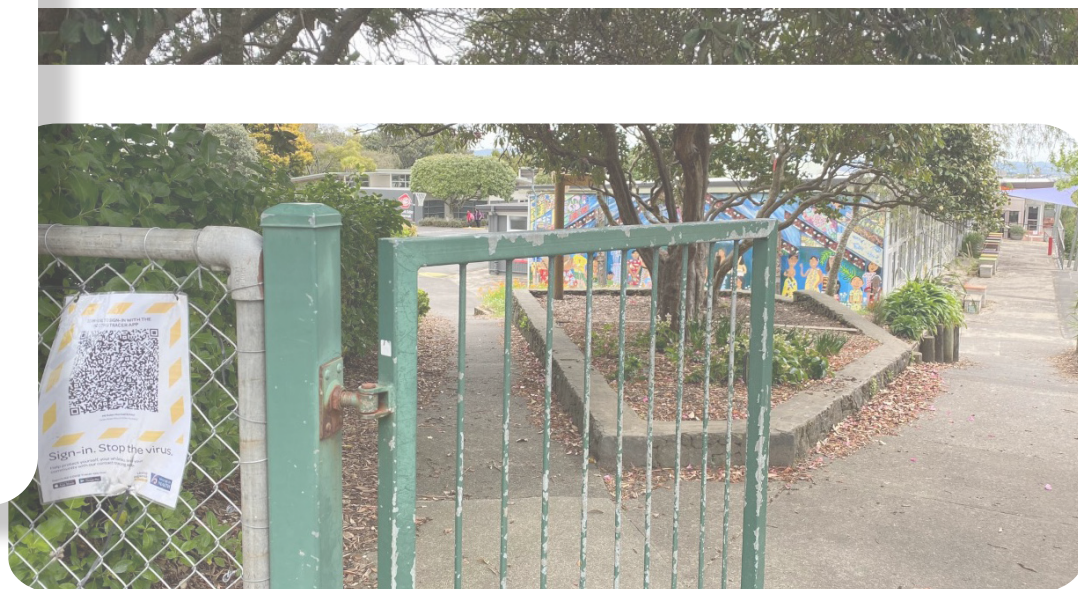




# M.E.N.P.S. Matters

School Board  
Newsletter

OCTOBER 2021



## School in a Bubble.

### The Bubble is back

They say ignorance is bliss, perhaps the short period of "relative normality" was too good to last. The Delta variant has shown us that COVID-19 and lockdowns are sadly not over.

Returning to the Bubble for many of us has meant distance learning within the family environment. The pressure from multiple broadband requirements, entrapped and frustrated students, has been a challenge.

We are all sharing similar challenges and frustrations in moving forward with the education of our children. Understanding, patience, a lot of patience! are seeing our community making the best of a less than ideal situation. Ironically parents are involved to a greater degree in their children's education whether it is Algebra, pro-nouns or fighting metaphors families are learning together more than ever before.

While every family's learning requirements differ and challenges may vary the ongoing focus on our children's education continues.

Teachers and Parents are excelling in bringing the best they can out of the situation. We would like to give our recognition and appreciation to the hard work and sacrifices made by both parents and teachers in this time of adjustment.

Once again, we are reliant on those in our community involved in essential services. While the schools are looking after children's learning we appreciate you are helping to look after our community.

### Sports Canopy

Most school works and projects have been on hold during Level 4. Now that this hiatus is thawing, we are looking to resume progress on the Sports Canopy.

The upgrade to the staff lunchroom has almost been completed, however the teachers only enjoyed a taste as lockdown got in the way.

### Being involved in your school

The Board are keen to hear from any motivated and enthusiastic parents that would like to participate in the Governance of our school, working with our Principal and his team to ensure the ongoing success and quality of our exceptional primary school. Our next elections are in May 2022.

If you would like to know more, please come along to one of our meetings, chat to one of our current Board members or contact our Board Chair Murray Streets, via [bot@mteden.school.nz](mailto:bot@mteden.school.nz) or request a call back via the school office.

### Our next meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27th of October at 6pm. We hope to be able to hold this in the staffroom however if restrictions apply zoom details will be made available on the school website.

### Term Break

It is ironic that after over five weeks of distance learning our children are about to enjoy a two-week holiday. While the term holiday maybe a misnomer and having our children at home is not as novel as it once could have been, on the bright side it will be a respite from ongoing home learning!

We hope that our families will enjoy this opportunity to get out and about, whether it be locally or in a more open capacity as restrictions ease.

We look forward to further progress with Vaccination rates and fewer cases over the coming weeks and hope that when term 4 commences it will herald a return to the physical classroom for our tamariki and our staff.

### Term 4 Sabbatical

On a positive note our Principal Alan Jackson is undertaking a sabbatical over Term 4. He has been awarded a TeachNZ study award to explore transition from early childhood to the Primary years, investigating the key learning areas of development of Te Whāriki in Early Childhood and possible implications for improving outcomes for tamariki when transitioning to school.

During his absence Maria Matene and her able Leadership team will be stepping into the breach. We support him in exploring this exciting and topical opportunity. The benefits for both Alan and Mt Eden normal primary school moving forward will be worth watching out for.

If you have any questions or would like to contact the Board please direct to Murray Streets, Board Chair on [bot@mteden.school.nz](mailto:bot@mteden.school.nz)

Ka kite anō au i a koutou

### The MENPS BOT Team

Murray, Alan, Brad, Richard, Fleur, Annette, Josie, James and Mathew

[bot@mteden.school.nz](mailto:bot@mteden.school.nz)