

### **Dates to Remember**

Friday 10th December Prizegiving

Friday 17th December Last day of term four.

2022

Thursday 3rd February Interview Day

Friday 4th February First full day back at school Monday 7th February Waitangi Day Observed

#### Nau mai, haere mai!

#### **Return to School**

It is very strange to be writing this newsletter under such unusual circumstances. I can honestly say that the children have astonished me with their adaptability. The vast majority of the kids have returned to school full time and are coping well with all the new rules around where they can go and what they can do. I had imagined masks being worn like hats by morning tea and doubling up as sling shots by lunchtime! Not a bit of it, the kids have risen to the challenge. We should all be proud of them.

I would also like to acknowledge our staff. Wearing a mask all day for teaching is a tall order and they have coped magnificently. It has been a delight to see them taking the learning outside as much as possible and maybe this will give us a shove in the right direction. I know that there are many parents who would like to see the kids outside more, so maybe even when it is no longer necessary, that will become just part of what we do here.

Please keep a regular check on Skool Loop and your emails. Unlike most schools, we are very fortunate to have been able to welcome our children back to school full-time. However, if staff members are off sick for any reason, we will have to ask whānau to keep children home. This is because of a requirement to maintain the integrity of close contact class bubbles. We cannot swap children or staff around from one bubble to the next at the moment. If it is necessary for you to keep your child home, we will notify you as early in the morning as possible. Look out for further communications though as slight changes are imminent with the switch to the traffic light system.

#### **Staffing News**

A few people will be moving on from Bayswater School at the end of this year and other familiar faces will be returning to school next year.

#### 2022

<u>Marianne Coldham</u> will be acting principal until the principal appointment process is completed by the Bayswater School Board of Trustees. Having already acted up for a year, the school is lucky to have such a capable leader to take the reins while the appointment is made.

Claire Edwards will be acting deputy principal whilst continuing to teach and lead Whānau Puna (the junior school).

Allison Butcher will be on refreshment leave for the whole of 2022. A year's refreshment leave is available to full-time teaching staff who have worked in a school for five or more years. She intends to pursue her own Reo Māori journey during this time and we wish her all the best with this.

Norah Wilson will be returning to full-time class teaching, taking up the role as senior teacher in Whānau Wai (the middle school).

<u>Sasha Gilles</u> and <u>Stephen de Bruin</u> who are both on parental leave will be returning to school during 2022. We look forward to welcoming them back.

#### Haere Rā

## Dianne Cluett

The time has come when we must say bye-bye to Dianne Cluett. Dianne has been at Bayswater School for over twenty-five years, so I guess she must have liked it! In her time here, Dianne has taught hundreds of children and I am reliably informed that some of them were the children of her past students. Dianne has had a great impact on the direction of the school. It was she who first got the school involved in the Enviro Schools movement and she who encouraged the last principal, Chris Heney, to aim for Green-Gold. This was achieved by the school for the first time in 2010 and was very much down to Dianne's dedication to the Enviro Schools kaupapa. Dianne has given tirelessly of herself for this endeavour.

As for class teaching, Dianne has been influential throughout the school. She started off in the juniors, where she taught for many years, becoming the senior teacher in this area. She then moved to the middle of the school and again became the senior teacher. Dianne was also the school's Reading Recovery teacher for two years and has maintained a strong interest in this area to this day. For the past year, Dianne acted up as Deputy Principal and by all accounts did a splendid job. She also took on a role supporting children with additional needs.



On a personal note, my first two years at Bayswater School as a teaching DP, were spent working closely with Dianne. It was us who knocked the hole between Rooms 7&8, where we team taught the whole of the junior school – me with the new entrants and Y1s and Di with the Y2 children. Dianne was my senior teacher and I was the DP. This could have made for an awkward relationship but, Di being Di, it did not! It was some of the happiest times of my teaching career and by golly I learnt a lot from this woman! Despite the fact that we are both geographically challenged and got lost on each and every trip we made together for professional development outside school – whether to North Harbour Stadium or Huntly Power Station – we got along swimmingly.

Dianne, this school owes you a debt of gratitude for your many years of hard work and dedication to the 'daily grind'; for the outstanding example you set to colleagues; for the positivity with which you approach each and every child; for your thoughtfulness and care; for the way you embrace new learning and strive for improvement right up to your last day teaching. We wish you all the very best for a long, well deserved, happy retirement.

