



Reports to the
Board of Trustees

Meeting
24 July 2017

Principal's Report

Curriculum

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 1

Braeden's story, 'William and his notepad', has won the Barfoot & Thompson Authors Challenge for 2017. It was 1 of only 10 chosen from 2200 entries. He will now work with professional editors and illustrators before his story is published in this year's publication. Proceeds from the sales of the book will go to the Starship Children's hospital.



This Term's Quest is a social science one titled James Shum's Dilemma. The scenario asks our students to investigate life on the goldfields of Otago in the 19th Century and compare and contrast it with life in 19th Century China.

Scenario - In 1873 James Shum's family were trying to decide if he should join the men from his village and sail from Canton, China for the goldfields in Otago, New Zealand in the hope of gaining a fortune. James was a 17 year old Chinese farmer. Using your knowledge of skilful compare and contrast what would you say to James's family? Should he come or should he stay?

Two Year 8 groups shared their choreography routines at assembly. In performing arts Year 8 students learn to choreograph their own dance routines to songs and on Wednesday two groups from Room 14 and Room 8 performed the routines they have been working on. As they did all of the choreography themselves, each dance was unique with every move having its own style and to suit the music incorporated their own themes to match.

Students in our Sports Academy went to Birkenhead College for a session with their mentors. They talked about the nervous moments they have faced in their sporting careers and how to overcome these. They watched many videos of athletes motivating themselves to try and get that extra point or win the race.

Year 7 and Year 8 Mathex teams have competed with each other in the hall to chose the best teams to compete at The North Shore Intermediate School competition.



Full academic reports have been sent home and the teachers have met with their students and their parents in Three-Way Conferences to discuss their learning so far and to set goals for the remainder of the year.

This year our school hosted the local schools' Matariki Festival. Matariki is the Maori name for the cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades. It rises in mid-winter – late May or early June. For many Maori it heralds the start of a new year. Matariki literally means the 'eyes of god'. It was wonderful to see children of all ages from pre-school to 13 years showcase their kapahaka and Maori songs. We had amazing support from the local community. Our Kapahaka represented the school with a high quality performance.



We have a new exhibition in our art gallery. Naomi Bell, Head of the Art Department at Birkenhead College and ex-students Emma and Hannah came to school to set up an exhibition of distorted portraits. Most of the artists are ex-Birkdale Intermediate students.



Tylar R10 has being selected for the North Harbour Under 13 Boys representative Basketball team.

Students and staff from Donghai Experimental School visited from China. The Chinese students have been at our school from Tuesday 4 until Friday 7 July. It was great to have them as part of our school community. They had opportunities to create Maori cultural symbols with Mrs Bradbeer, learn to sing Maori songs with Mrs Dooley, bake pikelets with Mrs Jones and create cultural pendants with Mrs Thompson. Whaea Alicia and the Room 9 students taught them how to use poi, use rakau sticks as musical instruments and to weave flowers. In return, they spent time with their buddies and built 3D puzzles of historical Chinese buildings.

Our Black Knights boys basketball team won the North Harbour Boys Basketball League 6 competition. The Blue Jays girls basketball team won the North Harbour Girls Basketball League 3 competition.

Two rock bands shared their skills at music assembly. At lunchtime the performing arts' room is regularly full of musicians practising their instruments. On a Wednesday afternoon a rock band gets together to practise and some students stay after school to jam.

Our annual speech contest has been held. Eight finalists from across the school presented their speeches at an assembly. All finalists presented their speeches with confidence.



Ex-Student Vanessa Cramond talked to classes about her work with Médecins Sans Frontières for our Quest, Lest We Forget. Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) help refugees in war torn countries. She works in Iraq with some of the refugees who have been displaced by the war in Syria.

Documentation and Self Review

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 2

Policy Review

Policies from last meeting for confirmation

- Duty Policy
- Education Outside the Classroom Policy
- English Policy
- Equal Employment Opportunity Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Fraud Prevention Policy

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

- Harassment Policy
- Health and Physical Education Policy
- Healthy and Safe Working Environment Policy
- Homework Policy
- International Student Programme Policy

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

Personnel

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 3

Roll Number - 384

Nil

Community Relations

Nil

Finance and Property

National Administration Guideline (NAG) 4

Property

Work is nearly completed replanting the three trees between Kiwi Team and the car park. Drainage has been put in so the new trees should thrive just as the ones in front of Kereru Team are doing. This work includes replacing parts of the hedges lining the carpark that have died. Work will resume when there is a dry spell as the back is now too soft for the machinery that is needed.

Phil Price, the sculpturer who created the kinetic sculpture Kakariki installed in front of the Arts Centre has sent us a special tool to tighten the green arms that spin in the wind. The sculpture is now functioning as it should. Next year we will need to budget for a repair to the top of the pole which shows signs of rust.

Final reinstatement of the areas where the classrooms were moved is taking a very long time. I have contacted the company responsible and am hoping all should be completed in two weeks time. This will

leave only the repairs to the main sports field drainage. This will be done in January/February 2018 when the ground is firm enough to take the machinery needed.

The green room is now well underway. During the work for the floor slab they uncovered a power cable close to the surface that was not marked on our school plans. It's now marked so people will know to be careful during any future work in this area. We are about 8 weeks away from completion.

The drain that opened up on the bank in front of the Technology Centre allowing for storm water to pour out over our new tigerturf courts has been repaired. Work will begin soon on the drain near the shuffleboard court at the end of Room 5.

The hydroponics equipment has been installed in the new green house and four of our staff have had training in its use.

Work is underway on improving wheelchair access around the school. Ramps for access into classrooms in Kiwi and Weka Teams have been installed. The ramp to the field has been delayed until early next year as the bank is too wet for vehicle access.

The bust of Hundertwasser is well underway with the mould being sent to the foundry. It should be ready in around 2 months. When the Hundertwasser Trust in Vienna saw what was being prepared for us they asked the artist Aidan Hart to make one for the 90th birthday celebrations for Hundertwasser taking place in Vienna in 2018. There will be a bust here in our library and an identical one in Vienna. A plinth for the bust is installed in our library waiting for its arrival.

