

It is with sadness that I write the last newsletter as principal of Bankwood School. I estimate that I have written around 800 newsletters and each one I write with pride.

Bankwood has been a nurturing place to be. All the children have been a joy. They are talented, creative, enthusiastic learners who produce some amazing pieces of learning. I have thought about previous newsletters and remember when there were photos of children engaged in learning opportunities: camps, athletics, cross country, netball, basketball, hockey, productions, choir, kapa haka, community events, art expo, school assemblies and much much more. I do so hope that COVID will settle and schools will be able to have all these opportunities before too long.

On Saturday evening I had a surprise farewell organised by the staff and the Board. The children had decorated the hall with lovely messages and art work. I have included a few of these in this newsletter to share with you.

Once again I would like to thank you for being such a supportive and inclusive parent community. It has been a privilege and joy to lead Bankwood School over the last 19 years.

Kay Cleaver



**Lost Property**  
Please name  
your children's  
clothes and  
shoes. With the  
changeable weather, children  
are beginning to leave  
belongings all over the place!



Regards, Kay Cleaver, Principal.



Dear Mrs Cleaver

It's sad to hear you are leaving Bankwood School. We thank you for putting a smile on our days and seeing us through our few trials. Thank you for encouraging us to be the best that we can be. You strive to be the best you can be and sometimes wear a buzzy bee you see.

I think it's awesome when you grab loads of tissues when we make you proud. We wish you well on your new journey.

Mrs Cleaver, you are the boss of Bankwood School. You're a loving person that takes care of us. You are the one who always helps out the teachers. You taught us everything. You have taught me kindness and respect. You're the one who is standing at the office, waving us goodbye and smiling as we leave. I hope you have a great retirement and be safe.



Dear Mrs Cleaver

We are so sad that you're going away forever, but I thank you for giving us courage through our struggles. We are grateful that you've been our principal for many years. Nobody deserves a better goodbye more than you. I hope you have a good rest after your retirement. You deserve a good rest. I hope you can spend more time with your family.

Dear Mrs Cleaver,  
I was very sad to hear that you were retiring, because I've been here since I was 5. When I think of you, my mind instantly flickers to assemblies where you almost always cry non-stop. The school hall should keep a box of tissues just for you. I like you because you are kind and caring. I am sure that we will not get another principal as good as you. Best wishes for your retirement.

Dear Mrs Cleaver

You have been helpful by saying kind things to us when we feel a little off, as well as taking care of our school. You are a very caring person to all the kids. You taught us how to be the best we can be. You always have a smile on your face and put lots of smiles on everyone else's face. I'm grateful to have had you as our principal. We will miss you with all your hearts. I hope you have a great time in your retirement.

Dear Mrs Cleaver,

I have been here since I was 5 years old. In that period, I have learnt all 4 kinds. At the assembly you always cry so I can tell you love us all and your feel sensitive. When I heard the news, I felt like they were joking but they weren't! I even checked if it was a dream, I can't believe how great you made this school, thank you for being the best.







# Bankwood SCHOOL

Being The Best We Can Be

**We are:**

The Respectful Kind  
The Responsible Kind  
The Learning Kind  
The Creative Kind

Kia Ora e te whānau,

18th May 2022

Unfortunately I am working from home this week as I have become a household contact. Covid is certainly not done with us yet and I want to acknowledge all our staff at Bankwood who have, and continue to help us keep our Kura running smoothly through these challenging times. I look forward to being back in person next week and seeing all our tamariki.

This week at school we are celebrating Pink Week, which helps to raise an awareness of bullying. Our focus this year is what it means to be a kind friend. Teachers will be on the look out for those children who are being a kind friend to others and they will receive a kind friend card. Each team has a pink box in the office where the children can put their kind friend cards. The teams will have a team assembly on Friday where 4 names will be drawn out of the box. These children will receive a watch that has been kindly donated by Mr Frampton, Danica Howe's father. We encourage all our tamariki to wear a dash of pink on Friday, but if you don't have anything I am sure the teachers will be making some pink "accessories" in class.

Below is the definition of bullying that we are using with our children so that they have a clear understanding of what bullying actually is.

***When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful, and they do it once, that's rude.***

***When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful, and they do it once, that's mean.***

***When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it 'over time' when you tell them to stop, or show them that you're upset that's BULLYING!***

*It has been great to see that many families have taken up the opportunity of getting a free Kids Can jacket from school for their children. We still have some in stock so please email [office@bankwood.school.nz](mailto:office@bankwood.school.nz) or text the office on 027 6142 515 with your child's name and room number if you would like one.*

Ngā mihi  
Toni Holford



#### Dates to Remember

Friday 3rd June	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teacher Only Day (no children at school)
Monday 6th June	Queens Birthday public holiday
Friday 24th June	Matariki public holiday
Friday 8th July	End of Term 2

## Book Club



**Last day for Lucky Book Club orders is  
Thursday 19th May.**

#### Board News

As you are aware we have currently been working on finding a new Principal.

We engaged an Auckland consultant who commented on the high caliber of applicants and how lucky we were!

We have appointed Hone Waudby to be our new Principal and he will begin with us on Monday 25th July.

He looks forward to meeting our Bankwood Whanau and working with our tamariki.

Tania Abrams

BOT Chairperson



Last week Mr Popham and Matua Vic took an enthusiastic group of our senior students down to Kukutaaruhi (Donny Park) to celebrate the launch of Nature in the City. The weather was stunning and it was a valuable experience for our tamariki. As a staff we are going to explore how we can use this park to support our focus on environment and local histories. The link for the stuff article that explains the Nature in the City initiative is on School Story on Class Dojo.