#### Bill Sweetman

Bill is another long serving member of staff (13 years) to be leaving at the end of the year, also for retirement... or to spend more time on the golf course and the ocean! I can honestly say that never has a person more suited their surname. Bill has been a great caretaker for our school, turning his hand to any job great or small. For example, when he joined us the blinds in the senior school were on their last legs and were continuously coming off their rollers, needing highly specialised knowledge to keep them going! On his orientation day with the previous caretaker, Bill was mystified to spend the majority of the time on 'roller blind fixing training'! It soon became apparent why! I was teaching seniors in the front block at the time and well remember the daily calls for Bill to come and fix the blinds which had unravelled out of control across the floor. The patience Bill displayed in his daily blind-fixing routine was legendary! Whatever the job, Bill never complains – although he does sometimes give you a bit of look when you mention that the gardens need attention!



There is something though, that puts all of Bill's undoubted caretaking skills into the shade. It is the thing I have most appreciated and admired about Bill: the fact that he knows why we are all here. A school is about the children and Bill exemplifies this. On numerous occasions, we have had a little person who needs a break from the classroom routine and who would really benefit from 'helping Bill'. Of course, Bill may well have been in the middle of a job which he was keen to get finished and his 'helper' may well have slowed his progress down but Bill is always there with a smile and a positive attitude to a child in need. I well remember a child who was a selective mute. Every morning he would 'help' Bill with the bins and much to my astonishment could be heard chattering away to him. No one else at school ever heard this child speak but with Bill, he was relaxed and confident.

Bill, it has been a real pleasure to work with you all of these years and even being mistaken for husband and wife on occasion! We wish you every happiness playing golf and sailing.



#### Amy MacDowell-Pakieto

Amy joined us as a beginning teacher in 2013 and what an impact she has made. Throughout her time at Bayswater School, Amy has displayed an attitude of relentless positivity which is second to none. Nothing is too much trouble for Amy and her optimism wears off on the children who have been lucky enough to have her as a teacher and the colleagues who have been lucky enough to work with her.

Amy certainly appears to be tireless and she has tackled a wide variety of roles and tasks with an enthusiasm which is infectious. Over the years, Amy has led in the area of PE and Health and has been a leading light in PB4L. PB4L is all about personal and social education and helping children to learn how to manage themselves positively. This has always been a real strength of Amy's and many children have benefited from her positivity and teaching in this area. I remember being in Amy's class for lesson observations and marvelling at the way children were able to behave with maturity and self-discipline under her guidance.

Amy recently moved with her family to Hobsonville Point. She has a young baby so will be taking up a teaching role much closer to home at Greenhythe School. They are lucky to have you Amy. We wish you all the best for the future.

#### Lisa Gillgren

What a long and special relationship Lisa has with Bayswater School. Lisa is one of our staff members who attended this school as a child. When she embarked upon her teacher training, she returned to us for a teaching practice placement and she then came to work here as a beginning teacher in 2014. Of course, she took to it like a duck to water.

Lisa is another teacher with positivity and kindness at the heart of what she does. She has really blossomed in her time at Bayswater, growing in confidence and finding a real niche with children at the start of their academic journey in the junior school. Her calm and inclusive approach has benefitted many. It has also been wonderful to see Lisa embracing recent developments like learning through play.

We will miss you on staff but look forward to welcoming you back as a parent, Lisa.





#### Kim McLean

My first memory of Kim was interviewing her by Zoom as she sat in her then home in Bermuda! There was something about Kim's calm maturity which bellied her young age and inexperience at the time. We were eager to offer her the job and delighted when she accepted. I remember taking her on an iPad tour of the school and introducing her to her new class out in the old relocatable classroom on the field. Her enthusiasm shone through from all those miles away and the kids couldn't wait for her to arrive with us. When she finally came, she did not disappoint.

In her four and a half years, Kim has made many contributions to our school. She kept her dancing ability quite quiet until we started Born to Move in partnership with Les Mills. Her talent shone through in the professional learning sessions and she was the natural person to take on this initiative working with children of all ages to give them opportunities to shine in leadership roles.

The thing I am most grateful for in Kim's work, however, is her ability to relate to a wide variety of children. I well remember Kim taking a child who was having a particularly challenging time, under her wing. She taught that child with flexibility, care and calmness. We wish you all the very best in your future endeavours, Kim.

#### Michelle Dickson

Michelle came to Bayswater to release Dianne when she was acting deputy principal for the year. She fitted in seamlessly! We would like to thank Michelle for her hard work and professionalism during what has been a very challenging year. We wish her all the very best in her new appointment teaching intermediate students at Carmel College.

