

Kia ora BPS whanau,

It's hard to believe we are almost wrapping up term 3 - 2023 is zooming by! We started this 'normal year' post-COVID with some wild weather, including unprecedented rain and cyclones. Then came the transition of bidding farewell to Mr. Verryt and welcoming our new tumuaki - Mr. Naera. Amidst all of this, our fantastic BPS team has stayed focused on teaching our tamariki, with a particular focus on structured literacy post covid, giving all tamariki the best education.

A big 'shout out' from the board to our incredible teachers and team for the mahi they put into the school. And a special thank you to Sam Knowles and Simone Nair, who stepped up during the principal transition time and kept our school running smoothly.

Upcoming board election

As we approach our midterm election cycle, we are pleased to announce that we have engaged CES, an independent education advisory practice, to oversee our election process. The CES team will be sending out nomination forms shortly to fill two parent representative positions on the board. Both Vimal Nair and Nathan Stantiall will be stepping down in October, following their 3-year terms. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for their contributions and dedication to the governance of BPS.

If you are interested in becoming a board member, please feel free to contact us directly at bot@bps.school.nz or submit your nomination via CES (once they have emailed the parent community). The nomination period will conclude on Wednesday 11th October. The elected candidates will commence their 3-year term in November 2023.

ERO review

In late term 2, the school received the finalised ERO review. As part of our 3-year cycle with ERO, the reviewers have provided feedback indicating that the school is operating well. We are currently in a consolidation phase after successfully implementing the recent changes to the modern learning environments and the leadership structure. This positive endorsement from ERO affirms that our school is on the right track and no significant issues require further review. You can access the full ERO report at <https://ero.govt.nz/institution/1231/birkenhead-school>

School donations

Thank you to all our whānau who have already paid their school donations. Your contributions play a crucial role in supporting our school in various ways. For example:

- The board allocates funds to employ additional teaching staff, which enables our tamariki to make accelerated progress in their learning, especially as we work to make up for the lost time during the COVID-interrupted years.
- We invest in additional resources for the school, such as the new iDeal program for literacy, ensuring that our teachers have access to all the necessary materials to introduce this research-based approach.

To check whether your donation has been received, you can simply navigate to the finance section on your Hero app. Please note that all payments to the school will be visible through this portal, while PTA contributions and one-off event payments will be processed via Kindo.

As we look ahead to term 4, the year's final stretch, we would like to thank our wonderful school whānau for their continued commitment to BPS. Our team remains dedicated to ensuring that our tamariki receive the best education they can receive within our community school.

As always, if you have any feedback, please feel free to share it with us by emailing bot@bps.school.nz. Enjoy the final few days of term and the upcoming school holidays!

Ngā mihi nui,

Jo/Alice/Jared/Naomi/Nathan/Vimal/Francis

