

Special Newsletter – Thursday 23rd October 2012



Dear Parents/Guardians of Te Totara Primary School

TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL GAINS \$ 3.35 MILLION DEVELOPMENT SECURING A PERMANENT SOLUTION FOR A PERMANENT SCHOOL

Over the last 12 months the Board of Trustees has been working extensively with the Ministry of Education over the future of the school. This has involved intensive planning and has been a long and exacting process. We are pleased to confirm that funding of \$3.35 million dollars has been secured for the growth of our school. This will cater for 750 students in a permanent way rather than having haphazard growth. We currently have 521 students enrolled. Key features of this new development include:

- **The addition of 10 new classrooms for the school.**

These new classrooms will be state of the art, purpose built and provide more fantastic learning and teaching facilities for our staff and students. These will be located between the existing Milky Way buildings and the turf courts.

- **The building of two satellite classrooms of Hamilton North School**

These classrooms will cater for students with special education needs.

This new exciting partnership will allow for the sharing of our skills to help children. These rooms will be built between the existing Orion and Matawhero blocks and the car park

- **Provision of additional car parking and better traffic flows**

- More car parks will be provided, from 90 to 143
- The current car park will have its own entrance and will have a barrier arm to control traffic
- The current turning bay will be a separate drop off and pick up zone.
- A new footpath will be built on the Borman Road side of the car park, so that children do not have to cross traffic to enter and exit the school
- An additional footpath will be built to an exit at the far end of the field to allow entry and exit. We will negotiate with the Hamilton City Council for access to this.

- **Infrastructure to support our school**

Additional power, water sewage facilities will be added to the school to cater for this growth

Some Frequently Asked Questions

What happens now?

A project control group comprising the school board, Hamilton North School and the Ministry of Education will appoint a project manager to ensure the project is built.

When will it be built?

Completion date is set for the beginning of the 2014 school year.

What information will be used to build the classrooms?

We will draw on our own experiences, other new schools and also latest research to build. We will be including parents through our Board, also staff and students to come up with an amazing solution-what an opportunity!

What happens if Te Totara runs out of rooms before the buildings are built?

We have a contingency of temporary classrooms to be brought in if needed while our modern and stunning facilities are built.

Will Matariki (our hall and staff area) be extended?

The funding for this project does not include this. Our school is "over code" in these areas already.

How will I know what things will look like?

We will open up a new building section on our website, where we will have photos, plans and information on progress.

Questions or queries:

Please contact Brian Sheedy, Principal, via e-mail: principal@tetotara.school.nz