

# **Houghton Valley School**

## **Board of Trustees Panui**

29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

kia ora koutou

Ngā mihi o te ngahuru, e te whānau o Haewai: autumnal greetings to the families of Houghton Valley School!

The sun is beginning to drop in the sky after a spectacular summer. The board would like to formally acknowledge our new board members, new staff and new families who have been settling into our awesome community. Thanks to everyone who participated in the pōwhiri to welcome Luana and the new kids and teachers to our school. 2018 is going to be a fantastic year for Houghton Valley School, with solutions to our property challenges well and truly on track, a fabulous new principal, and a strong focus on learning for all our kids.

The new government have determined that the National Standards which have been a big focus of assessment for all schools around New Zealand aren't the most effective way of measuring learning- as a result you'll notice some changes in the way you hear about your child's learning at Houghton Valley School. The board are very aware that there are lots more changes ahead on the horizon for the education system that Houghton Valley School operates within. In times of change it's even more crucial to have a strong educational leader like our new principal who can interpret and implement changes in ways that support all our learners to thrive.

We'd like to do a quick shout out to Joanna, our amazing librarian, who has done so much to keep the library happening for all our kids without an actual library. And also big ups to the Home and School committee, who do so much for our school. It's their support that keeps the flying fox flying, the bike track pumping, and ensures that the school's amazing outside spaces provide heaps of fun and learning for our kids.

Anyone is very welcome to come to board meetings and get an idea of what we actually do and the issues that we are looking at. The next one is 7.30pm on Tuesday 10 April. They are held in the staffroom.

One thing that the Board does is put in place policies for the school. To comply with new requirements in the Education Act we have put in place a policy about the use of restraint and seclusion at school. It is on the school website.

Ma te wa

The HVS Board of Trustees