



Campbells Bay School Board of Trustees Newsletter

Term 1, Issue 1

March 2015

Chairperson's comment

Welcome back to the school year – it's certainly in full swing. In a busy school like ours there is an audible buzz from the very start of the year; welcoming returning and new students, families and staff, while ensuring school programmes are in place from day one. There's already been an abundance of opportunities for our children to be involved in many out of class learning opportunities including:

- ✚ Rehearsing in the Mid Bays Schools' Festival Choir to perform at the Bruce Mason Centre in June (for years five and six students)
- ✚ Rehearsing for the World Vision Kids for Kids Choir to perform at the Bruce Mason Centre in October (for year four students)
- ✚ Five teams participating in the cricket tournaments at Takapuna; 14 teams playing miniball weekly; and five teams playing flippaball weekly
- ✚ Trials for hockey, netball and rugby for term two
- ✚ Participating in water safety and swimming programmes, with some classes yet to commence their training at the Millennium
- ✚ Year four visit to the Howick Historic Village

and our school camps for years four, five and six are well under way in terms of planning. As usual, the sporting opportunities could not happen without the support of so many parent and teacher volunteers. Thank you.

This issue focuses on an update of our strategic priorities and the safety of our children.

Our school at a glance

Facts and figures about our school

Roll

The school closely monitors roll numbers. The table below sets out our roll for domestic students to end of February 2015. The predicted roll number fluctuates throughout the year based on pre enrolments, predicted enrolments and predicted leavers. The predicted December roll total at the end of term one is 842 students.

December 2015 predicted roll			842
Actual	2015	2014	+/- same month last year
February	738	701	+37

Keeping our kids safe

We're really proud of the initiatives that the school has in place to keep our kids and all our staff safe. Health and safety legislation goes some way to defining our obligations, the curriculum provides some other aspects, such as how to deal with personal safety and emergency situations.

There are however certain instances where the school can't keep a watchful eye over our precious children and we endorse the guidelines set by the senior leaders within the school. We ask our parent community to be mindful of those guidelines.

These include recognising that the school does not open until 8.30am, so there will be no supervised care for your child before that time. If you regularly need to drop off before 8.30am, then please do consider utilising the great care offered by the Skids programme. If you regularly drop your child at school in a motor vehicle, then we urge you to take the extra 2 – 3 minutes required to ensure safe driving practices and to care for pedestrians (predominantly our kids).

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- p1** Chairperson's comment & Our school at a glance
- p1** Keeping our kids safe
- P2** Strategic priority update
- P3** Not self but service & Board of Trustees

You can contact the Board of Trustees anytime by dropping us a line at bot@campbellsbay.school.nz



Strategic priority update

A full copy of the Board's current strategic priorities for the school (2014 – 2017) can be found here:

[Campbells Bay School Strategic Plan 2014-2017](#)

The following are some highlights against those priorities.

1. Ensure sustainable and strategic use of our resources

Using a questionnaire designed and administered by the New Zealand Council for Educational Research (NZCER) we are able to gauge the level of engagement of our teaching staff.

Our latest results are positive with responses indicating a very high degree of teacher engagement*. For example, all teachers agreed that:

- ✚ the overall atmosphere in this school is conducive to student learning;
- ✚ this school supports my efforts to help students learn; and
- ✚ I am clear about what the school expects of me as a teacher.

Using the combined results from other schools that have participated in the survey as a benchmark, we are well ahead on most indicators. We're now using the survey results to focus on how we can further improve our school. Evidence based research to achieve improvement forms an important part of our governance of the school.

**Engagement is defined by the discretionary effort experienced when staff are satisfied with a number of factors to do with their employment. These factors include school leadership, professional development, school organisation, physical working environment and resources and satisfaction with school.*

2. Manage roll growth and school capacity

We continue to work closely with the Ministry of Education on the medium to long term plans for our school. In particular we're waiting for them to share with us census and other demographic data that will assist the Ministry determine how best to utilise the schooling network in our area.

We anticipate the Ministry will expect us to accept further enrolments given the size of our school site in comparison to neighbouring schools.

The provision, by the Ministry, of the new teaching block is an indication this is happening already. This eight classroom block gives us a net increase of five new teaching spaced (three older relocatable classrooms were demolished to make way for the new eight teaching space block).

We anticipate the Ministry will fund construction of further teaching spaces and will communicate when definite plans are at hand.

In the meantime, you can be assured the Board is working to ensure the non-classroom infrastructure of the school is being developed. An example of this is the remodelled library, to open shortly. The library will be much more flexible than the previous design and will allow more than one class to use the space at any given time. We are also in the initial stage of planning for an extension to the school hall.

3. Grow community and stakeholder relationships

We're always looking to engage with our school community. An example of this was the well- attended seminar held at Westlake Boys' High School during March. The focus on modern learning practice and modern learning environments is a current focus for us given the current building programme.

Feedback from the evening has been positive - expect further communication on the use of our classroom block throughout the year. We're heartened by the research and the considered approach taken by the teaching leadership of the school to prepare teachers, students and the community for the new building. We thank them for their professional and evidence based approach.



4. Maintain high quality and effective teaching and learning

We're regularly updated by the teaching leadership team on matters of student achievement.

Student achievement is at the heart of the business of the board. As parents you are informed of your child's levels of achievement in comparison to their cohort. As a board we regularly look at cohort levels of achievement against National Standards and, in particular, what needs to be done to improve levels of achievement when improvement is required.

To this end, during the year we deploy additional resources when there is evidence these are needed.

We'll continue to keep you up to date with progress against our priorities during the year.

Not Self But Service

The school's motto forms a cornerstone of our identity as a school. Adopted in 1925 shortly after the founding of the school, the motto is an important today as it was way back then

As a Board we are delighted at the way our community embraces the motto in everyday actions

The outpouring of support for the appeal for items to help the people of Vanuatu is a timely example of this spirit and no doubt the monetary support for the mufti day at the end of the term will also reflect this generosity of spirit.

To help our children understand the importance of contributing to others the school will shortly be launching the Moonjar, a three-part money box.

More in the school newsletter shortly.

School Board of Trustees

For those parents who are just starting out on the primary school learning journey with their child – welcome to Campbells Bay School.

The board of trustee model of governance came into being in the administrative reforms known as Tomorrow's School. The Education Act 1989 provided schools with the framework for boards to govern schools. The current board comprises four elected parent representatives, a staff representative and the principal. Your elected board is typical of any governance body in the way we operate. For further information visit:

<http://www.campbellsbay.school.nz/bot.htm>

You can send us a note on issues relating to the governance of the school anytime or feedback on this newsletter by emailing: bot@campbellsbay.school.nz



Trustees and Principal from left to right:
David Campbell, Anthony Ford, John McGowan (Principal), Vicki Caisley (Chairperson), Jennifer Hanton, Janice Brown (Teacher Representative)

Easter wishes

Enjoy the Easter and school holiday break – whether you are off on an adventure or staying local, enjoy your family and take care. Thanks again to our supportive teaching, administration, student and parent community for a great start to the year. See you all in term two.

