

**CUST SCHOOL PTA, PRESIDENT’S REPORT 2021**

It is with great pleasure that I present my President's Report for the Cust School PTA for the Year 2020/2021, ending March 31.

This year has obviously thrown a lot of curveballs to many with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Numerous PTA meetings had to be rescheduled because of this, and our focus for fundraising changed. It was decided that it was more important to look after our Tamariki and their whanau, than to land multiple fundraisers on families, some of whom were struggling to make ends meet.

In saying that, we did have 3 main fundraisers which brought in significant income for the PTA. The bulb fundraiser being one of these. The bulb fundraiser was to initially raise funds for the Year 8 hoodies. That was done with ease and since there were more bulbs to be sold, the PTA took it on. We just kept going back to the Flower Farm in West Eyreton for more, as demand for the lily bulbs was so high! It was a great time for the PTA members to get to know each other better while fossicking through sawdust for bulbs! It was also successful in bringing in money from the community and afar, so school families got a reprieve!

The other main fundraiser in 2020 was the Annual Disco which, as usual, was a hit with the Tamariki. This year's theme was a ‘scary’ theme to coincide with Halloween and there were many witches and goblins seen lurking around the West Eyreton Hall!

The Annual Easter Raffle came back in 2021 after not being able to hold it in 2020 and was our most successful yet.

**Fundraising highlights for the financial year (to 31 March 2021)**

* Bulb fundraiser - $5,612.36
* School Disco – $709.88
* Cookbooks – ongoing sales. Have made a total profit of $6064.66
* Second Hand Clothing Sales - $171
* Easter Raffle - $2900 approx

**Other events / activities**

* PTA catered a ‘Thank you. You are awesome’ lunch for the teachers for all their dedication towards learning, and wonderfulness over lockdown
* New sandpit toys were purchased
* PTA shouted the students to a free ice block after Cross Country
* Free movie night with treats
* Purchase of new Kapa Haka uniforms
* New Parents morning tea
* Free sausage sizzle and ice block for the students at the end of the year
* Free hot cross buns for Easter

**Early’s Rd Speed Concerns**

The WDC installed new signage for adhering to the 40km/h speed limit past the school, a new pedestrian island and extension to the pathway going to the Pre-school. Many thanks to Robert and Yo for their work in getting this actioned. Such a great initiative for the safety of our tamariki, now and in the future.

**Building Work**

It has been very exciting seeing the demolition of Room 4 and the building of the new classroom block. We can’t wait to see the finished product and for the Tamariki to move into their beautiful new classrooms. It is hoped that the PTA may be able to contribute some funds towards landscaping around these new rooms.

**Pea Straw Carting**

In March, members of the PTA and Friends of the PTA, helped on 2 occasions to cart pea straw for the Gillespies. Much fun was had and the irrigation was a welcome relief after a big morning straw carting! From this the PTA will receive a donation to go towards some concrete art at the school.

I would like to welcome Victoria Traynor, Casey Toon, Nerissa Thompson, Fran Rae and Karen Gilby who have joined the PTA Committee this year.

The time and effort put in by our other 2020/2021 PTA Committee members also needs to be acknowledged – Anna Riley (Treasurer), Natasha Donoghue (Vice-President), Sophie Brown (Secretary), Rowan Walton (Vice-Secretary), Nikki Denley (Honorary Audit Reviewer), Natalie Kearns, Mitzi Taylor, Alisa Thompson, Wendy Bourne and Robert Schuyt. Your help and support has been invaluable, and nothing is ever a problem with you all around. Thank you.

I would also like to thank and acknowledge Sonya Smith, Yo Lawrence, Nikki Denley and Wendy Bourne, who all resigned during 2020. Your support and dedication over the years has been invaluable and we can’t thank you enough.

A special thank you goes to Robert, who is at every PTA meeting, is always supportive of the Committee and who does an amazing job as Principal at Cust School. Our Tamariki are so incredibly lucky having him at the helm.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees for your continued support of the PTA and for attending our meetings with Board updates.

Thank you also to all the Parents and Caregivers who have helped us and supported us and our fundraisers over the past year.

Becoming involved with the PTA is a great way to meet other parents and to be part of what is happening in and around the school. We are always looking for people to join the PTA.

If you are interested, please get in touch with one of our Committee members.

Nga mihi

Kathryn Taylor

President

Cust School PTA

July 2021