



Board of Trustees Newsletter

JULY 2017

From the Chair

Dear parents and caregivers

We're halfway through the 2017 academic year – how time flies. Your Board has been focused on supporting the school to implement its plan for this year – primarily related to:

- Monitoring Student Achievement – with a snapshot of PAT results in this newsletter;
- Enabling transition to our relieving principal during Rosemary's sabbatical;
- Review and update to our governance policies – including a proposed change to our Integration Agreement; and
- Preparation for our the planned building works.

Policy

The Board directs the school through our policy framework. This framework is based on legislative requirements and both Ministry and Catholic School's Office requirements. As an State-Integrated school we are subject to the Education Act, which repealed the previous Private Schools Conditional Integration Act 1975 with the insertion of Part 33 into the Education Act. This puts an emphasis on our School's specific Integration Agreement.

The Ministry of Education and the Catholic Schools office are seeking to change to our Integration Agreement. The Board have reviewed the request and would like your feedback on the proposed change – more information on this is outlined in this newsletter.

Property

We have continued our discussions with both the Parish and the Diocese with regards to the funding and commencement of our Build programme. These discussions have reached a successful conclusion – which will enable the first two phases of our programme – the New Block, and the Library relocation/Admin Renewal. The Board would like to thank the PTFA for its contribution to our funding, particularly through the recent raffle.

Based on progress over the last few weeks, we anticipate the Diocese will release the tender in Term 3, with a proposed start to our build in Term 4 of this year. The Board and Management team will share with you the specifics of the build work and the school operations as these plans and timelines are confirmed through the rest of the year.

Thanks to Maureen Grimes

At the Parish/School Mass the Board took the opportunity to formally thank our Relieving Principal, Maureen Grimes. Maureen has been with our school for the entirety of Term 2 and has seamlessly stepped into the Principal role.

Alongside our thanks to Maureen, the Board would like to thank and acknowledge the Management Team, teachers and staff for supporting Maureen and their focus on enabling your children to excel and learn.

We look forward to welcoming back Rosemary Kemp in Term 3.

Best regards

Kevin and your Board

**A quote from
Catherine
McCauley**

"Our charity must be in our hearts and from our hearts."

Catherine McAuley is the Founder of the Sisters of Mercy



"Ignite in our children the passion for limitless learning navigated by Catholic Values"

Integration Agreement – Proposed Change – being “Decapitation”

As noted in the introduction, The Ministry of Education and the Catholic Schools office are seeking to change our Integration Agreement. This change will change our rolls allowance – removing the ability to accommodate Year 7 and 8 girls within our school

Background

In 1982 when Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School was Integrated – and became a State Integrated Catholic school, our school was classified as a full primary School with boys from new entrants to Year 6 and girls from new entrants to Year 8.

By the mid-1990s the number of girls remaining on for Years 7 and 8 had reduced significantly and our school together with five other central Auckland Catholic primary schools decided that the schools would operate as Year 1-6 contributing schools and that girls would move to Catholic Secondary schools for Year 7. Since that time our school has not operated any Year 7 or 8 classes.

Impact of the change

Our Integration Agreement has not been changed to reflect the change in our operations. The process to make this change is termed “Decapitation” – in that it takes the “head” off our school roll – being Year 7 and 8. Bishop Patrick Dunn as the Proprietor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School will be applying of officially change our School’s Integration Agreement to reflect that we are, and intend to operate as, a Year 1 to 6 school.

Your Board of Trustees is supportive and endorses of this change. We have no expectation of offering Year 7 and 8 classes – and any such offering would adversely impact on our existing students and structures as we are constrained by our maximum role.

We would like your feedback on this change – either in support or against.

Feedback can be provided to olsh.kevin@outlook.co.nz and will be accepted until **noon, 4 August 2017**.

PAT results – Term 1 2017

The primary focus of your Board is on the systems and actions that allow your child to achieve and progress to their best. Is regular review of information about student achievement is a key element of this oversight.

In May the Board receive a report on the achievement levels of our children in the Term 1 PAT tests. These tests provide our staff with insights into students who will need support or extension through the year. The tests provide a lead indicator on overall achievement expected for our student cohort at the end of the school year. Our school’s overall PAT test performance is summarised below:

