

Below is an overview for the Whanau hui held Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018. 6-7.30pm

Present: Williams Whanau, Waretini Whanau, Harrison Whanau, Mark Richardson and Lyndon McIntosh and his daughter.

Apologies: Blackburn Whanau.

Mr Lyndon McIntosh said karakia for our kai at 6.35pm. Kai was provided by the Harrison Whanau and the school. Thank you for the kai whanau.

Opened in Prayer by Mr Mark Richardson.

Agenda

**-Honouring the Williams Whanau for the work they've done.**

I (Kiri-Lee Williams) spoke about our move back to Palmerston North at the end of the year, eventually joining my husband Heath as he started his new job with Triple R Engineering in September of this year. Our daughter Kayla\_Paige (18) will stay in Christchurch to study Engineering at UC and our other 4 children will travel to Palmerston North to start a new chapter in their lives.

Mr Richardson thanked the Williams Whanau for their contribution to the school community in nga mea Maori (all things Maori) Mr Richardson remembered back to 2012 when he met the Williams Whanau at their interview and the korero (talk) about the presence of Kapa Haka at ACS to then seeing nga mea Maori slowly strengthening within the school with Kiri-Lee supporting in the movement and drive of its direction.

**-Staff visit Taumutu (The marae our school is connected to.)**

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Teacher's Only day saw 38 staff members (Teacher's, Teacher Aides & Support Staff) attend Taumutu Marae. Leading up to this marae visit, Mr Aidan Harrison attended 2 staff meetings to prepare staff for this day. Aidan touched on cultural narrative, which gives great background history of our current location and he talked about Mihi, Maori protocol and what to expect when visiting a marae.

All staff presented their Mihi well and for some staff members this was their very first time standing up and presenting their Mihi. Well done to you all as you experience and learn in a safe environment Te ao Maori/Tikanga Maori.

Staff were involved in 3 workshops; these workshops gave practical ideas to bring to the classroom. They were also given a link to view the Taumutu website, this will provide even further assistance on their journey with connecting with the marae and passing on these teachings/ learnings to our students.

We would like to thank the board for giving ACS staff the opportunity to be part of a bigger story. The understanding of 2 people becoming 1 and now the confidence and understanding of the rich history of our area. This marae visit for some staff has no doubt answered some questions, conquered fear of the unknown and provided better understanding about Tikanga Maori.

The opportunity that the BoT provided is huge. Normally a BoT would pay for up to 4 key staff members to attend such a visit and feedback is expected to be relayed back to the rest of staff members. This is no easy feat as you cannot capture or even begin to share all the senses a Marae visit gives you. We humbly thank the BoT for providing such an opportunity for ACS staff to learn as one.

**-Welcome back Lyndon McIntosh to ACS.**

Lyndon introduced himself and spoke about his 1-year leave studying the Maori language through Te Wananga o Aotearoa, Waka Pounamu course. Lyndon will return to teach in 2019 eager and willing to see Te-reo grow here at ACS. He's hoping to see a structured Te-reo Maori scheme initiated and aiming to feed into this with the knowledge he has been given.

The main objective for the structured Te-reo Maori scheme is to create a learning program where the development will be progressive. The whanau group also hope to feed into this scheme.

**-Proposal: Whanau group make the Hangi 2019 for the Parent/Whanau evening.**

After a small discussion it was decided that the Whanau hui group will take on this task of preparing a Hangi. Preparation is slowly under way to sort the best avenue to make this happen. The aim is to have all planning done this side of the year as the timeframe in 2019 becomes very limited. So, all hands-on deck as we prepare to feed an army.

The Parent/Whanau evening is a very informative evening where Mr Mark Richardson will explain in more detail the classrooms for 2019 and you will also get time to meet and greet with your child's teacher and parents of those who your child shares a class with. The Parents Association will also speak about their role in the school, this is also another great time to volunteer and serve.

Plus, a great part of this evening is it will be the first meal we share as a school, what a way to start the year.

**-Mr Richardson Sabbatical 2019.**

For part of Term 1 and 2 Mr Richardson will be on Sabbatical exploring Authentic Bi cultural Learning. We look forward to seeing where this takes Mr Richardson and what his findings are.

**-Whanau Hui 2019 dates.**

Term 1, week 4 – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Term 2, week 4 – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Term 3, week 4 – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Term 4, week 4 – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**-Looking forward, next steps for the whanau hui to think about.**

What do we want the Whanau hui's vision/purpose to be? May we weave the special character of the school and the Maori vision together, so the Whanau hui has a purpose for being.

Who will take on the administration for our Whanau hui. This involves organising invites for whanau hui, updates on school website- whanau page, update photo's, generally keeping the whanau web page current and informative to our School Community. This may generate more interest in wanting to attend Hui.

Looking at different ways to encourage more whanau to join our hui. Encourage whanau to be part of opportunities that arise and have their say in what we do.

**-Next steps for Aidanfield Christian School.**

The Senior lead team are aiming for students to attend a Noho marae (sleep over). At which year level is yet to be decided.

Wanting the Te-reo language to progress. Creating a scheme that will grow our students in their knowledge of the Te-reo language.

Whanau hui ended in prayer by Mark Richardson, 8.05pm.

My parting words.

May the Lord continue to strengthen our knowledge and give us the courage to take a leap of faith with our learnings in nga mea Maori.

I would like to see more whanau step forward to be part of this group and have their say because what you have to say matters, regardless of how much you know or little you know this is not a place of judgement.

I would also like to see our Maori students/learners stand proudly and confidently willing to participate in and contribute to the community. Our children will follow if we lead by example.

Lastly, we will miss ACS as it has left quite an impression on each of our hearts and for that we feel truly blessed. We certainly see ACS as an extension of our Whanau and will cherish the memories made.

Thank you to everyone for their ideas and for the robust conversation. Our Whanau group have accomplished so much in the last couple of years which is something to be very proud of. I look forward to what the future holds as God's plan continues to unfold in the Maori community.

Ma te wa

Kiri-Lee Williams

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