



## Board Newsletter



### Foreword

We are already at the end of term two, half way through the year. While we are heading into winter we are full of excitement as the new building is now completed. We are also coming up to our 3-yearly cycle of Board elections - we will farewell some of our longstanding members and hope some of you will join us to continue the work of supporting our school community.

### Board meeting highlights

This term the Board approved funding for the first stage of the bank redevelopment - the treetop walkway. We also approved the updated school logo and agreed to move forward with consulting our community on a change to cohort entry from next year. You will find additional information about all these topics in this newsletter.

Please note that the minutes are approved in the following meeting. You can access all the Board meetings in this [link](#).

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## Powhiri for the new build

It's exciting that we're about to move into the new school build. We have waited for this for a while and it's been great to see the building be created.

A powhiri will be held on 25 July at 8.55am. The powhiri will commence down on the field and start with a hikoi up to the new build. It will then be followed with a few speeches, the building will be blessed, and our tamariki will share waiata with us. The powhiri will be followed by a shared kai.

We look forward to seeing some of you there.

## Cohort entry consultation

Traditionally in New Zealand tamariki start school on their fifth birthday, although by law they do not have to start until their sixth birthday. Since 2020 schools have been able to adopt a 'Cohort Entry' policy. More and more schools have changed to children starting school in scheduled cohorts eight times per year. A recent Education Review Office report highlighted a number of benefits for tamariki and teachers. Cohort entry allows the school to better structure the transition and allows for less disruption in the classroom. Evidence supports that tamariki who have joined as a part of a cohort have greater opportunities to develop friendships with the peers of their cohort.

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Moving to a cohort entry will mean that children will start school on specific dates. There are two starting dates per term, one at the beginning of the term and another in the middle. These dates are set by the Ministry of Education.

We will be consulting with our school community in Term 3 on this proposal.

## Thank you Vogelmorn Foundation

Tawatawa Ridgway Board extends a big thank you to the Vogelmorn Foundation for supporting our application for funding this year for \$7,962. This funding is gratefully received and will be used to help support the work we have ahead for capital works for the PE shed and music space.

# Board Elections

As previously highlighted every three years schools elect their parents and staff representatives to the Board. Elections are set out in legislation. All parents and caregivers of children who attend school can vote for board members at that school.

TawaTawa Ridgway's board elections will be held online on 7 September 2022.

At this time we are calling for all the parents and caregivers who want to make a positive difference to register their interest in running for the Tawatawa Ridgway school Board. We encourage you to bring your skills and experiences for the benefit of our tamariki and wider community.

More information on becoming a board member can be found [here](#) . You can reach out to one of your existing board representatives and have a kōrero with them about the roles, time commitments and what value the board adds to our school and community.

Voting will be done online - all parents are entitled to vote. To be able to vote parents need to have an individual email address, can you please ensure the office has your up to date contact details for this process. We don't want you to miss this opportunity.

## Key Dates

<b>Main Roll Closes</b>	<b>13 July</b>
<b>Nominations Called by</b>	<b>15 July</b>
<b>Supplementary Roll Closes</b>	<b>1 August</b>
<b>Nominations Close</b>	<b>3 August</b>
<b>Invitation to Vote</b>	<b>10 August</b>
<b>Election Day</b>	<b>7 September</b>
<b>Declaration of Result</b>	<b>13 September</b>
<b>New board in place</b>	<b>14 September</b>

## Check out our new logo

With the adoption of our Te Reo Māori name the school took the opportunity to update the existing logo. This will add to the school identity and will be used to further develop a sense of belonging into the community. The brief to the designer was to update our existing logo to integrate our Te Reo name. The logo has a strong visual impact and works in small and large sizes as well as alternative formats.



# School rebuild update

With work completed on the main building, and the move completed, work will commence on the next phase. This will involve the removal of the temporary classrooms on the lower field, and demolition of the existing block. This should be substantially completed by the time Term 3 starts.

As a part of the demolition the existing building next to the sand pit will also be demolished in preparation for a new storage building which is weather tight.

The landscaping to the bank adjacent to the new school building is on hold, waiting for the confirmation of the delivery date for the new slides, which will be installed next to the zig zag path.

The school build has taken longer than anticipated, and it is nice to be at the end of the construction. The board extends a big thank you to Naylor Love and TBIG for the delivery of the school under challenging circumstances, with COVID lockdowns, and material and trade shortages.

## School policies

The school policies and procedures can be accessed from our [website](#): Whānau are able to access these documents on processes and policies that provide for our tamariki, staff and community at TawaTawa Ridgway.

Get in touch

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