

Kia ora e te whanau MNS

Newsletter from your Board of Trustees

In Term 2 we met on Thursday 15th August and Thursday 26th September. We welcomed Michelle Barnes on as our teacher representative.

We had the syndicate leaders present the school's achievement progress to date for the year and discuss the things that contribute to learning. We really enjoyed this presentation and the analogy of student learning as a journey with road markers that our tamariki work towards. This strengths-based thinking acknowledges that each child learns at a different speed to the next, that some will slow down at times and some accelerate, but that they are always moving forward. The presentation showed good progress across all syndicates and we look forward to the next achievement report.

We acknowledge all the work that has been done by Vidisha Ishver (Associate Principal) and her team on our digital learning strategy and the Future Focus event. How wonderful to observe both the plugged-in and unplugged methods of learning computational thinking and digital skills, not to mention all the collaboration and teamwork that happens too!

Meanwhile, in this issue:

- Home and School Heroes
- Top 10 Facts About School Donations!
- Driveway Makeover Dream Come True
- The Secret Life of Board Members, Introducing...

HOME AND SCHOOL HEROES

QUIZINGO!

The Home and School team have once again delivered a fabulous Quizingo night that raised approximately \$6000.00 to go towards the well-being of MNS kids.

THANK YOU to everyone on the Home and School team who contributed their time. Not only did you provide hilarious entertainment, but the evening brought us together as a community.

A huge thank you also to everyone who donated prizes, bid on raffles and auctions, and who turned up on the night to show their support for our school.

COMING UP

Next on the agenda is planning for Beats n Eats (adults only!), the fair, and end of year disco. Please get involved if you can, many hands make light work. You can follow the Home and School Facebook page [MNS Home and School Team](#) to stay up to date on all things going on at school.

TOP 10 FACTS ABOUT SCHOOL DONATIONS

- 10 School donations are essential for the running of the school.
- 9 You can pay in instalment amounts that suit you through Kindo.
- 8 School donations don't cover the pools costs. We are very lucky to have the school pool and we ask for a small pool donation to pay for its maintenance.
- 7 It's easy to forget to pay school donations.
- 6 School donations are tax deductible! You can claim one third in tax credits, check www.ird.govt.nz to find out what to do.
- 5 You can set up an automatic payment to pay school donations, just ask at the school office how.
- 4 Paying your school donation is cool and good for the whole community which is good for your kids.
- 3 Even if you can't pay all, you can just pay some - every bit helps.
- 2 While education in NZ is free, school donations help with the smooth running of the school.
- 1 School donations pay for a lot of what allows us to be responsive to the kids' learning, creative in our teaching, and successful in providing a nurturing environment for our tamariki.

DRIVEWAY MAKEOVER DREAM COME TRUE

Our driveway project should begin over the summer months. The disruption will be big but the pay-off will be bigger. Redesigning the school property will mean better use of space and increased safety for all our tamariki. Not to mention it will look much nicer!

It is possible work may start in the final weeks of Term 4 and probable that it will be going on at the start of next year. Expect limited parking and drop off areas, obstructions to school access and road works, diggers, and all sorts.

Please be patient!

THE SECRET LIFE OF ...BOARD MEMBERS

While we all participate in the discussions and decision making, we also have specific portfolios. Here is a brief description.

INTRODUCING....

Jason Stein: Chair; Property; Driveway Project.

Jason likes to coach rugby and shuttle children in his spare time.

Janine Chung: Treasurer; Finance expert.

You might see Janine running with her dog around the streets of Miramar early in the morning.

Joyce Adam: Principal.

Needs no introduction!

Michelle Barnes: Teacher representative; Deputy Principal.

Michelle is passionate about teaching (particularly maths), loves coaching football and going on school camp (even in the rain).

Amanda Hood: Deputy chair; Home and school liaison; Property.

Amanda is passionate about education and enjoys spending time with her family

Janine Nash: Health and Safety.

Always up to date on the latest health information, Janine loves yoga and indoor plants (but has trouble keeping them alive!).

Cherida Fraser: Community Liaison.

Cherida loves standing round a summer barbeque, sharing food, and getting into a good robust debate.

Special welcome to Michelle, Janine and Cherida who are new on the board this year. They come with as much enthusiasm, ideas and skills as those who went before.

The board welcomes any and all community input. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 24 October and we always make time for community at the beginning of the meeting at 6.30pm.

That's all for now!

We'll be keeping you informed by newsletter each term, but if you have any questions please don't hesitate to be in touch. You can find our contact details on the school website

<http://www.mns.school.nz/a/6r3imBA>