

# Bruce McLaren Intermediate School

## Principal's Update: 9 December 2021

### For Bruce McLaren Intermediate School Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora koutou katoa

This is the last Community Update for the school year of 2021.

I wish to thank you for your support during this challenging transition of having students both back on site at school and/or distance learning from home.

As you will appreciate, it has been difficult to get the balance right. While our approach has been to ensure that our students returning to the school site are safe with our Health and Safety mitigation processes and procedures, the focus has been on emotional and social wellbeing of our emerging adolescent which has suited most, however, it may not have suited all.

Nevertheless, during this albeit brief time back at school, BMIS has managed to provide continued distance learning, on site learning, an abridged 'Formal Prize Giving' and a modified Year 8 Celebration. These events were amazing. The sun shone, we got cloud cover as well as a helicopter flyover along with diggers and concrete cutters operating on the roadworks outside the school gate. Nothing deterred us. The abridged prize giving was shortened from the usual two hours to 60 minutes, while the Year 8 Celebration was also shorter. We certainly experienced four seasons in one day with rain at 2:45pm.

Due to the WIFI being unstable whilst outside, and online viewers having cameras on, we did encounter a few technical glitches with the Zoom feed. However, we do have some footage and photos of both occasions that will be shared on our YouTube and school sites soon.

#### **CHROMEBOOKS and CHARGERS:**

**Please return these to the school TODAY or TOMORROW – by 2:00pm.** We have a list of who has the chromebooks & chargers and look forward to seeing these AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I do know from the messages I have received that our families have been incredibly grateful for the use of a school chromebook. It has been a pleasure to support our learners with a device.

#### **FAREWELLS:**

It is with much appreciation and aroha that BMIS farewells three wahine toa. Miss Yang, Mrs Nicholson and Bianca are leaving BMIS at the end of the school year.

**Miss Yang** came to BMIS January, 2020 as a second year teacher. She has developed into an amazing teacher, providing her class with a sound foundation for them to continue their learning journeys. Miss Yang also got involved in the extracurricular activities of the school. We wish her well as she heads off to continue teaching in the South Island.

**Mrs Nicholson** came to BMIS January, 2020 with a kete full of skills, knowledge and understanding with teaching. Her approach has seen her students soar. Her sense of humour, her support for BMIS and her ability to draw the best out of, not only students, but staff alike has been much appreciated. Mrs Nicholson has worked with me on many projects and I am grateful to her for her unwaivering support. Mrs Nicholson is heading north to lead a team of teachers.

**Bianca** came to BMIS July, 2013. She has worked tirelessly for BMIS. Bianca's work at the front office, meeting and greeting our new students and their whanau, dealing with any issue that crosses her desk, supporting students and staff, working to continually streamline administrative processes and turning her hand to anything that is required has certainly benefited our school. Bianca brings a smile to each day and certainly brightens our workplace. She even manages to put a smile on those who are injured or unwell. Bianca is moving to a new position in administration in Silverdale.

Life is a journey. Where we are now, is a stepping stone to somewhere else. Best wishes to our three amazing women.

Thank you again to our BMIS parents, caregivers, families and whanau. Thank you for your support for our teaching team and staff through these challenging 22 months.

I do hope that COVID-19 does NOT interrupt your plans over the Summer.

May you be able to rest, relax, recharge and reconnect with family and loved ones over the Christmas break.

Again, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for letting us teach and care for your child/ren and for the Community for being so supportive of our school, even when times got tough.

He waka eke noa – we are all in this together.

Stay safe, stay well and have fun.

Meri Kirihimete.

Ngā mihi

Liz Wood – Principal