

Principal, Michelle Watson Address to Community December 2022

2022 has been another wonderful year at Mosston. It is hard to think back to Term one when we were in red as COVID still had a hold. We have had our greatest number of positive COVID cases this year and worked hard to keep these contained and families feeling supported. The days of being in hub bubbles, set eating and play areas, compulsory mask wearing and parents limited to the car park seem long ago. For many of our students there have been three years of COVID interruptions but I believe we have come through it well. Mosston children have developed resilience and through these times, they have adapted with the changes made. We were very excited to return to orange in term 2 with fewer restrictions and while masks and sanitising were advised, we were able to invite parents back into school. In term 3 Life returned to the new normal as we know it now.

There have been a number of highlights in 2022- academic, sporting and cultural. These included the visit from Harold and the Life Education van, the senior school camp to Forest lakes, Book character Dress up, HOOT easter egg hunt, Breakfast club, Mosston's Got Talent, Puanga, FOAM and educational experiences outside the classroom. We also supported Pink Shirt and Do Blue day. Celebrations of the diverse cultures in our community are valued and we have taken opportunities to learn from one another. Mosston School is such a fun and exciting place to be for students and staff. Moving into the refurbished office block was a highlight and it is lovely to work in such a bright, open and more welcoming space.

Successes locally in the West Cluster speech competition, Whanganui Mathex, ICAS and the Interschool cross country all add to a winning year. Our children' are very involved in a range of sporting opportunities over the year and we thank all our parents and coaches who support these in a number of ways.

We have celebrated our students' progress and achievement. More than 80% of Mosston students have met curriculum expectations in reading, writing and maths this year. An amazing achievement! The move to Real Time Reporting has meant we are sharing a child's learning with parents three to five times a term and in real time as opposed to just mid and end of year a year.

This year we welcomed a new teacher, Roman Kerr to Room 5 and Sue Nimmo, Zoe Habgood, Rachel Shaw and Nicole Kendrick, who have supported us as teacher aides - helping with classroom programmes to allow us to meet individual student needs.

At the end of the year we farewelled Hayley Addenbrooke and Tarryn Cleveland as they went off on parental leave.. We also bid farewell to Mrs Keohane who has been working in Room 5 this year.

I want to thank our Board of Trustees for their support for me and acknowledge how committed they are to ensuring Mosston School has the planning and resources needed to provide a great education for your children. They serve our Mosston community well and are always looking to move the school forward. They ensure that all decisions made have a positive impact on your children. I would like to acknowledge Scott Francis who left the Board in September and the current board Ryan, Tess, Steven, Marnia and Diane along with Kylie, the presiding member.