#### E Noho Rā

As well as all the changes mentioned above, I will be leaving Bayswater School myself at the end of the year. During my year's sabbatical and refreshment leave I have had time to reflect on what I would like to do next. I have a place at Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology to study Te Reo Māori full-time. Although I am very sad to be leaving, I am beyond excited at the prospect of this new venture.

I have been at Bayswater for fifteen and a half years, as principal for the past eleven. I thoroughly enjoyed my time teaching children from New Entrants to Y6s when I was a teaching deputy principal. We have amazing children and whānau at our school and it was a real privilege to work with so many. I do believe that Bayswater is a unique and special place with a diverse and inspiring community. I have lost count of the people who give to this school in so many different ways: The Parent Group and fund-raising events; supporting the children to play sports or go on trips; working in the library; kapa haka, choir, the arts; sharing knowledge and supporting cultural events like the biennial hāngi. It has been wonderful to get to know so many of you.

I would like to acknowledge the Boards of Trustees I have worked with over the years. They have, without exception, been outstanding. The number of times I have been at principals' meetings listening to others' experiences and felt myself to be blessed with the boards we have had here at Bayswater. They have all led with moral purpose, seeking to do their best for all of our children. They have unstintingly shared their skills, knowledge and expertise acquired in their different walks of life. The school has been lucky to have them.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge my colleagues. Bayswater School is a rare place of work. It has been wonderful to work with such a supportive, kind and decent group of people. They work hard, they do their best and they care. They have many talents, question their practice and strive to do better. Ka mokemoke au ki a koutou aku hoa. I will miss you, my friends.

#### Bike Train

Day one back at bike train post lockdown! There were 15 cyclists on Monday morning, including two new children from Room 9. Bike Train is back leaving from the old Bayswater Dairy at 8:25am on Mondays. We'll have a special edition ride on Friday 10th December and then a picnic with families in the park after school. Here is the QR code for any families interested in joining who want to join the what's app group.







Bike Train WhatsApp group



#### Prize Giving

We will not be able to hold our usual prize giving assembly on Friday 10th December as planned. We did not want our senior students to miss out on this rite of passage so instead we will hold a scaled down prize giving ceremony just for Y5 and Y6. Unfortunately, we are not able to invite whānau but are investigating the possibility of live streaming. If this is not possible, we will ensure the ceremony is filmed and will share this with you.

Whānau Puna and Wai (junior and middle schools) will also be presenting certificates for children who have displayed the school's values. We will share footage with whānau.

Lindsay Child Tumuaki / Principal



# Happy Birthday to...

**Abigail Marks** 9yrs, **Zephyr Basset** 11yrs, **Ricki Ruan** 11yrs and **Romeo Fata** 11yrs. We hope you have fun and a wonderful time celebrating with your family and friends!



# Congratulations to all of our students who received a certificate at assembly for:-

Room 1

Mareikura Hall showing personal excellence in writing. You identified what makes you happy and cleverly rhymed different

sentences

Room 2

Romeo Fata demonstrating personal excellence in Ruma Rua. You have been an enthusiastic learner and striving to

meet your goals. Ka mau te wehi!

Room 3

Zephyr Basset showing personal excellence in writing. You led the class to write over 200 words in our boggle challenge.

Tumeke!

Room 5

Ariana Parker demonstrating all of the Bayswater values as we settle back into school. You have worked diligently on the

tasks set, shown respect to classmates and adults, and helped others adjust to the new environment.

Room 6

Awanui Faulkner showing personal excellence in writing, by including kupu reo, a variety of sentence structures and

interesting ideas to engage the audience.

Room 9A

Parker Hiku the Bayswater value of Hauora. You have returned to school with a positive attitude and are helpful and

friendly towards others in the class.

Lucia Paulet the Bayswater value of Resilience. You have worked hard to practise your letter sounds and now you are

writing words independently. We are so proud of your resilience in writing. Tino pail

Room 9B

Ellie Finningan the Bayswater value of Personal Excellence in reading. You have developed reading independence and

are a star taking risks. You help others and are enthusiastic to read to an audience. Tino mahi!

#### **Belmont Intermediate Schools Second Hand Uniform Sale**

The sale will be held in the school hall on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> January from 12-4pm. All proceeds go towards funding students activities at BIS. Cash only please! Any enquiries, or if you would like to help volunteer please email sfurlong@belmontint.school.nz. We look forward to seeing you there!

