



1st May 2017

Tēna koutou katoa / Greetings to you all

I trust that the holiday break with your children was as pleasant as possible. The students have returned today and settled quickly back into the routines of the school day.

**Staff only day** - School will be closed for instruction on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May** for whole school professional development. I trust this does not cause you too much inconvenience.

**Staffing** - Aysha Wheeler, teacher in room two, resigned from her position to move to Nelson. We have appointed Liz Herron who will commence as soon as she is released from her current teaching position. In the meantime, Janet Barclay will be the teacher Monday – Thursday with Coral Harnett on Fridays.

We welcome Madison Chilton (Occupational Therapist) into the specialist team. Madison will be filling Megan Brian's position while Megan is on maternity leave for one year.

Graeme Eastwood has been appointed into one of the deputy principal positions (Linda King in the other) for the balance of the 2017 year. Megan Gare will hold the role of assistant principal, Megan is responsible for enrolments and is class teacher for room 12.

**Learning Support** - The Ministry of Education Learning Support (previously Special Education), has been subject to an internal staffing review. There will be twelve Managers Learning Support in each of the ten education districts across the country. Three of these will be located in Auckland. Each manager will report directly to the Regional Director of Education. Coralanne Child is the Southern Central Regional Director. Previously, regional managers of special education reported directly to the Director Special Education in Wellington.

I have been a member of a working group at national office in regard to the future delivery of learning support. Specialist schools will remain as part of the education continuum. It is likely that over time, the base schools will be smaller and certainly for the most challenging young people. There will be an increase in satellite provision and the outreach service across the country. A senior adviser has been appointed to work closely with the Director Learning Support and our sector.

**Communities of Learning (COLs)** - Allenvale is a member of the Burnside Learning Cluster. Funding for clusters finishes June 30 this year. Schools in this cluster will transition over the 2017 year into the newly named Waimari-iri Community of Learning. Each COL is required to set student achievement challenges and once approved by the Ministry of Education, the COL receives funding for school leaders and coordinators in all the CoL schools. Funding is also generated for professional learning and development through the CoL. The Minister of Education has approved Allenvale's application to join the Waimari-iri CoL

**Satellites** - The Ashgrove Unit is now open. The school has been very welcoming to the staff and students. We anticipate the roll will grow over time.

The Burnside/Cobham Intermediate rebuild has recommenced after an eighteen month delay due to issues over the final roll capacity of each school. Allenvale will have a double unit satellite located within the new build.

The Ministry is progressing discussions with the Burnside High School Board of Trustees for an Allenvale Satellite provision.

**Base School** - We are yet to make progress with the Ministry of Education as to the alternatives for the co-location of the base school. The predicted demographics have not come to be and therefore it is unlikely that a new school will be built in the Belfast area in the foreseeable future.

**Board** - Annette Burnett has resigned from the board having given ten years' service. Annette has been a strong advocate for the students of Allenvale and has shown commitment and passion about her role as a trustee. Annette has decided to prioritise her activities and will remain as the PTA Chair until the next Annual Meeting.

Peter Coker has also resigned from the board due to increased work demands. Peter has given ten years of service to the board of trustees and was involved with the commissioner prior to this. He has been very committed to the students and staff of the school. Peter held the role of chair for his entire tenure on the board.

Graham Wood is now the new chair. The board intends to select new trustees to fill these two vacancies.

Ngā mihi nui



Graeme H Daniel  
Principal