



December 2011

# Kohimarama School Board of Trustees Newsletter



We all knew that the short Term 4 would be a rush, and it has definitely been hectic. Recent events include Athletics, Rock Band Showcase, Year 8 Tongariro Crossing, Celebrating the Arts night, Touch Tournament, 2012 New Entrant visit, PTA Family Fun night, not to mention the normal academic programme needed to be fitted in to a very short time period.

## Thank you to...

The Board of Trustees would like to extend our sincere thanks to all our wonderful staff and school community volunteers:

- ✓ All our fabulous teachers and teacher aides who work very hard, both inside and outside the classroom.
- ✓ Our office staff, Sue Curlett, Georgina Neal and Gail Eccles, who calmly and efficiently handle the many issues the school and community throws at them.
- ✓ Our friendly caretaker, Russell Graham, who makes sure our school is very well maintained.
- ✓ Our management team, Diane Manners, Lesley Demler and Megan Hill, who drive the school with their endless energy and enthusiasm.
- ✓ Our amazing PTA lead by Nancy Irvine and Alison Glasgow-Palmer, assisted by Penny Boland and Sarah Shorter-Robinson and the many other generous PTA volunteers.
- ✓ To those staff that are moving on, we wish you well in your future endeavours.

We wish you all a happy and well deserved holiday!

## The Kahi Way

Have you asked your child about the current Kahi Way focus?

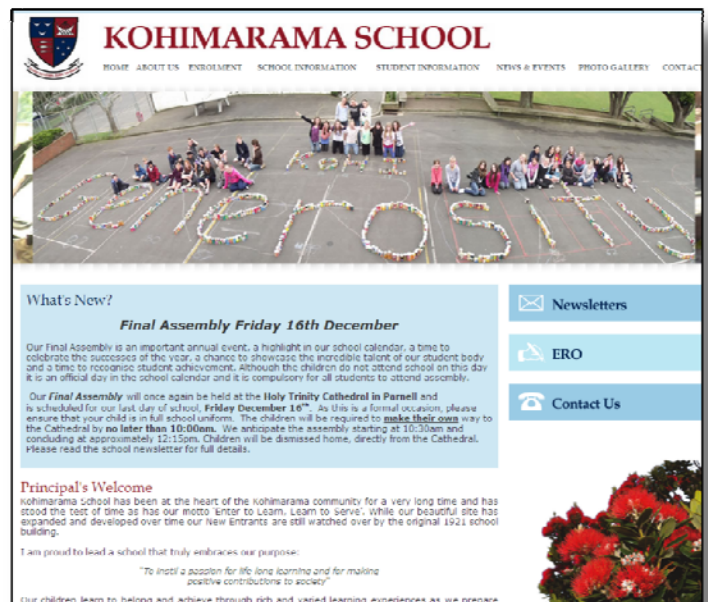


*Without flexibility, people keep doing things the same old way when new ways are needed. They become rigid. They get angry and upset when things don't go their way and try to control other people. When you are flexible, you adjust and adapt. You bend like a tree in the wind. You keep making positive changes.*

## New Website Launched

We are delighted to announce the launch of the new website. Thank you to Diane and team for the enormous effort that has gone in to creating new content and new design. N.B. This is the first phase of a long term plan to develop our website capability.

Please have a look [www.kohi.school.nz](http://www.kohi.school.nz)



## We care about our school...

We have all been alarmed about the recent fires at Glendowie and Churchill Park Schools, now causing major cost and time disruption in these schools.

We also had a burglary at Kohimarama School on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, when a data projector and a specialist function laptop were stolen.

Replacement of even these small items is costly, and the thought of the impact of a fire is unbearable.

Therefore, whenever you are passing the school or in the school grounds outside class hours, or at anytime during weekends and holidays, please keep alert for any signs of suspicious behaviour, and report it immediately:

- Matrix Security: ph 579 1567
- Police, Glen Innes Station: ph 524 1910

**BOT e-mail address: [BOT@Kohi.School.nz](mailto:BOT@Kohi.School.nz).**

We appreciate your feedback, therefore please feel free to contact us at this e-mail address.

## Results of the Board Elections

Kohimarama School is very lucky to have the support of the community, always with more candidates for the Board Parent Representative positions than the number available. Thank you very much to these candidates who volunteered to join the Board.

The results of the November Parent Representative election were:

	No. of Votes
Craig Presland	103
Kit Parkinson	80
Bruce Bryant	64
Rob Donley	37

Therefore congratulations and welcome to Craig (who replaces Karen Humphries) and congratulations to Kit on your re-election.

## Farewell to outgoing Staff Representative

We thank Tom Barter for his contribution to the Board as Staff Representative, and we wish him well in his new position at St Kentigern School in Remuera.

A new Staff Representative for the Board will be elected in the New Year.

## Strategic Plan and Annual Plan Review

In November the Board reviewed the Strategic Plan 2011-2014, noting there has been excellent progress achieved by the school on the action items of the 2011 Annual plan, setting us up well for similar positive progress in 2012.

## Electronic Attendance Registers

The Ministry of Education auditor was very positive about the recent implementation of electronic attendance and roll systems, which supported our July return documentation. Thank you to everyone who is ensuring they notify the school of student unexpected absences, and for obtaining *prior permission* whenever you have any reason whatsoever for a planned absence.

## Holiday property work

Key property development work in the summer holidays will include:

- Painting of external windows and doors, and some surfaces on A Block.
- Security system upgrading including setting up a new zone from Room 11-15.
- Installation of two more Active Boards in Rooms 18 and 23.

## Annual School Donations

**THANK YOU** to those families who have paid their donation. We strongly encourage all parents to support your children's education by paying the annual donation.

It is an unfortunate reality that the high standard of education which Kohimarama School provides our children is not fully funded by the Government. Typical of decile 10 schools, we rely heavily on the shortfall being covered by the school donations and fundraising.

To those families who have not yet completed their payment for 2011, please make your payment this week, so we can continue to provide our high standard of education into 2012.

The donation for 2012 will remain at \$450 per child.

## Awesome Gate Art Project

Thank you to Tom Barter, the Gate Art team and Kiri students who have designed and created this stunning mural on the wall next to the field.



***We wish all our students, staff and their families a safe and happy holidays, and look forward to seeing you again in 2012.***

