

# BOT Spot

Issue No. 11 | March 2024

Ngunguru School



Welcoming more new members to our Ngunguru School - the chicks!

## Starting 2024 With a Bang!

What an amazing start to the academic year so far! We are excited to share our plans for the year ahead. Please read this one to the end - it's jam packed full of important and relevant info. Let's go!

## New Presiding Member, Melissa

Congratulations to Melissa Smith on her election as Presiding Member for the Ngunguru School Board of Trustees in 2024! After her enriching journey exploring the world with her whanau and friends, we're thrilled to welcome Melissa back home and see her pick up the mantle once again. A warm thank you also goes to our outgoing Presiding Member, Amber Fayerberg, whose steadfast leadership has been invaluable during this exciting transition period for our school.

## Welcoming New Staff

If you've wandered through the school lately you may have noticed some new faces, and that's because our staffing team has grown! We are thrilled to welcome Deputy Principal Kristin Sanderson, Assistant Principal Matt Burns, and Anna Docherty, who all joined us at the beginning of this year.

Both Kristin and Matt bring a wealth of knowledge and experience from their previous posts at Huanui College and Kamo Intermediate, alongside amazing energy and dedication to quality teaching and leadership. And we warmly welcome Anna, a parent at our school, in her exciting new role teaching our new entrant students.

Nau mai haere mai nga kaiako hou, thank you for choosing Ngunguru as your new home.

## Meetings & Minutes

The next BOT meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 26 March at 6:30pm in the school staffroom. You are welcome and encouraged to attend in person.

During our meetings, we discuss important school policies, priorities, and plans, and your presence is always welcome.

If you are unable to attend, please review our meeting minutes [here](#), via our [school Facebook page](#), or in person in the office.



Triathlon was an epic day! Thank you to the staff, parents, and seniors who ran the event. Also a mihi to Hellers who gifted their sausages for the seniors OPC fundraiser.

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# Board updates

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## Yay for Parents and Gardens

New teachers aren't the only new faces at Ngunguru School. Have a wander around the back of Tai Timu and Tai Pari, and you will find our wonderful new flock of chooks, their impressive chook house, and several beautiful raised garden beds. This fabulous addition to our school was spearheaded by Richard Higgins and brought to life through the hard work and many volunteer hours of parent-helpers Carly Low and Regan Low and Eugene Fayerberg among others. Thanks also to those parents who donated materials and soil. This area has already added a wonderful element to our school and its Earth Ed and Garden to Table programmes.



Thank you to our community who have gifted their time, energy and skills to this kaupapa - tēnei te mihi nui!

## After-school Care

Over the years, providing after-school care has been a valuable service for our community. We have recently been made aware by the Ministry of Education, however, that the school cannot fund the programme, which has consistently run at a loss, out of the school's operating budget. Recognising the importance of this service for many parents and caregivers, we are committed to finding a sustainable solution that meets the needs of our whānau.

After careful consideration, we have identified two options to address these financial challenges:

1. Solicit business proposals from community members interested in running the service as their own business; or
2. Discontinue the service altogether.

It is our sincere hope that we can find a way to continue after school care under an independent umbrella at our school.

To that end, and to ensure that we make a decision that reflects the preferences of our community, we are seeking your feedback through [this online survey](#). Your input is invaluable in shaping the future of our after-school care programme.

For those interested in submitting a business proposal, please send your proposals to the Ngunguru Board Chair at [boardchair@ngunguru.school.nz](mailto:boardchair@ngunguru.school.nz) by the close of the April school holidays. We aim to reach a decision at the beginning of Term Two, with any changes implemented by Term Three. Rest assured, ample notice will be provided to parents, staff and community before any changes take effect.

We want to express our gratitude for your ongoing support and collaboration. Together, we can find a solution that best serves the needs of our community. Thank you for your participation in this important process.



## Website Launch

Big news – our shiny new website is ready to launch!

