

**PUKEKAWA SCHOOL**

**803 Highway 22**

**Pukekawa**

**R. D. 1. 2696**

**Tuakau**

**BOT Meeting – Wednesday 24 February 2025**

**Principal Report prepared by Josie Redmond**

**Roll – 82**

**2024 Pukekawa School Annual Report**  
2024 has been another dynamic and productive year for Pukekawa School. As a small rural school, we remain committed to providing high-quality education in a nurturing, inclusive, and safe environment for both our local students and those from surrounding areas. Feedback from parents and community stakeholders indicates that the school is performing well, and there is overall satisfaction with the progress made throughout the year. We will continue to assess and monitor this feedback as we move into 2025.

**Student Achievement**  
A key focus in 2024 was the continued investment in Mathematics education, building upon the professional development and resources allocated in 2023. The results have been highly encouraging, with 41% of students making expected progress and 56% achieving accelerated progress in Mathematics. These outcomes validate our strategic investment and highlight the effectiveness of targeted interventions.

Similarly, our achievements in literacy have been significant:

* **Reading**: 18% of students made expected progress, while 65% demonstrated accelerated progress.
* **Writing**: 27% of students made expected progress, with 62% making accelerated progress.

The Board’s investment in teacher aides has been invaluable, particularly in supporting students in Pukeko and Hub classrooms. The presence of an additional adult in the classroom has facilitated targeted small-group instruction, boosting student confidence and contributing to measurable progress in their learning.

**Facilities and Infrastructure**  
The completion of the astroturf installation on the top court has been a significant enhancement to our school’s facilities. Students are actively utilising this space, and in 2025, we aim to further develop sports opportunities, including tennis, basketball, netball, and hockey, using the newly marked courts.

Participation in River and Franklin Zone sports competitions remained a priority in 2024, and we entered as many events as possible. However, transportation remains a challenge. Acquiring a school van would greatly enhance our ability to attend these events more consistently in the future.

**School Culture and Environment**  
The positive and welcoming culture at Pukekawa School continues to be a source of pride. Visitors frequently comment on the friendliness, politeness, and respectful nature of our students, as well as the calm and supportive atmosphere during break times. These observations affirm our strong school values, where respect and inclusivity are reinforced by staff and modelled by students.

Our proactive approach ensures that any issues or concerns are addressed promptly. Open communication with parents and caregivers remains a priority, enabling us to collaborate effectively for the benefit of each student.

**Grounds and Maintenance**  
The school grounds continue to be well-maintained, thanks to the dedication of our caretaker and volunteers. The removal of a large, decaying tree was necessary for health and safety reasons, and ongoing tree maintenance ensures a safe and engaging outdoor environment for students.

As part of our long-term property plan, significant roof repairs have been completed across all school buildings, addressing any deteriorated areas. The next phase in 2025 will focus on painting the roof to further preserve and enhance our facilities.

Additionally, the school pool has undergone a major upgrade with the installation of a heat pump. This improvement will extend the duration of effective swimming lessons by allowing students to focus on technique without being hindered by cold water temperatures.

**Governance and Leadership**  
The current School Board has been instrumental in supporting both classroom learning and facility enhancements. Their strategic resourcing decisions have provided the necessary tools for teachers to deliver high-quality instruction while also fostering a school environment that is both enjoyable and safe for students. The staff sincerely appreciate the Board’s ongoing commitment, guidance, and support.

**Conclusion**  
Reflecting on 2024, we take pride in the significant achievements made—both academically and in strengthening our school community. As we prepare for 2025, we embrace the opportunities and challenges ahead, continuing our dedication to student success and overall school improvement.

Prepared by Josie Redmond

Pukekawa School Principal