

# BUCKLAND SCHOOL BOARD

## NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, 2023

### **KIA ORA PARENTS AND FAMILIES**

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2023 from the Buckland School Board.

All the weather events that went on at the beginning of the term added to an already busy first term, and the summer holidays were quickly a distant memory. As always there has been plenty going on at school, and we hope that everyone has enjoyed the first term. Thanks to parents and family members who have joined in the school events and who have helped with supervision and transport to events. It was great to see so many of you at the Board BBQ and swim evening and we hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to meet with other school families.

### **WORD FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER**

As we close out the first term of 2023, we would like to thank our school students and community for starting the year in a positive way, and to all of our staff who have been working hard to make up for lost time.

We would also like to thank our outgoing PTA members and welcome all of the new ones. Our PTA makes big contributions to our school, not just financially but in time, items and events for the benefit of all our students, so we would encourage all families to go along and assist as and where they can.

We unfortunately have Mrs Fletcher and Mrs Shore facing significant health issues. Sadly this will mean that Marlene will retire shortly and so we wish her very well. Marlene has been with Buckland School for many years and has made a big impact in many of our students' lives. Mrs Shore is remaining here with us. We hope our school community will join with us in supporting Marlene and Simone through the next few weeks/months.

We hope you can all spend time with family and friends over the Easter holiday break, and look forward to seeing you all again to start Term 2.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

Sun protection has still been a priority this term for outdoor activities – Students have worn sun hats well when outdoors and rash tops have been mandatory for swimming. Students are welcome to continue wearing sunscreen and hats during the early part of Term 2.

Covid hasn't gone away yet so, as always, please keep sick children at home to avoid any spread of infections, and remember to follow the new rules for any Covid cases.

Hand washing/sanitising is still a priority for everyone at school. The school will support anyone who still wishes to wear a mask in school buildings or grounds.

### **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

Congratulations to students who have been fully engaged in their learning over the term. High attendance at school is vital for children to progress and we would like to acknowledge those who have regular (more than 90%) attendance over the term. Congratulations to those who have attended 100% of the days school has been open this term.

### **POLICY UPDATE**

A reminder that our school policies and procedures are hosted by SchoolDocs. These are available to our school community to view and we invite you to visit the site <https://buckland.schooldocs.co.nz>. Our username is "buckland" and password "george72".

### **FINANCE**

We hope the school's entry into the MOE Donation scheme has helped families with Term 1 school related costs. We will be reviewing this near the end of the school year as to whether we can stay in this or not for 2024. We realise that overnight camp costs may cause problems for some families and thank Mrs Mills for organising the chocolate fundraiser. You are more than welcome to begin small progress payments if this would help. Please contact Mrs Mills or Mrs Glasgow to discuss/organise this.

### **NEW BOARD MEMBERS:**

We would like to welcome two new additions to the Buckland School Board. Jacinda Hughes has joined us as a new Parent Representative, filling the casual vacancy we had been carrying, and Christina Reddish has joined as the new Staff Rep.

We know that they will contribute strongly to our community through the Board and we welcome their fresh perspectives.



### **BOARD MEETINGS**

Your Board meets every month to discuss, review and plan governance-related issues. Board meetings are open meetings and members of our school community are welcome to attend as an observer. If you would like to attend or learn more, please contact us via email ([board@buckland.school.nz](mailto:board@buckland.school.nz)). Board meeting minutes are public documents and available to view on our school website. Board meetings are advertised in the school newsletter.

***Next Board Meeting: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April.***

### **CONTACTING YOUR BOARD**

If you would like to contact the board regarding any queries, you can email us at: [Board@buckland.school.nz](mailto:Board@buckland.school.nz). It is important to remember that there are proper channels and procedures in place for concerns and complaints, and these can be found on the school website here: [Home>BOT>Concerns and Complaints Policy & Procedures](#). If you need assistance and would like a board member to support you in following the correct processes, please do not hesitate to ask. Additionally, say hello and have a chat next time you see us at school!

### **PTA**

Thank you to those who have stepped up to run the school PTA, and also to those who have stepped down for their contributions. Further details will come in both the school's newsletter and the PTA's own newsletter. Without a strong PTA many fundraising opportunities can be missed, as well as fun activities for our students.

### **PROPERTY UPDATE**

The staffroom project has now been completed and our staff are very happy to have a more user-friendly space to accommodate them. Thanks must go to Darryl Goldsack and Lisa Robertson for their significant efforts in seeing this challenging project through to the end.

More projects are on the agenda, including upgrades to several of our classrooms this year.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April is the last day of Term 1, and Term 2 starts on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, following a Teacher Only Day on the Monday and ANZAC Day on the Tuesday. Don't forget to buy a poppy and/or get out there to acknowledge our servicemen and servicewomen on the 25<sup>th</sup>.