



OXFORD CRESCENT SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 – JUNE 2010

Greetings from the Board of Trustees Chair

It is hard to believe that the first term has been and gone and that we are more than halfway through term 2.

As some of you maybe aware the Board of Trustee elections process has now been completed with John Blaikie and Kim Hansen standing down as Board of Trustee members. Their departure has allowed two new people to join the team but it's important and appropriate to publicly acknowledge and thank both John and Kim for their respective efforts and commitment. The commitment demonstrated by both of these valued Board of Trustee team members provided a strong framework by which we were able to achieve so much.

With the transition from the old to the new it provides the occasion to welcome Mark Cruel and Kerry Weston to the Board as the new Board of Trustee members. The skills and passion these individuals bring to the Board will only strengthen what is already an effective governance structure. Although there is plenty to do over the coming year, with this new team I am positive we will see the school move from strength to strength.

Regards, Nic

Your Board of Trustees is pleased to report to you as follows:

Property Matters - Refurbishment of Admin Office

Starting on Tuesday 8th of June the school office and reception area is being temporarily relocated to the Deputy Principal's office for a period of 3 weeks. This is to make way for a refurbishment that better reflects the school's requirements, which is 'To provide an attractive, safe and healthy environment' and is part of the school's 5-year property plan.

The school's office and reception area is being re vamped to produce a more welcoming and attractive environment while at the same time providing a more secure environment.

Property Contd.

A new, secure and private, office is being built for Helen to give her more privacy when dealing with sensitive information.

The admin staff will take up residence in their newly refurbished office after the 28th June.

Mark Cruel

National Standards

From 2010 the Ministry of Education has mandated that schools with children in Years 1-8 will be using National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics. National Standards are aimed at lifting student achievement in literacy and numeracy (reading, writing, and mathematics) by being clear about what students should achieve and by when.

At Oxford Crescent School we believe we have always held high expectations for our students and we were using many of the teaching strategies and assessment tools outlined in the National Standards. This year the senior management team will be attending courses on implementing the National Standards. The National Standards will be the main focus for professional development for all staff over the next three years.

Teachers will continue to use many different ways to find out where your child is at in reading, writing and mathematics. This will assist teachers and students to identify their next learning goals. We have developed a reporting system based on the National Standards that we will trial this year and we look forward to your feedback on our interview system and our new reports. We would like all students to attend interviews this year so we can work together with you and your child to help them to achieve.

Leanne White - Principal

Merilyn McKenzie - Deputy Principal

Finance:

Four weeks until the holidays are upon us again! Where has the term gone?

What's happening in the world of finance here at Oxford Crescent School? Our annual audit for 2009 is nearing completion and no significant issues have arisen out of that process which is certainly a great position to be in! We have almost finalised the annual accounts in preparation for submission to the Ministry of Education.

There is a building refurbishment project underway in the school this term which has been funded by the Ministry of Education out of the school's property plan. This will allow for a better utilisation of existing office space and enhance the working environment for staff.

The Home & School Committee continue to forge ahead with their fundraising schedule, please do support them wherever and in whatever way that you can as they are doing a fabulous job in working to provide our children with additional resources and facilities that are simply not covered by our school operating grant.

Many thanks to those families who have supported the school through payment of the school resource fee. While we do appreciate that it is a voluntary payment we would encourage everyone to seriously consider making their contribution to ensure that the time spent by our children at Oxford Crescent School is the best that it could possibly be. A number of payment options are available, do feel free to come into the office and discuss with the staff there.



Vivienne Lowe

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

PARENT REPRESENTATIVE KERRY WESTON



Hi, my name is Kerry Weston. I am married to Richard and we have two children; Jessica who is in year 3 at Oxford Crescent School, and Sophie who attends Upper Hutt Kindergarten. I am a qualified Industrial Psychologist and previously spent eight years working for the New Zealand Army in various Psychologists positions.

For the last seven years I have been a dedicated Mum and Army wife, which has involved moves from Waiouru to Upper Hutt, Palmerston North and Canberra, Australia before returning to Upper Hutt in December 2007.

I am currently enjoying helping with the Parents as Tutors in Maths and Parents as Tutors in Reading programs at Oxford Crescent School. In my spare time I enjoy walking our dog, reading books for the book club I belong to and gardening. I also spend a lot of my time ferrying our daughters around to their many after school activities.

I believe Oxford Crescent School is a top quality school providing an excellent learning environment for our children and I am motivated towards being part of the team which helps support the teachers and management to keep it that way.

Home & School Committee

This term our hard working Home and School Committee are holding a Quiz Night on Friday 18th of June at the Kings in Upper Hutt.



The money raised will be used to purchase much needed electronic equipment as well as upgrade the school playground markings.

With fantastic prizes on offer this is a night in the school calendar that you won't want to miss!

The Board would like to encourage all of our adult community to come along and join in what will be a great evening filled with much fun and laughter!