

## **Cheviot Area School**

## Letter from Board Presiding Member

Kia ora,

Mehema ka moemoea` ahau, ko ahau anake. Mehemea ka moemoea` a ta`tou Ka taea e ta`tau If I dream a dream, I dream alone. If we all dream together, we can succeed together. (Te Puea He`rangi 1883-1952)

Cheviot Area School is a unique school. We are just over an hour's travel north of Christchurch on State Highway One, giving ease of access to extracurricular activities. The community is a sheep and beef-farming stronghold, with the small town of Cheviot supporting a large catchment of family farms. The supporting businesses in the township include a domestic meat processor that has over 40 staff at last count, two strong shearing gangs, two preschools and a health centre, along with the usual rural businesses and cafes expected in a small town on a major road.

We do find ourselves in an isolated position, being an Area school with no feeder schools due to our geographic location. However, this also gives us a strong independent community that relies on the school as its hub.

The school is set right in the heart of Cheviot alongside the main highway. We have amazing big grounds with large oak trees which are ingrained in our history, and also house our mighty Magpie (see logo above!). The school has a rich history since opening in 1894. Nearby are the famous moa swamps which feature in our Māori histories here at Cheviot. We also have a cool little Museum alongside the front gate of the school, owned and run by the Historical Society.

We embrace the community's history along with the help of community members like our cultural consultant who has supported our staff with the introduction of Aotearoa Histories.



We have amazing local knowledge and support in these areas, all willing to put their best foot forward. We are extremely lucky to have this Mana whenua support in our school.

Our area has awesome features like the Hurunui River to the south and the Waiau to the North. Go east 8km (a small run!) and you reach Gore Bay, one of New Zealand's hidden gems and a popular surf beach. Only a short jump over the hill and you are up Mt Lyford for a ski, or in Hanmer Springs to bathe in the hot pools surrounded by mountains. The wider school community are the best you get in our country, the typical country people where the door is always open for dinner or to watch a game.

We have good sporting facilities in Cheviot; including the combined sports club which sits in the school grounds for the Tennis, Squash and Netball clubs. The school has a gymnasium which is getting a refresh this year, the community utilises this facility a lot for events such as volleyball competitions and dance productions. Attached to the gym is a community room with a kitchen, this is frequently rented by community groups for meetings. The BoT love to embrace the involvement of everyone in our community.

As a parent group and BOT we want a Principal to lead teaching and learning, open doors for our students and yield excellent results. We have a team of talented teachers who are keen to play to their strengths through a distributive leadership model and we seek someone to embrace, energise and integrate this throughout the curriculum.

Being the key centre of communication in our school is vital, having clear decisive communication is a must. We are a strong, passionate BoT that requires a leader that can answer the tough questions without hesitation. In return we support good leadership through our values, passion, and actions. You will be the most vital piece of our puzzle!

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As a BOT we are committed and will ensure that the Principal is supported and welcomed into our community. Together we will celebrate success. Feel free to ask questions, my details are: <a href="https://hchamberlain@cheviot.school.nz">hchamberlain@cheviot.school.nz</a> or 0275 335550.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Hamish Chamberlain
Cheviot Area School Presiding Member

