

Principal's address 2019

Thank you for joining us as we celebrate 2019 and it's many successes.

Today is a celebration of each child's unique ideas, talents, skills, passions and culture.

It is a celebration of our inclusive and welcoming environment

It is a celebration of our home school partnerships.

The year began with a celebration of our Education Review Office report, we were proud to receive a 4 - 5 year review after their visit in December, 2018. This is a reflection of our amazing staff and the great teaching and learning programmes we provide, as well as the achievement of our students.

We then celebrated the opening of our all weather turf and a full school repaint after which a number of exciting events followed. These included the visit from Harold and the Life education truck, the Big day out to Stratford and Hawera, Mosston's Got Talent, our speech competition, doughnuts with dad, whole school visit to Putiki Marae, rugby world cup day and our Digital technologies journey.

Today we celebrate our students, your children's progress and achievement. It has been rewarding to see our students trying so hard and developing a growth mindset, especially those for whom learning doesn't come easily or is a challenge. While not every child receives an award, we do celebrate the progress that each and every Mosston child has made. We regularly monitor the achievement levels of all our tamariki to ensure they are reaching their potential and have celebrated many successes in the school reports that you received this week.

We celebrate the great teaching and support staff we have at Mosston. They give so much of themselves and provide the best that they can for the children they are entrusted with, as well as managing the challenges and demands that are placed upon them. I know how much they celebrate in the joy of seeing their learners learn and grow; the pleasure they get from their learner's discovering, understanding and growing in confidence. To all staff members in our school, please know that you are appreciated for your ongoing dedication to making learning personal for each of our learners and your commitment to building and fostering relationships with learners and their whaanau. I would like to acknowledge Diane Alexander and Christine Stringer for the work they do as part of the leadership team and Sue Maguire for all her help and support for me in her role as office manager.

As the year ends, we celebrate Bene's time at Mosston School. Bene has been our caretaker for the past 4 years and we have loved having him on our staff. As you can probably appreciate, working with an all female staff could be daunting but he has managed it well. His fun and smiley personality have been a perfect fit for us and he has been every child's friend. A caretaker's job is not always glamorous but he tackles any job and does it well! We will miss him as he leaves to enjoy his retirement.

I would also like to acknowledge Frances Hunt and Ellen Keene who are finishing at the end of this year. Ellen has been our SENCo, Principal and ORS release teacher and Frances

has provided teacher aide support in Hihi. Thank you both for all you have done to support the teaching staff and tamariki in your care.

We celebrate our Board of Trustees and how committed they are to ensuring Mosston School has the planning and resources needed to provide a great education for your children. They serve the Mosston community very well. They ensure that all decisions made have a positive impact on your children. I am very grateful for their ongoing support. I would like to acknowledge Nic Matthews who left the BoT in May after 6 years as Board chair and want to acknowledge her contribution to Mosston School. I am very fortunate to now have Kylie in the chairperson role offering support along with Ryan, Adrienne, Steven, Jayson and Diane.

We celebrate our Mosston mums and dads and grandparents, who in their own very busy lives find time to support their children, the School and our community in many ways. Parents who put their trust and confidence in teachers. Parents who value what we do, express their thanks, provide affirmation and offer their encouragement and support. We could not do it without you!

We celebrate people from our community who support us. This includes Parent and Grandparent classroom helpers, Parents Group, Bruce Jellyman, the GOME trust, our Bible teachers, Whanganui High School and Rotary Readers along with those who have sponsored the year book and year that was supplement in the Chronicle - Springvale Garden Centre and Cafe, Forever Mobilise, Buxton plumbing, Unichem pharmacy, Mid town motors, Strong Electrical and the Employment Academy.

2019 has been another year for celebrating some great results in our ICAS tests along with gaining first and second place in the West Cluster speech competition, third in the Year 6 Mathex competition and a special award at the kids sing choir festival.

We celebrate many sporting events and results and our children's involvement in a range of sporting opportunities over the year. Thank you to all our parents and coaches who support these in a number of ways.

We celebrate our cultures, the growing diversity within our school roll and what we learn from each other as we reflect on our Puanga morning, kapa haka and tikanga programmes and Maori and chinese language week celebrations.

I look forward to 2020 and more opportunities to celebrate the great things that happen at Mosston School.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Michelle Watson