



# END OF YEAR LETTER TO FAMILIES.....

**HENDERSON  
INTERMEDIATE  
SCHOOL**

**December 2021**

**Kia ora koutou Henderson Intermediate School Whanau**

This is a time for us to look back on all that has been achieved in 2021. What a year it has been for us all too. It is wonderful to see the high number of people now in Auckland, who are vaccinated. The Ministry of Health promised us that once we got our numbers of people vaccinated up, then the number of Covid cases would come down and it has been great to see over the last 2 weeks, that this is exactly what is now happening. It makes us all feel more optimistic about 2022, I am sure! Regardless of the year that has been, we still have plenty to celebrate.

**Student Achievement** has been far better than what we expected and let's face it. that is what we are here for! We always compare end of Year 7 to end of Year 8, and the shifts in achievement have been pleasing. The Teaching team have become better and better at working with the online learning. The engagement of parents with the online too, has been really positive. All our students also got to do a First Aid Course this year, which was very helpful for them.

It was great that our sporting students, were able to go to **Sportscamp**. This was not able to be done in 2020, so it was wonderful that this happened this year.

A real highlight this year, was our school being live streamed during **National Samoan Language Week**. This was very exciting for the School. A big thanks to Mrs Toni Fa'aletatau who did so much to make this happen! Our Head Boy, Neironi Stevens also featured in the Samoan National Newspaper. Another highlight was our school having a display in a public **Art Exhibition**, Te Uru Waitakere Contemporary Art Gallery in Titirangi. A huge thanks to Anna Delany and Kate Hart for all the hours of work that they put into this. The quality of the artworks, quite simply was incredible. The School did a magnificent musical production. "**Annie**" was a real success and something that our students will always remember. A big thanks to Debbie Wylde, Izzy Easton, Charlotte Owen and Rosie Ma'asi who spent a huge amount of time getting this to the standard that was required!

**Student Leadership** has continued to expand and to go from strength to strength. Students take the stage at every function and have again provided reports to the Board. This year our Student Leaders led a fundraiser to purchase ICU Beds for Starship. Our students really got behind this and managed to raise \$1600.00 which was incredible.

Our **Board** has done a lot in the area of property and resourcing. The school is looking great! Next week sees the start of the big rebuild that the Ministry of Education is doing here. We are in for a large 2 storeyed block that will provide 14 classes.

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**"Flourish and  
Grow"**

The deck by the staffroom has been transformed. This is now a lovely area with picnic tables which we hope you will enjoy using too during the holidays. As you all know, we have the bike track so if you are looking for somewhere safe to bring your children to play, remember that our school is YOUR SCHOOL! We have had to cut down quite a few trees to make way for new building work. By the start of the new School year we will have 2 more relocatable classrooms and by the end of Term 1 we will have another 4.

We say **farewell** this year, to Robert Fry, Debbie Wylde, Dawn Hauraki, Patricia Aukino, Mo Johanson and Tewara Huia. Robert, our caretaker has retired after 23 years here. He leaves a legacy behind him. We thank Robert for all that he has done here. Debbie Wylde, has moved with her husband to where she is too far away to continue working here. Debbie has been a wonderful DP and she will be hugely missed. Dawn Hauraki leaves after many years of great service. Dawn has spent years managing the Road Patrols, running the School Ukulele Group and more recently she has been our Pacific Liaison Manager. Dawn has done a lot of great things in her many years here. Patricia Aukino will be remembered for her wonderful singing voice, for her driving of the Coconotes group! We wish her well too. Mo has done some lovely work with our special needs students. Tewara has done some good work with special needs students. Tewara goes off to study and he will also become a Dad next year!

To all our students who we work alongside every day, thank you for the great time we have had with you this year. It has been a pleasure and privilege. To our Year 8 students, thank you for all you have done. Stand tall, be proud, do your best, try everything, believe in yourself and remember our school values always. Year 7s, you are the role models next year. We hope that you have a good holiday and come back ready to be our 2022 leaders.

To all our Parents, thank you for your support, your emails and phone calls. This year has been a very difficult one for everyone, and we have really appreciated the many encouraging and appreciative emails and calls, we have had from you. We appreciate too, when you have called if we have got something wrong, and you have allowed us to fix it!

**Nga mihi nui**

**Manuia le tausaga fou. Manuia le po.**

**2022..... Is going to be a much better year!**



**Mrs Wendy Esera**  
**FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF AND BOARD**