

Chairpersons Report 17 May 2016 (June 2015-May 2016)

I have enjoyed the 2015-2016 year in this role. There are always challenges but that's how I like to live my life...with challenges but ones that can be achieved! I stepped into this role in 2014 with some older families still on the committee, however many have moved on with their last child leaving for High School. We now have some young families on this committee who are willing to step up and support the children of Mokau School.

Without our one big fundraiser being the Mighty Mokau Bike Ride, the Teacher's, Children and Parents 'Wish List' would not be able to happen which ultimately benefits every child at this school.

The Home & School Committee has been able to send the senior students last year to Rotorua for the Leaders Conference, plus their leavers' trip to Taranaki. Prizegiving Leavers photo books and a Pounamu were purchased for the Y8 leavers. 8 Laptops have been purchased. We have paid for Reading and Maths computer programmes used in-home as well as in-school. \$2000 was put towards new PM readers for the junior room. New classroom furniture has been purchased and the library is looking smarter with new shelving, this was helped along with a grant kindly supported by the Piopio Charitable Trust. School signage, and the children also continue to benefit from Santa!

There are minimal raffles and other fundraising ventures for our parents to do throughout the year due to this bike ride, and every year it is growing, with close to 650 riders in 2016. Bike Torque Suzuki and Suzuki NZ with Ian Atkins at the helm, have been solid sponsors. Turning the tracks around this year proved successful, therefore we have created ourselves options for years to come.

Also a big thank you to the community members which are sometimes past school families and sometimes not at all, who turn up and spend all day on the BBQ, keeping the kitchen ticking along, marshalling tracks or sitting marshals.

Thank you to the farm owners - Piripiri Station, Taumatamairi Station - Mark & Wendy Smyth, MacDavitt Farms - Adrian & Alana Omelvena, and Angela Hammond, we would not have this lucrative event for our school without them. Many hours behind the scenes are spent to make it possible. Thank you to all

the parents who block out that week/days prior to and/or on the weekend of the 3rd weekend in February every year.

Many Thanks to Jo Raine who has worked diligently putting our financials into great order, and presenting them professionally every meeting. Jo has been a great support for the Home & School over many years and has been a very dedicated and supportive parent.

Maree Jones is a superb contributor within the Home & School and always actively involved in all the events being held. Thank you to you both for your years of advice, leadership and stability you have brought to the Home & School Committee.

Mary- Elizabeth, thank you for stepping up into the Secretary role in September 2015, I really enjoy working alongside you.

We are the fund raising arm of the BOT and working together with the BOT we all have a common goal which is to make Mokau School a better learning environment in the classroom and out in the field for the children. Home & School gave \$100/child enrolled over to the BOT account for classroom consumables. A meeting prior to the AGM, has confirmed Home & School will transfer money fundraised over to the BOT, where all purchases will be accounted for.

Our Camp for senior students in 2016 will venture north and try something different which will be a great adventure heading into the Waitomo area.

Mokau School is in good shape, we have very skilled and caring teachers, staff members and a great team of parents. So as the Home & School committee and as parents we need to support them, support each other and support our children. Having a positive attitude within our school environment reflects onto our children and community. "Together we can do it".

Wendy Smyth

Chairperson

Home & School Committee, 17 May 2016