

BOARD-CAST

JULY 2019



Board-Cast is an occasional newsletter produced by Albany Primary School's Board of Trustees and is one of the ways the Board of Trustees provides information to its community.

Your current Board members are: Rick Pierce (Chairperson), Maree Bathurst (Principal), Alison Chambers, Wei Lu, John Rutherford, Ying Ming (Sophia) Wang and Joanne Paviour (Staff Representative)

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The Board of Trustees wish to thank and acknowledge the community for their petition, feedback and submissions to the Ministry of Education as well as attendance at our three public meetings regarding the proposed changes to our enrolment scheme. To our Unsworth Heights community, your support is heartening. We appreciate the passionate loyalty you have expressed to our school and the strong connection you hold to the Albany area. We are carefully considering all feedback as we prepare our recommendations to the Ministry of Education, who ultimately make the final decision.

We also wish to thank the Member for Upper Harbour, Paula Bennett and Member for East Coast Bays, Erica Stanford as well as the Upper Harbour Community Board. We really appreciate the support they have offered to ensure the Albany voice is heard. Erica has also indicated she will be continuing to lobby on our behalf, starting with an on-line petition for a new school in the Albany area.

This week we were informed that we would have two temporary / portable classrooms moved on to our school for the start of Term 4, which is an encouraging first step to increasing our capacity to cater for school roll growth. Unfortunately, to accommodate these classrooms we will need to remove our junior playground as this flat level area is deemed the most suitable site. The playground was already "under code" and due for replacement in the next year, so we will begin a major fundraising campaign to build a new playground located elsewhere on the school grounds.

Obviously prefabricated classrooms are only a "short term" fix, but we have also been informed that the Auckland Office of the Ministry of Education are very aware of the need for permanent classrooms and we should have further information shortly on any anticipated construction. We will update you once this information is confirmed.

Although we require the Library next term as a classroom space, Mrs Furness, Mrs Lilly, Mrs Wang and the student librarians have worked tirelessly to ensure children will still have the ability to access our wonderful book collection. Classes have selected which books they want for their levels. These have been packed up and will be rotated through the classrooms.

We understand that growth brings challenges and we appreciate your patience and ongoing support as we work with the Ministry of Education to ensure we have the resources and infrastructure required to help us grow in a sustainable manner.

Ka kite ano

Albany Primary School - Where learning makes a difference