZ shared their school's philosophy and best practices that made their school stand out. The main focus was around sharing Student Centred Learning and Engagement; Creating global networks; Looking at how outdoor education builds self confidence and social collaborative skills; STEM and Robotics for 21st century digital learners. Yolanda shared our school's Thinking Skills Philosophy, What Learning Conversations and Concluding Conversations look like and the opportunities that our students are afforded to build confident, collaborative, digital citizens who Strive for Success. Three schools signed up as sister schools with us so that we can build their teacher's capability and provide opportunities for their students to visit our school. Visits to our school is totally based on our capacity to facilitate support. The students will be viewed as International Fee paying students.



Mr Sides attended a two day 'Introduction to Leadership Coaching' workshop provided by Growth Coaching NZ in partnership with the Education Group at the Waipuna Conference Centre. About 50 teachers, Deputy Principals and Principals from the Auckland region attended. Over these two days, he was able to learn about what leadership coaching is and the benefits of coaching with/to a staff, how and when to apply the 'GROWTH' coaching model, and research around emotional intelligence skills to build relationships. With every new piece of information shared, time was given to apply this knowledge. This new learning and understandings have refined, and in some cases improved, his ability to potentially lead staff members through resolving issues as well as helping individuals set realistic goals for the good of the individual, family, community and school.

### *Community Relations*

Nil

## Finance and Property

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 4

### *Property*

A new sign has been installed so visitors can find the office and Goodwin Theatre easily. It has been well received by students and staff.



Our thanks go to Richard Abraham from the toy shop Natures Window for the large 3D Tuatara now in our library. An educational toy shop in Milford Mall called Natures Window is closing down. I was in there shopping and asked what they were going to do with a large 3D Tuatara that was on the wall. Richard Abraham the owner was happy to see it go to a school library. Kate Lang the artist who created the tuatara has also worked on polystyrene sculptures on film sets for Zena Warrior Princess and Hercules. She also made a large Americas Cup for the parade down Queen Street. The student council is organising a naming competition.



## *Finance*

See attached reports.

We had an excellent Scholastic Book Fair during the three way conference evening. We received \$517.65 commission on sales, which means new books for the Library.

The yearly chocolate fundraiser is underway.

We were successful in a \$2,240 grant from the JR McKenzie Youth Education Fund. This is specifically for us to purchase the fabric for the Pasifika Cultural Group uniforms. There is also a small amount available for us to give a koha to the ladies who sew the uniforms. The trust has also paid for the hockey fees for a student whose family is in a difficult financial position at the moment.

## **Health and Safety**

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 5

Nil

## **Legislative Requirements**

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 6

Nil