



BoT Chairperson Report 2023

Tēna koutoa katoa,

As another school year draws to a close, I reflect, and I am extremely proud of our school community. Massive thanks to everyone – but especially our committed leaders.

Karen has worked tirelessly once again, and the success of our school is a reflection of her hard work and leadership.

Our teachers and support staff have devoted so much time and effort into our Tamariki – thank you for your dedication and care.

Mel – once again working hard behind the scenes and making it look effortless.

Our Board members - Josie, Ginny, Charles, Stu and Fiona, thank you for your passion toward the school.

The Hall committee and their continued support of our Kura, and involvement with our projects this year - kia ora.

Lastly, but most definitely not least; Ngāti Tairi. The relationship between the school and Ngāti Tairi is unique and invaluable, their input is enriching our school and community in a positive way. Thank you.

We have continued to receive positive reports from the teachers around the tamariki's academic achievements, and thorough processes are in place to identify those that require more time and input. We are pleased to see consistent achievements across the board, comparative to previous years. It is especially satisfying to see how some of the students who appear to be testing 'below their age', demonstrate perseverance and make consistent gains throughout their school year.

Once again this year, our Ōmata Tamariki have excelled when representing us at regional events and competitions. Whether it be Epro8, athletics, AIMS games, Taranaki cross country champs, science fair or maths, the Ōmata Tamariki stand up and make us all proud. This is a testament to not only the children, but also the teachers, their dedication and investment into them.

The Board have continued to grow as a team and have had a great year. We have all felt like we have had a busy time, and based on the list of things we have achieved, it's not surprising. Board and School finances remain healthy, and the responsible management of this over the years is a big reason for why we can make projects happen. With our school roll remaining consistent, we continue to request the Ministry to provide us with a new learning space. This could be a temporary classroom. Ideally we would love to build from scratch, but there are some great looking new relocatable options these days, and we will keep working towards what is best for the school.

This year the Board have accomplished a couple of planned projects that have improved the school and our tamariki's learning environments. The refurbishment of rooms saw

some 'musical classrooms' take place during the year, with the hall being used as temporary space. The work freshened up these spaces and the final product has been well received by teachers and students alike. We also had some remedial work completed on the storm water and effluent systems, improving capacity and the lifetime of these facilities. Thank you to Iain and his team at Koru Plumbing for their mahi in that respect. We have recently seen a new saltwater chlorination system set up in the pool, which will be an excellent addition to go with the heat pump! The heat pump was definitely popular with the tamariki in term one.

The board have invested in a Solar system, utilising the Hall roof. This has been an exciting project for me personally and gives daily and on the spot information about the schools production and efficiencies from this renewable energy. Once again, thanks to the team at Solar Plus for their quality work on this.

The newly painted basketball courts, with the outstanding new basketball hoops have meant these areas are extremely popular – the hoops are a great asset to our tamariki's physical education.

This years highlights for me personally, have been the recent student Art Exhibition – which was simply exceptional - coaching some of our Ōmata tamariki at the local Kaitake Rugby club, having four (yes four!) of my children here at Ōmata, and seeing our exciting projects come to fruition in 2023.

As a Board, we are continually discussing how to improve the schools learning environments, and any other projects that can benefit the tamariki. We look forward to seeing what's next for Ōmata in 2024!

Nga Mihi,
Josh Johnson
BoT Chairperson