We've packed it full of all the stuff you need to stay in the loop – important notices, upcoming events, and yes, even the nitty-gritty minutes from our board meetings. We're all about keeping things open and transparent, so you know exactly what's going on behind the scenes.

Plus, have you seen the photos and videos? They're seriously awesome – you won't want to miss them! Keep an eye out for news and updates, coming your way soon.

Trust us, it's gonna be worth it!

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# Board updates

## Strategic Plan

We're thrilled to unveil our strategic plan, born from the voices of our incredible community. After listening to over 200 submissions and analysing various data sources, we've identified three crucial pillars: excellence, community collaboration, and celebrating every child's uniqueness.

Your feedback has been our compass, guiding us towards a future where every student thrives. Over the next three years, expect to see tangible changes aligning with these priorities. From enhanced academic programs to strengthened community partnerships and a renewed focus on individuality, our plan reflects your aspirations for our school.

This journey isn't ours alone—it's ours together. We couldn't have crafted this plan in isolation. It was always meant to be a collaborative effort, shaped by your insights and aspirations. Thank you for your support and invaluable feedback.

## School Policies

We're all about keeping things relevant here, and that includes our policies. We are required to review certain policies throughout the year, and your feedback is crucial to that process. You can always check which policies are up for review and submit feedback at [schooldocs](#).

Every term we'll publish the relevant policy links heret before we make any changes at our board meeting. Take a peek at the policies we are reviewing this term, and let us know if it's hitting the mark for you and your whānau. We're all ears!

- [Te Tiriti o Waitangi](#)
- [Board Responsibility](#)
- [Parent Involvement](#)
- [Communicating with Parents](#)
- [Community Conduct Expectations](#)
- [Documentation and Self-Review Policy](#)
- [School Planning and Reporting](#)
- [Reporting to Parents on Student Progress and Achievement](#)





# NGUNGURU STRATEGIC PLAN | 2024 - 2026

To achieve our strategic vision, the Board have implemented the following initiatives and measures.



Goal	Initiative	Measure
<p><b>Hiranga   Excellence</b></p> <p>Develop a robust curriculum focusing on excellence, which allows students to achieve to their highest potential</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New assessment schedule</li> <li>Full implementation of Writer's Toolbox</li> <li>Full implementation of PRIME</li> <li>Develop curriculum teams</li> <li>Kahui Ako Structured Literacy Professional Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80% of students at or above their expected level across the curriculum.</li> <li>80% of all students are at the expected level in writing.</li> <li>80% of students achieving at the expected level in math.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mahi Tahi Tātou   Working Together</b></p> <p>Strengthen relationships with hāpori and community stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly reo Maori lessons for teachers</li> <li>Matariki celebrations</li> <li>Noho marae</li> <li>NZ Histories curriculum</li> <li>Maori Achievement Collaboration</li> <li>Relationships First Professional Development</li> <li>Earth Ed community partnerships</li> <li>ECE partnerships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% attendance at three-way conferences.</li> <li>Increased engagement through school social media.</li> <li>Termly functions with or at marae</li> <li>Co-designed local curriculum</li> <li>Termly engagement with community groups on environmental activities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ahurei   Celebrating Each Child</b></p> <p>Ensure our learning environment is a safe and inclusive space for all to learn and grow.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce PB4L</li> <li>Sensory Room</li> <li>Security and internet upgrade</li> <li>Develop student leadership</li> <li>Bi-annual Life Education Bus</li> <li>Acknowledge whakapapa of all students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wellbeing@school survey results demonstrate positive wellbeing trend.</li> <li>Attendance rates above 90%.</li> <li>80% school whanau have attended a school event.</li> <li>Increased student participation in school decision-making</li> <li>All students know their pepeha.</li> </ul>

# NGUNGURU STRATEGIC TIMELINE | 2024 - 2026

The timeline below illustrates when the initiatives will take place over the course of two years.

