



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

School Board  
Newsletter

APRIL 2021



*We hope you all enjoyed the long weekend to celebrate Easter.*

## Goodbye Easter Bunny

I think we can all agree this term has been somewhat chaotic. Short weeks, short lockdowns, and long queues if you are trying to get back into Auckland have been some unwelcome features. While trying, it has been great to see that along with the Easter Bunny Mt Eden Normal Primary school bounced back.

Our teachers have once again stepped up to the mark or is that well over the mark in continuing online learning that was fun over the lockdown. Likewise, the Leadership team managed to reschedule the Year 5 camp and enable the parent-teacher interviews to proceed online. Facilitating this in the manner they have is a testimony to their fortitude.

## A great day for the FAIR

Wow! The weather gods were certainly looking out for MENPS on Sunday. It was fabulous to see such a great turn out of both school and local community. Everyone enjoyed discovering treasure and great bargains from clothing, cakes, books through to the jumble sale. Sights included a boy with a big stuffed gorilla around his neck, parents clutching their delicious cakes and plenty of smaller kids hyped up on ice blocks riding the mission impossible slide. Many teachers including Mr Jackson were also well dunked.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to the PTA, led by Renata Latimer and Marina Borodatova who had the school fair all organised, postponed and then reorganised, and to the many helpers who brought the stalls to life. Funds raised will go towards the planned collaboration between the PTA and the Board for a Sports Canopy.

## School Board – Musical Chairs

The School Board Chair and Deputy Chair positions were reelected early this year. Previous Board Chair Fleur Longley has stepped down and continues as a Trustee while Murray Streets, previously Deputy Chair has picked up the baton to lead the Board for the 2021 year. Murray joined the Board in 2016 and is in his second term, with twin girls in Year 5. Murray is committed to providing governance that sets up our kids with a passion for lifelong learning.

Annette Queasdo has stepped into the role of Deputy Chair. Annette was elected in 2019 and has three children at

MENPS in Years 1, 4 and 5. None of the Board members have left and it is great to see this level of collaboration and the Board working as a team.

## Continuous improvements

Alongside the window joinery upgrade, which is almost complete, work has been completed on Stage 1 of required maintenance on the deck area outside Room 15. We are currently awaiting on further confirmation from the Ministry of Education on further works required to our decking. Apologies for any inconvenience caused while we ensure these areas are kept safe for all.

## MENPS leads the way

A key responsibility of all school Boards is to ensure that there is an ongoing focus on Student Achievement. Recent test results indicate Mt Eden Normal Primary school continues to track above not only the National average but also above the average for comparable Decile 10 schools. Our children have certainly taken on the school motto "Wide eyed and enthusiastic about learning" and put it into practice with their attitudes towards Reading, Writing and Maths.

The media has been quick to talk about NZ's falling education standards, it is with great pride that we can state the experience of Mt Eden Normal Primary school has been quite the opposite. Just as our students go from strength to strength it is great to see our school continue to refine and improve. A large part of this is due to the hard work and dedication of our talented teaching and Leadership teams.

## All Welcome

Our next Board meeting is next term, scheduled for Wednesday 12th of May at 6pm in the staffroom. If you have an interest and would like to gain a further understanding of the work the Board does, we welcome your attendance.

As the first term draws to a close, we wish all our staff, students and school families a restful and enjoyable school holiday break.

The MENPS Board Team Murray, Annette, Alan, Brad, Fleur, Richard, Josie, Mathew and James.

