

## 30th May 2024-Term 2 Week 5

Tena koutou to the Hora Hora Community.

Walking into school on my first day back was a joy... seeing all those bright, happy, smiling students excited to be back at school and greeting me was heartening... they are my reason for doing what I do! I was as excited as they were!

Firstly, I must thank Kirsty (Mrs. Steeghs) for stepping into my role and managing the school for the term. The school was in good hands, and I thank Kirsty for all her hard work keeping the school running smoothly. It made my returning transition an easy one.

We welcomed two new students this week, Adarsh, Year 8 and Rudarsh, Year 7. We hope they have a great time at our wonderful little school!

I have now been back from my Sabbatical for four weeks... it has been a hectic few weeks... we returned to school, got ready for camp, painted camp t-shirts, wrote ONTV scripts and had a wonderful week in Wellington and then resettled back into school. Our triennial camp is an epic journey but such a great experience for all. Our students who were returning for a second time were just as excited as our younger ones... their experience is different from their last trip, now being the older students and taking more leadership roles, etc. We were lucky with Wellington weather and experienced a wide range of activities. A highlight for many was meeting our local All Black, Cam Roigard. We travelled to Heretaunga in the Upper Hutt Valley to the Hurricanes, and Phoenix High Performance Centre... seeing where he trains, trying out some of the gym equipment, their game recovery rooms, hot & cold pools and where he keeps his gear. We even met and talked to the Chief of the Airforce, Air Vice-Marshal Darryn Webb, MNZM while visiting Pukeahu, the War Memorial Park. If you would like to see some of what we got up to, check out the photos on our Facebook page. A huge thank you to those parents who accompanied us on camp. Camp wouldn't happen without the parents supporting me and the students, so I thank you for your willingness to give your time to make camp the success it was!

As I write this, I am sitting in my hotel room, again in Wellington, returning to attend this year's Rural Principals' Conference. The 3 days will be one of connecting and learning and will help me grow as a leader. This morning after a 7.30am powhiri on the waterfront, we had a speaker, Peter Jackson, no not the LOR one but all the same a most interesting speaker who talked to us about the ancient peopling of Aotearoa. His information linked to a video we saw at Space Place during camp about the navigators navigating by the stars to find New Zealand. All great learning for us all.

Staff are busy testing this week in preparation for writing reports and meeting with parents for mid-year progress interviews. I encourage you all to come along to these interviews and discuss your child's progress this year and to learn about what is happening in their classrooms. Monday's testing showed some amazing progress in some students – it is heartening for us to have our work affirmed and exciting for students to see how well they are doing.

We have now had Structured Literacy in our school for a little over 2 years with the senior class joining this change this year as students who have learned under this system move to the senior room. It gives us continuity across the school and helps when we assess under the same system.

Looking forward there are a few events left this term... Winter Sports Day for Rimu students on Friday June 7th, a visit to Sanctuary Mountain for the whole school on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> June, Harold and Life Education visit us on June 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, Jumping June on Tuesday June 25<sup>th</sup> and our Matariki Celebrations in weeks 9 & 10.

We hope you are enjoying these beautiful, cooler but sunny winter days, long may they last!

Thank you for your support.

Joanne, Chantal, Michael, Sara, Ash, Kate and Leonie.

Hello everyone,

First and foremost, the board would like to extend their gratitude to all those who participated in the election process, including the nominees who dedicated their time and efforts. We are pleased to announce that Kirsty Steeghs will be joining the Hora Hora School Board of Trustees. Kirsty has been a teacher at Hora Hora and most recently filled in as relieving principal while Joanne was away on a sabbatical. Kirsty has a wealth of knowledge of Hora Hora and bringing her education experience will greatly benefit us in continuing to improve our school.

For those who were not successful in securing a position on the board during this election cycle, we encourage you to maintain your aspirations and involvement, as another opportunity will arise in the Triennial elections scheduled for May next year.

Roger Laxon, Presiding Member

Hi everyone,

We have our Beer and Burger night fast approaching. This will be held at the Hora Hora Memorial Hall on the 7th of June. This is a BYO event. Bring the whole family. Burgers and fries available from 5.30pm. Also available, ice creams and fizzy drinks. A big thank you to Volare for donating the burger buns again!! We appreciate your support. See you there, Mary-Ellen

## **Hora Hora Memorial Hall Notices**

Any semi retired/retired handy people out there who would like to help out with a few maintenance jobs at the Horahora Hall? Just smaller type jobs every now and again so not a full time commitment. Please get in contact with Ingrid 0278272003.

Do you want to meet some new people in the district? Do you want to be part of the decision making regarding the future of our precious Hall? Help with fun events and have some good ideas? Can you volunteer a small amount of your time to keep the Hall looking her best? Are you passionate about keeping our community connected? Come and be part of a fun bunch of volunteers and join us as a member of the Hall committee. The committee has changed in the last few years with some of our dedicated locals retiring so we are now reaching out to anyone who is interested in attending the occasional meeting, planning events, ongoing improvements and working B's to get in contact with Ingrid 027 8272003 .

