

Kia ora all

Thank you to everyone who has taken time to fill in the Board of Trustees Strategic Planning Survey. It is so lovely to hear your thoughts on what is going well and what we could continue to work on. The survey will be available at learning conference nights in paper form in the library if that is your preferred method, as we want to capture as much voice as we can. So far we have 24 responses - two years ago we have over 70 and so the aim is to get more than that this time.

Here is the link if you need it:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1yvngqaeMrQ451mKXgsub1TSVZX5fLkZtPH2FDedCO6Y/edit>

Learning Conferences are happening over the next two Mondays (except for Mānuka Tēina who will be having theirs on Wednesday 3rd September). If you have not yet booked a slot please do so before 9am Friday (tomorrow). If you need help with a booking, need to change it or are late making a booking please ensure you do this through Tanya as she holds the master list. This way we avoid double ups.

Water Safety Lessons

Please note that next week the lessons are from Monday - Thursday due to Ruataniwha Kapa Haka Festival on Friday.

Thank you to everyone who has had their children prepared daily with their gear. It is important that if your child can't swim on any given day that you are letting their teacher know. The teachers in the junior and middle school rely on parent help at the pool to support children so please get in touch with your child's teacher if you can help.

11-12 Tī Kōuka and Kōwhai

12.30-1.30 Harakeke

1.30-2.30 Mānuka

Secure your tickets now to this showcase of student creativity!!



ARWA
ASHLEY RAKAHURI WEARABLE ARTS
EXTRAVAGANZA

BE IN QUICK!
OVER 60
TICKETS
PRESOLD TO
ARWA
WHĀNAU

Date: Friday 12th September
Time: 6:00-7:00pm (approx)
Location: School Hall

TICKET INFORMATION
Email Tanya
office@ashleyrasahuri.school.nz
with your ticket order to receive an invoice.
Tickets will be sent home with your child once
payment is received.

PRICES
\$5 PER CHILD
\$10 PER ADULT
\$20 FAMILY PASS (MIN 4 PEOPLE)

**BRING CASH ON THE
NIGHT FOR THE PTA
RAFFLE!**

COME AND SUPPORT OUR
TALENTED DESIGNERS. YOU
WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS
NIGHT OF IMAGINATION
AND FUN!

Board Of Trustees Elections

Please take time to follow the link you were eMailed to have your vote. We have four candidates for three positions.

WATSON, Nic



I'm excited to put myself forward for a position on the school board because I'm passionate about education and the role schools play in shaping not only academic success but also the wellbeing and development of our tamariki. For the past five years, I've worked as a learning assistant, specialising in supporting children with additional needs. This role has deepened my understanding of inclusive education and how vital it is that every child feels seen, valued, and supported. I've witnessed the incredible difference that strong, individualised support can make, and I'm committed to ensuring our school continues to foster an environment where all learners can thrive. Before working in education, I held senior management roles, where I developed practical skills in leadership, communication, and decision-making. These experiences have shaped how I approach challenges with care, clarity, and a willingness to listen. I believe these are important qualities to bring to board discussions, especially when making decisions that affect our students, staff, and whānau. As a parent of two children currently attending the school, I'm personally invested in the future of our school. I believe in the strength of our community, parents, caregivers, teachers, and wider whānau all working together to create a place where children feel safe, encouraged, and inspired. Over the years, I've seen how important it is to nurture those relationships, and I would bring a strong community voice to the board table. I believe school is more than just a place of learning, it's a hub for connection, support, and belonging. I'm committed to building on that foundation and helping to ensure all families feel welcomed, heard, and involved in the life of the school. If elected, I will bring integrity, commitment, and a collaborative spirit to my role. I'm ready to listen, to contribute thoughtfully, and to support the ongoing growth and success of our school in a way that reflects the values and needs of our whole community. Thank you for considering my nomination.

SLOAN, David



My name is David Sloan and I live in Ashley with my wife Megan and our two daughters, Neve and Bree. Neve is in Year 6 Ti Kouka, and Bree is in Year 4 Harakeke Tui. Originally from Greenock, Scotland, I've called New Zealand home for nearly 17 years. I work as a civil engineer, managing the delivery of infrastructure projects across New Zealand and the Cook Islands. My role has given me a solid foundation in structured decision-making, teamwork, and working alongside communities—skills I believe are valuable on a school board. I'm standing for the Ashley Rakahuri School Board of Trustees because I want to contribute to a happy, thriving school environment. I believe that collaboration is powerful and have been part of diverse teams where individual strengths come together to build strong delivery. I've also served on governance and steering groups, and I'm ready to draw on that experience to support our school's vision and progress. I passionately believe that all children should have the chance to learn, grow, and enjoy school in a safe and healthy space. I'm constantly learning myself, and I welcome the opportunity to develop my governance skills and contribute positively to the board. I'm always looking for ways to improve systems and communication, and I understand the value of bringing people along on a journey—especially when making decisions that affect our community. If elected, I'll bring a committed and positive attitude. I'll work with integrity, listen with empathy, challenge with respect and do my part to support the long-term goals of the school. I care deeply about the environment our tamariki grow up in and want to help maintain and build on the great work already happening. Outside of work, I love spending time with family and supporting Neve and Bree in their dancing, gymnastics, and swimming. I enjoy being outdoors—whether climbing hills, playing golf, or taking far too long on DIY projects! Sláinte mhath.

