



Te Mata Kindergarten

President Report

2011

It is my pleasure to again submit the yearend report in my capacity as President of the Te Mata Kindergarten (TMK) for 2011.

2011 saw another successful year for our dedicated committee and parents who organized exciting events, pitched in to help with maintenance, help feed Neville over the holidays and continue to build and foster our family and community relationships. This commitment to our Kindergarten gives our children the opportunity to learn, access great resources, develop in themselves and retain fond memories of their time at Kindergarten.

The backbone and rock of our Kindergarten remains, as always, our dedicated teaching and support staff. As parents we ultimately chose TMK for our children based on the skill and passion that they possess... and confirmation of these attributes are confirmed as we see our children grow and enjoy their time at TMK.

We sadly said goodbye to Mariana in December at a farewell lunch. She will be greatly missed by children, parents and the teaching team - But we also gladly and excitedly welcome Maree to our Kindergarten for 2012. Welcome again Maree and we are confident that you will love TMK as we do.

The 2011 started with a hiss and a roar at TMK with a new event, the 'TMK Triathlon'. This was an idea brought to the fore from newly joined committee members over a coffee (or wine ???) and quickly developed (and we all know how quickly) into an extremely well run and profitable event. Held at Hereworth School our kids started the race on bikes, transitioned into a run and ended the race on the ultimate waterslide... WOW! A fabulous turn out and hugely supported. Entries for the event were stellar and a healthy profit made. The sausages couldn't sizzle fast enough!!!

Again the proactive and focused committee moved on to a Ladies Night of fashion education (Style Angel) which was held at Lindisfarne School Auditorium. TMK received amazing support from our community with sponsorship for this event. The most amazing donations were proffered by businesses in our community which is testament again showed their support for us and we returned the kindness with advertising of their brand and thank you letters / pictures from the children. We also ensure that we support these businesses where we can by buying goods or services.

TMK have appreciated the opportunity to hold these events at local schools and thank them for their support of our Kindergarten.

September 2011 saw the official launch of our own and unique book, Te Mata o Rongakoko. A huge accomplishment which was driven by our focused TMK Teaching and Support staff along with the books Author, Annelisa Ferguson and Illustrator, Sophie Blokker. The close relationship between these people along with the interaction of our children over the development of this book was phenomenal. This culminated in the book which has an RRP of \$20.00. The committee will continue to develop sales avenues for this book within our local and national community. Currently this book is being retailed at Poppies, Visitor Information, Arataki Honey, Apple Activities, Blackboard Jungle and directly via TMK.

An initial production run of 500 books in September 2011 have been sold and another production run will be scheduled to continue and support our sales avenues.

A Kindergarten father and his work colleague who work for The Pacific Institute delivered an educational evening for teachers and parents as a fundraising activity. They designed the evening 'Developing Talent'. The evening ran for 90 minutes at a cost of \$20 a ticket. The cost to Kindergarten was 15% of sales. This was held in November at a local church. This again showed the commitment that our parents have to our Kindergarten.

Our annual calendar and tea towel fundraisers topped off the year and again were hugely supported.

Other fundraisers also included: sales of Woolgro products, Olive Oil etc and the opportunity to have a recycled clothing bin at the front of Kindergarten which returns an annual rebate dependent on quality of clothes gained. A something for nothing opportunity that also shows TMK as supporting our community in recycling and assisting families.

From the funds gained from all of these amazing fundraisers the committee supported the development of a new water and sand area in the playground. An exciting and interactive feature that again offers our children to develop new skills.

Committee also initiated the process for possible grant options for ongoing updating and development of our outdoor playground equipment.

A main focus for the mid part of 2011 was the notification to TMK from the Association that we needed to look into a Diversification programme / system. The Association, our Teachers and representatives from NZEI have been in discussions over this. A community meeting was held at TMK late last year in which the Association covered the options available to TMK.

From this initial meeting the committee contacted all families of TMK and asked them to provide feedback of why they selected Te Mata Kindergarten for their child/ren to assist with marketing ideas.

The committee also ran a letter box drop to all areas of Havelock promoting our Kindergarten with a focus to increase morning and afternoon rolls.

A billboard sign which was commissioned earlier in the year was constructed on the roof of the TNK building and showcases TMK to passers by. This has received favoured feedback and seemed to be creating an enticement for people to come in and view more.

Rolls will be reviewed and another public meeting is due to be held on the 9th February. From this it is hoped that a more definitive action plan can be put in place.

Unfortunately 2011 again saw the non-implementation of the Communication policy from the Board of the HKA. This project had been assigned to a Board member who then left the Board part way through the year. I do hope that the Board of the HKA assigns this project to another Board member and looks to develop this policy in 2012. As shown in 2010 it is important that efficient communication avenues are open between HKA and it's Kindergartens and Committees of those Kindergartens for the betterment of all parties.

All in all, another fun and successful year for TMK.

Huge thanks must go to our Teaching and Support team and to our Committee and Kindy Families that make TMK a great place for our Children.

President: _____ (*Kirsty Bewley*)

Date: _____