



WHENUAPAI SCHOOL
Living is Striving

25th May 2020

Dear Families and Whanau

Recent times have certainly been a change from the norm for all of us but it is great to have Whenuapai School open again to our students, teachers, staff and families.

As a consequence of Covid-19 and the impact it is having on our country, the forthcoming months will present some new challenges to many in our school community. It is important that as a community we stay positive, encourage and support each other.

On a positive note, the Board of Trustees is delighted to inform you that on the 30th April 2020 the Ministry of Education formally ended the statutory intervention at our school and ended the role of the Limited Statutory Manager. Our school is now back 100% under the control of the Board of Trustees. This is fantastic news and thanks go to the Board, our Principal Raewyn Matthys-Morris and our teachers and staff for all their hard work to achieve this result.

In November 2019, the Board of Trustees voted to co-opt Ivan Millan onto the Board. Ivan and his wife live in Whenuapai Village and are the proud parents of Mason who is a Year 1 student at our school. Originally from the Manawatu region, Ivan is of Ngati Ruakawa, Ngati Toa and Te Ati Awa descent. He has been a firefighter for 17 years and is the current Station Officer at West Harbour Fire Station. Ivan's appointment adds to the skill set and diversity of the Board of Trustees.

By the time you read this communication, the new playground at our school will be completed. The playground is an exciting addition to the school replacing the old junior playground which was well past its use by date. Special thanks to those families that donated to the school playground fund either directly or indirectly through the PTA events, the hardworking PTA which tirelessly worked to raise money for the project, the Waitakere Licensing Trust for their very generous donation and to the members of the Playground Committee for helping to achieve this result.

Meanwhile, you will continue to see builders, painters, electricians, plumbers and other contractors around the school grounds now and in the months ahead. Work continues on the much needed refurbishment of our classrooms, toilet blocks, drainage and other utilities at our school. The aim is to make the school a better environment for our students to learn in and our teachers to teach in.

It is a privilege to serve on the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees represents the school community and each Trustee is your representative. You can contact the Board by email wsbot@whenuapai.school.nz

Yours sincerely

Michael Farac
Chairperson
Whenuapai School Board of Trustees