

### Equity at Wilford

The Board is developing an Equity policy, and would welcome any input (e.g. through [trustees@wilford.school.nz](mailto:trustees@wilford.school.nz)).

Equity, or fairness, is at the heart of education policy in Aotearoa New Zealand and our school's values, expressed in our motto *Ako Tahi Tatou* (learning together as one).

A commitment to equity implies all sorts of things: realising every child's right to an education that develops their personality, talent and abilities to fullest potential; a free primary education that ensures equal opportunities for all children; an education that recognises, respects and builds on each child's cultural identity; a school that redresses the education system's historical failure to meet Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

### Māori whānau advisory group

The Board has decided to establish an advisory group to assist school leadership meet the educational aspirations of Māori whānau, and its commitments to the right to education of every child and under the Treaty of Waitangi.

Following an initial hui on 11 May in which work undertaken in other schools was outlined, there will be a second hui for all whānau identifying as Māori on Wed 14 June.

The hui will be facilitated by Keriana Tawhiwhirangi.

### Strengthened support from Ministry of Education

As many of you know, the Ministry of Education, at the request of the Board, appointed a specialist adviser to our school in December 2016. The board sought that appointment so we could get the benefit of advice on how to address our key priorities: strengthening our professional leadership and teamwork; get closer tracking and support for individual student's progress in literacy and numeracy; developing our Māori immersion unit, Ngā Puāwai.

Keriana Tawhiwhirangi has been working within our school as a specialist adviser and has had a significant and positive impact. The Ministry have made the decision to change our level of support from specialist adviser to a limited statutory manager. This means she will assume some of the powers and duties of the Board to enable swift decision making in areas of concern.

### New trustee: Nick Edwards



At the close of nominations for the trustee by-election there was only one candidate, who was therefore elected. The Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome Nick Edwards as new

member of the governance team.