

Wednesday 29 September 2021



Tena koutou katoa,

We hope that you are well and coping with the lengthy lockdown as we approach the end of term 3. Our teachers have been working tirelessly to maintain remote learning through the term and we know many of you are doing the same to help support your own children.

The board continues to meet remotely and consider how the school is performing and ensure standards are being maintained through these challenging times. We have continued to upgrade property at the school over the lockdown and purchase additional equipment, including learning resources and devices. We will continue to spend on additional teaching resources to provide additional support where necessary upon our return to school. This includes teacher aids to run specific programmes that enhance student achievement and funding additional relievers to ensure learning time is not affected by the end of year assessment requirements.

It will be no surprise that the lockdown has disrupted the building plans and completion of the new blocks has been pushed back. We plan for the building to be completed towards the end of term 1, which will allow the teachers and students a chance to explore their new space. At the start of term 2, all students, teachers and office staff will be operating in the new space. The teachers are excited for the new building and continue to engage in professional learning to support the pedagogy required to make the spaces most effective. Our parent information evenings will now take place at the beginning of 2022 to ensure they occur without alert level limitations.

Despite the disruption, there are a range of activities planned for school in term 4, assuming a return to level 2, that have been approved by the board. Mr Verryt will communicate these separately.

Attendance at remote learning sessions has been excellent, and we know that this is only achievable with parent support. We thank you for your commitment and engagement in your child's learning through this time.

Nga mihi nui,

Birkenhead Primary School Board