



Kelburn Normal School

Board of Trustees News August 2020

Kia ora koutou

How quickly things change. The news of community transmission was not what any of us wanted to hear. Thank you to all the teachers and staff for keeping calm and carrying on, it is appreciated. The country's response to Covid sure does reinforce the importance of community spirit and that we are all in this together. Andrew's 12 August newsletter sets out what level 2 means for the daily running of the school, you can read it by [following this link](#).



Office refurbishment

The office refurbishment is progressing well. You would have seen Andrew's emails about the dreaded asbestos. It is in a confined area and will be dealt with by the licensed asbestos removal specialist, Clear Air Asbestos Management Limited. It is expected that the removal work will start next week. Andrew will continue to keep you up-to-date.

While the office refurbishment is being managed and funded by the Ministry, it has had a significant impact and inconvenience on the team. So thanks to all the staff for their flexibility and "can do" attitude. It will be good to be able to spread out again when the works are finished, which is expected to be at the end of this term.

Landscape Project

Thanks to those who have provided feedback on the Landscaping Plan. We have received some very insightful comments from a variety of perspectives. We will report back to you on the themes, but I think we can say at this stage that there will be no loose gravel near the bottom court! Most of the landscape project will be funded by the Ministry of Education through capital improvement funding and the School Investment Package funding announced in December 2019. The PTA is on the planning committee, and are poised to help the school with those items the Ministry won't fund, such as shade sails and plants. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the PTA fundraising efforts, we are very grateful.

Donations and School Income

Decile 10 schools, such as KNS, receive less operational grant funding because it is anticipated the community is able to assist. As a result KNS relies on donations to supplement the everyday costs of running the school. The whānau donation is also used to provide extra teacher and learning support not paid for by the Ministry, and also to support the school's arts programme by providing specialist teaching for choirs and kapa haka. Historically the school has been very fortunate and received 100% of requested whānau donations, however so far this year it has received 68%. Donations requested to cover the costs of school activities, such as tech and camps, have historically been fully reimbursed. This year activity donations are sitting at 80%.

With the likelihood of the country's borders remaining closed to international students, the school is anticipating a significant reduction in income from the international students programme in 2021. In previous

years this programme has brought welcome income to the school, which has again supplemented the daily running of the school and allowed for things like extra teacher support.

Thank you to those who have made a donation. If you haven't yet please make the requested whānau and activity donations if you are able. The school does rely on the donations and your support is appreciated. You can choose to make part payments or donate by regular instalments, and all donations are eligible for a 33% tax rebate. If you want to talk through payment options ring Loraine Best in the office or email her at loraineb@kelburnnormal.school.nz. Your enquiries will be kept confidential.

If you have any questions or comments for the Board about donations or any other issue please contact us by emailing bot@kelburnnormal.school.nz.

Ngā mihi nui

Nickie van der Beek
Chairperson