

Newsletter 1 – Term 2 – July 2018



6th July 2018

Kia Ora,

It is hard to believe that the second term has finished. It has certainly been a huge learning curve for me in my role as acting principal. I have endeavoured to keep systems and procedures the same and have tried to maintain a 'business as usual' approach. This has ensured stability.

I have been extremely fortunate to have the support of an excellent senior management team. We have had many conversations and meetings, always making decisions together and endeavouring to support students and staff through the change that comes with the resignation of one principal while waiting for the commencement of the next.

The senior leadership team, administration team and board of trustees have offered support whenever needed. As a school we are fortunate to have these people advocating for our students as they always have the students at the heart of their thinking. This shows every day and is noticed by visitors to our school who comment on the warm, caring and fun atmosphere.

Our board of trustees have appointed Gary Quarless as our next principal. He does not commence his role until the start of term 4, so I will be acting up for the next term. Gary comes from Paeroa, where he has been the principal of Goldfields Special School for the past 10 years. He is currently overseas conducting research and completing a sabbatical. Gary is very excited to be taking our school on to its next phase. He has had experience with new builds and establishment of satellites and has a wealth of knowledge of learning support. We will welcome Gary with a powhiri early in term 4.

There are changes being made in the special education service provision across Canterbury. This has meant that we have been involved in meetings to look at what is currently happening and what the future provision could look like. The Ministry have been keen to get our thoughts and ideas in their attempt to build relationships and promote inclusive practice. In saying that, I will always support our belief that we continue to protect the rights of our students to be educated in the setting that best suits their learning needs.

Kind Regards

Linda King
Acting Principal