

25 March 2022



Hello Muritai Families,

The Muritai School Board held its second Board Meeting of 2022 on Wednesday 23rd March, again we did this online with current red Covid settings in place. Along with the usual topics and discussions, there was also a strong focus on two areas. The first being wellbeing, the Board wishes to continue to focus on the well-being of our staff and children at Muritai. To that end, the Board is investing in staff well-being and professional development, with programs which benefit both staff and children. The second is how our covid measures are performing and do we need to review any aspects, especially with the announcements about changes to Covid responses and settings coming earlier that day.

### **Covid 19 Response – update**

With the announcements made about changes to the COVID Protection Framework the Board discussed how these would adjust current operational plans including the removal of vaccine mandates for the education sector. The Board will monitor changes and guidance being provided by the Ministry of Education and ensure that plans are adjusted as required. The Board is acutely aware that removal of restrictions should allow greater freedoms and access to the school environs during the school day and how important this is to the parent community. Updates will be provided by way of the school newsletter as information comes to light.

### **Structured Literacy – School Wide**

You may have read in the news this week about schools in New Zealand having decreasing results in Literacy. We are pleased our Muritai results have not reflected this, as our learners continue to achieve well in Literacy. However, there is a growing body of evidence that shows a move to Structured Literacy is a great way of improving literacy outcomes. As such, the Board is pleased to announce we have engaged an organisation who specialise in Structured Literacy who are now beginning to work with our wonderful teachers, to up-skill them and advise how to best incorporate this approach into our teaching programmes. Be assured that along with this enhanced focus on literacy, the school remains committed to ensuring the best outcomes for all core subjects, Reading, Writing and Maths.

For more information and further reading on Structured Literacy see: <https://www.liftingliteracyaotearoa.org.nz/>

### **Football Goals – For the Playground**



Football is a very popular game at Muritai. Last year you could see huge games of football going on at breaks and lunch time. The goals, which had been donated, have been played with so much that they are now damaged beyond repair.

The good news for all our keen footballers at Muritai is that the Board has approved purchasing a quality set of football goals that will last for many years to come. We are working on acquiring these ASAP.

Furthermore, we will continue to consider what sports equipment may need an upgrade or to be purchased for our school

Warm wishes

Muritai School Board - Kaye, Andrew, Bec, Jeremy, Kurt, Lisa and Felicity.