



Te Kura o Ngā Puna Waiora
Newtown School

Love learning, love life!

19 November 2018

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers & Whānau

The formal opening of the new building on 26 October 2018 was a special occasion in the life of Newtown School. We were delighted that the Hon Chris Hipkins, Education Minister, could join us to cut the ribbon. I would like to thank all those who helped make it so special; the children with their wonderful waiata and the staff and FANS parents who helped create a carnival-like atmosphere.

The formal opening provided us with an opportunity to publicly acknowledge Mayor Justin Lester, in person, for the financial support that Wellington City Council has provided to Newtown School. They supported the mural *Kamala and the Hihi* (on the hall wall) and have approved funding of \$500,000 + GST for the pool renovation.

Local iwi, Te Ātiawa, recently gifted the school a Māori name to add to, not replace, Newtown School. The Māori name is Te Kura o Ngā Puna Wai Ora. The name relates to the two stream beds which flow beneath the school as a source of living and healing waters. We will be organising signage of the name outside the front of the school above the Riddiford entrance.

At our last meeting of the Board of Trustees we said farewell to Daniel Petersen, representative for Ngati Kotahitanga, and welcomed Jasmine Gilbert, who has replaced him. I would like to acknowledge Daniel's contribution to the board, Ngati Kotahitanga and the wider school over the past two-and-a-half years.

The Board has commenced work on developing a four year strategic plan 2019 – 2022. We will look to consult with the school community on this in the new year.

Ngā mihi

Annette Gittos
Chairperson
Board of Trustees