BERGS, Jessica



I could not be more impressed with the balanced environment that Ashley Rakahuri provides for our students to develop, succeed, feel safe and enjoy themselves in. I am standing for the Board of Trustees because I believe in making a contribution to continuing and progressing such an environment for all our ākonga. I have worked in education for the last 17 years and I am currently Deputy Principal at Te Matauru Primary School where I lead and would bring to you a wealth of knowledge and experience in strategic planning, curriculum design, assessment, Mathematics and Statistics, Education Outside the Classroom, and pastoral care. I have also been involved with and led a range of school projects including being on the foundation team who started up Te Matauru, transitioning to modern learning environments and back again, the development of school policies and procedures, initiating and leading international exchange programmes and community engagement initiatives. In order for our ākonga to be successful and realise their aspirations I would ensure that we continue to provide and deliver a quality education. I would ensure that our diverse and inclusive community continues to grow through providing support to the staff and ākonga in our school environment. I am committed to working with my fellow Board members to assist the principal and her senior management team in providing our ākonga with the best possible preparation as they continue their education journey. I have had the opportunity to interact with people from all walks of life, which has given me insight, understanding and appreciation of many nationalities, cultures and their beliefs. It has also confirmed for me that as parents and caregivers we all want an opportunity for our ākonga to do well and achieve to the fullest of their potential at school, whether that be academically and/or in other areas. My two youngest boys currently attend Ashley Rakahuri and receive endless support, care and opportunities to be their best. My oldest son in his final year of secondary school. As a team we love to be active in any way possible and enjoy adventuring together. Time together creates memories and memories last a lifetime. I would deem it a privilege to be a representative on the Board of Trustees at Ashley Rakahuri Kura. I believe I would bring a current perspective on education along with a passion for staff and ākonga to be their best.



My name is Mike Noad and I am a proud parent of Archer (Year 6, Ti Kōuka) and Georgia (Year 4, Harakeke Tui). I am standing for election to the Board of Trustees to contribute to the continued success and wellbeing of our school. Together with my wife Haley, we own and operate Tussock Creek Apparel and I work full time as Mechanical Team Leader at Daiken New Zealand.

My professional and business experience has equipped me with strong leadership, financial management and strategic planning skills and I am practical and solution focused and know how to cut through complexity and get things done. I understand the importance of clear communication, accountability and working collaboratively to achieve shared goals. Just as important, I am approachable, open-minded and someone who values input from others and will work hard to ensure every family feels heard and represented.

If elected, student wellbeing and achievement will come first, together with supporting our teachers and staff to deliver high quality education.



DAFFODIL DAY

Friday 29th August

**Wear yellow
Non uniform day**

Donations can be made via lunch online or cash
collection on the day.

Funds raised will go to the Cancer Society



Lunchonline is also where you can order sushi for your child every second Wednesday. Go online to check the dates for this.

REACH ASSEMBLY FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

This Week's Focus

LISTENING WELL

With swimming for the next two weeks and speeches happening soon too, being able to listen well is really important.

Listen to the video (on the next slide) and take note of the 3 top tips for how to listening well.

Why Listening Matters

Learn Better: Listening closely helps you know what to do in class, follow steps, and enjoy learning—even the tricky bits.

Be a Kind Friend: When you listen to classmates, it shows you care. That makes others feel good and brings the class together.

Think and Speak Clearly: Listening helps you understand well so you can talk and share your ideas confidently.

Welcome to Listening to Families

Listening to Families videos provide answers to everyday questions about health and wellbeing challenges facing children and adolescents. The questions the videos answer are real - they come directly from families. The answers are provided by trusted specialists.

Follow this link to the website that has a range of videos and now also Spotify podcasts that can help with wellbeing and health challenges with families.

<https://www.listeningtofamilies.co.nz/>

KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Matua te tihi
Matua te kaha
Matua te āio
Matua te mana
Whiua te hā kino
Tokia te hā ora
Ki ruka, ki raro
Ki waho, ki roto
Hui e, tāiki e

Connect to strength
Connect to energy
Connect to peace
Connect to mana
Strip away the negative
Instill the positive
From above, from below
From outside and from within
United and connected



Kiwaha

"Ma to mahi ngātahi, ka tutuki" -
"Better Together"



Ko te wā whakapa Time to tidy up.

Each week we have a new kiwaha (saying)
that we practice as a way to build up our reo.
This is introduced on a Monday at assembly.

Our karakia for this term - this is
how we start our day and also any
assemblies. This was chosen this
time by our Kaitātaki and Mrs
Standen.

Dates For Your Diary!

- 29th August Daffodil Day Non Uniform Day
- 4th September 'Take the Floor' Speech Finals - Year 4-8
- 5th September Ruataniwha Kapa Haka Performance
- 10th September Quad School Speech Finals
- 12th September Ashley Rakahuri Wearable Arts Show
- 16th -18th September Koru Games Year 7 and 8
- 19th September -End of Term 3
- 6th October -Start of Term 4
- 23rd October Whole School Athletics at Loburn Domain
- 27th October -Labour Day
- 29th October Tri School Athletics at Loburn Domain
- 10-12th November -Year 5 and 6 camp to Woodend
- 11th November Rakahuri Zone Athletics
- 13th November -Teacher Only Day
- 14th November -Show Day Holiday
- 26th November Canterbury Athletics
- 30th November Tūhono Kapa Haka Performance
- 2nd-5th December -Year 7 and 8 camp to Living Springs
- 9th December Whole School Prize giving at Baptist Church Hall
- 10th December Year 8 Leavers Dinner at RSA
- 15th December - End of School Year
- 29th January 2026 - Whānau Hui
- 30th January - School Open for Instruction
- 6th February Waitangi Day Holiday
- 9th February Teacher Only Day - MOE Maths PLD

PLEASE NOTE: ALL DATES ARE NOW ON A GOOGLE CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE