



## Ka mua, ka muri

### Looking back, moving forwards.

E ngā whānau, ngā hāpori, nga tamariki o Te Kura o Haewai,  
Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

As 2017 draws to a close, we (your board of trustees) thought it would be good to reflect back on the year and highlight some of the truly great things that happen in our school. There is of course always so much more that occurs than is easily able to be written into a short summary. So here goes....

### Education and Achievement

2017 has been a year to continue to bed in the ongoing development of the HVS curriculum and our Inquiry Model of learning. The Inquiry Model of learning is an approach that teachers use to help our tamariki build strengths in 'learning how to learn' and also for teachers to build strengths in 'teaching how to learn'. This approach helps to strengthen '**student agency**' which ensures that as they mature, our tamariki can take greater responsibility for their learning and development. There are many aspects to this, for example, the 3-way conferences where students help decide their learning objectives. This year we have developed the use of **Learning Maps** that support our tamariki to understand how they learn and how they can get support to learn.

We have continued to develop our assessment processes to help identify which tamariki may need further support to improve their educational outcomes and then tailor specific support where required. We are pleased to say that the relatively small percentage of children that needed further help all achieved a good positive shift in their achievements this year.

A big school wide focus this year was **Kaitiakitanga** – Guardianship. This was explored, using Inquiry, across several areas such as; Kaitiakitanga ō Tātou Katoa (Guardians of Ourselves), Tangaroa (Guardians of the Sea) and Tane Mahuta - (Guardian of the Forest and the Birds).

After some years of waiting to be able to do this, we have been able to initiate our **Positive Behaviour for Learning** (PB4L) programme. PB4L looks at behaviour and learning from a whole-of-school as well as an individual child perspective. PB4L helps New Zealand schools build a culture where positive behaviour and learning is a way of life. This will be a significant piece of work in 2018.

A big thank you to all the parents that came to the evening information sessions on both our Inquiry Model and PB4L. Look out for further opportunities to learn more about these in 2018.

We also undertook a self-audit of our ability to support Māori students to achieve educational success as Māori. This strategy is known as **Ka Hikitia** and we will aim to progress work in this area in 2018.

### Environment and Property

After close to four years of effort, 2017 finally saw us get long overdue renovation work underway on Pohutukawa, Kowhai, Nikau and Karaka. Pohutukawa, Kowhai have been renovated for some time now and work on Nikau and Karaka will be finished around the start of the school year (hopefully earlier).

Work to design a new classroom next to Rata is underway and we are hopeful that the actual build will start sometime in 2018 so that the classroom can be ready for use for the start of the 2019 school year. Or, if we are lucky, we may be able to start using it during 2018.

2017 saw the bike track come to life, additions were made to the adventure playground and of course the wonderful Tremendous makeover happened. Thank you to everyone that has contributed to these great initiatives.

Our Green Gecko environment leaders have been involved in setting up various initiatives like the recycling area by the hall and working with Zealandia to put traps for rats etc around the rainforest.

### **Opportunities**

Our tamariki continue to have great opportunities to participate in a variety of activities ranging from various sports; floorball, mini-ball, flipper-ball, netball, dodgeball, swimming, athletics and cross country to participating in; the choir, music, beach clean ups, kapa haka festival, camp, the Capital-E National Arts Festival and the Orange day parade, the Pedal Ready programme, ICAS exams and the Epro8 challenge (inter-school science).....to name but a few.

### **Home School**

As always the Home and Association have supported the school hugely this year, with the move-athon, picnic, disco, quiz night, chicken coop renovations and of course the legendary school fair. As always a big thank you to every parent that helps support these events.

### **Comings and Goings**

2017 was a big year for staff changes. We welcomed Louise Conwell, Michele Pontifex and Rekha Tiwari (Rekha has been a reliever for many years at HVS) and Peter Holmstead returned after a mini-sabbatical. We said goodbye to Raewyn our Principal of 5 years and as 2017 closes we are saying goodbye to Joe Ready and Gabrielle Harvey. We have ended the year under the excellent stewardship of Lara Nemet and Monica Mercury who have done a great job acting as Co-Principals for Term 4.

In 2018 Sophia Bridgwater will be starting in Kowhai and of course Luana Carroll will start as the next great Principal for HVS. Andrew Downes, Karen Parr and Anna Ririnui are ending their time on the board - a big thank you to them for their valuable contributions. We will have two new Trustees starting in 2018; Susan Hall and Richard Carroll.

It's been a full-on year of change and growth at our school, and we'd like to express our gratitude for the dedication of all our staff and the support you've shown as whānau and champions of our awesome children. We offer our blessings to all our families for a happy and restful summer break and look forward to reconnecting in the new year!

No reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, ngà mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.