

# TE PĀNUI O TE POARI / THE BOARD NOTICES

It's hard to believe we're so far into term 3 already! We had our latest Board hui on Monday night and a lot was discussed, because as always, there is so much going on around our kura/school. One of the good news stories shared was all the planting happening in Waitawa Bush and the positive impact on all our tamariki/children who are invested in the wellbeing of this taio/environment. We greatly appreciate everyone who has put mahi/work into enhancing this fantastic learning space, especially our tamariki, our Environment kaiako/teacher Yosuke Hase, Helen Creagh and her team at Rotorua Lakes Council, Adrienne, her team and our sponsors the Rotary Club with Trees for Survival and our amazing Tumuaki/Principal Whaea Hinei who is constantly working with many different stakeholders for funding and resource in this space because she knows the value of this taonga/treasure to our tamariki.

In regards to property projects around our kura - we finally have the fencing complete! A big thank you to Whaea Hinei and Board member Daniel Gibbs, along with our awesome caretaker Heke Tarei who quickly became experts in this area to ensure the best solutions were delivered to keep our tamariki safe. We also had an update on our gym repairs. As you may know, this building is shared ownership between us and the Ministry of Education and it's been in a bit of a state for a while, with the roof in dire need of repair. We finally saved enough for our share of the repairs and had the Ministry agree to fund their part and we've had a project team appointed and plans drawn up. We hit a bit of a delay recently (as always happens with big projects) but at this stage, we may begin repair work in October. This will create disruption for our tamariki and community who use this space for various extracurricular activities as it will be closed for the duration of repairs. The project team has assured us they will work quickly to minimise the downtime in this space, but as these projects always seem to take longer than expected we'll continue to update our community as we know more. We also need to do some remediation work on our admin block due to some leaks and this has been approved and will hopefully happen later this year as well.

# TE PĀNUI O TE POARI CONTINUED

We have agreed to set up a Board sub-committee to look into the health and safety issues around drop off and pick up and look into the near misses we are having from people using our staff and gym carparks to drop off their tamariki. We know that there is no ideal solution for collecting and dropping off your precious cargo but we'd like to investigate how we can improve this and mitigate the risk of an accident occurring. It is a constant worry for us and a burden for all our staff to manage. We are very keen to hear from our community on the challenges and suggestions for improving or changing this important part of the day. If you have expertise in this area or have information that would help this sub-committee, please email us at [bot@lynmore.school.nz](mailto:bot@lynmore.school.nz).

We also reviewed all the grants we apply for that help us continue to provide quality education for all our tamariki. We received a total of \$152,165 in grants last year to help us pay for things like sports uniforms, camp, trees for Waitawa Bush, science trolleys, our new playground and a scooter and bike rack. This year so far we've received \$159,864 in grants for things like our new shade sails (due to be up before term 4) and a new school van. We wanted to review which grants we were applying for, with full transparency to where it came from. We worked out that 47 % last year, and 50% this year have come from money associated with community gambling. We discussed the ethics of receiving money from these organisations due to the harm gambling causes many whānau in the community. We wanted to make sure our school whānau was clear on how much additional funding we have to apply for to continue to make Lynmore School an excellent place for your children.

As many of you know, we are one of only two Rotorua schools who do not receive the additional \$150 per student from the government and it's why we ask for this donation if you have the means to do so.

# TE PĀNUI O TE POARI CONTINUED

The system used by the government to work out this funding allocation is, in our opinion, flawed, and it means constant fundraising and grant applications if we want to provide the resources our kids deserve. It's also worth noting that the grant applications take a considerable amount of both Whaea Hinei and Kerrie's time. But at this stage, we need to continue investigating all avenues to fill the funding shortfall. If you have any suggestions or want to offer assistance in the area of fundraising, we'd love for you to get in touch.

School Board elections will be this time next year, which means we have begun planning to ensure smooth running of the school when a new Board is elected. The community will need to fill five parent spots and not all of our existing Board will stand again, so we want to plant the seed with our parent community early. If you are interested in governance (policies, processes, property, finance) and supporting our amazing management team to continue all their mahi, then have a think about being on the Board. There is training available to support you if you don't have experience in this area, however, it will mean a time commitment. If you want more information on what a Board does or want to sit in on a hui to see what it's like, please email us.

As always, please contact us if you have any concerns or comments at [bot@lynmore.co.nz](mailto:bot@lynmore.co.nz). Our next hui is on the 30th of October at 6pm in the SLT office at school. Anyone is welcome to attend, we just need prior notice for our agenda. Our policies and strategic plan can be found on the school website and our minutes can be accessed at any time in Kerrie's office, which is next to Hinei's in the admin block.

Noho ora mai

**The #Team Lynmore Poari/Board**

*Aneta, Annamarie, Belinda, Daniel, Hancine, Hinei, Karen and Sarah*