



ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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7 March 2014

Dear Parents

Attached is a letter from NZ Catholic Education Office dated 26 November 2013. This letter congratulates our principal, staff, Chair and Trustees on last year's Education Review Office (ERO) Report and "the sound standards of achievement" we have achieved as we seek to continuously improve the quality of what is delivered at our school. The letter also expresses thanks for "the leadership energy and hard work" staff and Board bring to the task of educating in our school.

At last December's Board meeting the Board agreed to this letter & the congratulations contained within it as it reflects the positive nature of our most recent ERO report, and the Catholic School's Office's gratitude to our dedicated management and staff. The Board concurs with the thanks to Carol and all our staff contained in the letter and is extremely appreciative for their "leadership energy and hard work". Board members have the privilege of working closely with Carol Sullivan and Robyn Lee and evidencing their conscientious leadership to a level not witnessed by many. For that reason, at this week's Board meeting the Board agreed to also share parts of Carol's 2013 Principal Appraisal with our community. We engage Jill Lunn to carry out our Principal Appraisal, partly due to her qualifications and experience in the field of Educational Leadership. Jill is the National Director of the Aspiring Principals Programme of NZ based at the University of Waikato. The appraisal report she provided to me as Chair of the Board states the following:

"It is with great pleasure I provide this appraisal report for the Board of Trustees at St Ignatius Catholic School and Mrs Carol Sullivan the Principal. It continues to be a privilege to be able to acknowledge and celebrate the work of the Principal and this community to herald the strengths of a school that has a focus on the requirements of a learner in the 21st century.

Evidence shows that St Ignatius Catholic School is an effective 'community of practice' that is focused on accelerating student achievement.

Mrs Sullivan is a conscientious leader who fosters, supports, contributes to and encourages the development of efficacy and agency within the school community...The families of this community are indeed very fortunate to have a Principal with the knowledge and understanding of pedagogical practice that enhances student learning, and the educational leadership knowledge, skills and dispositions that Mrs Sullivan has. Mrs Sullivan is a Principal who has her learners at the heart of all she does.

Mrs Sullivan achieves above standard on all of the indicators for the Professional Performance Standards for Principals. She is hard working, thoughtful and respectful and has a wealth of knowledge about learning and curriculum. The children are the "heart of the matter" and Mrs Sullivan strives to ensure their learning and development is catered for comprehensively (i.e. physical, social, emotional and intellectual) in this school."

The Board congratulates Carol on this appraisal and its reflection of her as "a very high performing principal who gives unreservedly to this school community." The Board constantly witnesses Carol's performance and decided to share this information with our community to honour her "exceptional talents and strengths" which she brings to the role of Principal.

I report this as Outgoing Chair as I can advise that Joanne Humphrey was unanimously elected Chair at this week's Board meeting. Joanne has been a Trustee for some time now and is therefore fully conversant with the Board's role as the employer of all staff in the school, its responsibility for setting the school's strategic direction, and ensuring that the school provides a safe environment and quality education for all its students. The Board is also responsible for overseeing the management of personnel, curriculum, property, finance and administration. Congratulations to Joanne on her appointment.

Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Marcella Thomas'.

Marcella Thomas
Trustee

New Zealand Catholic Education Office

Te Tari Mātauranga Katorika o Aotearoa

26 November 2013

Principal and Staff
Chairperson and Trustees
St Ignatius Catholic School
72 Speight Road
Saint Heliers
Auckland 1071

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- 2 DEC 2013

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings!!

EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE REPORT

- 1.0 Congratulations on your recent Education Review Office Report. It is a tribute to your professionalism and leadership that you have achieved sound standards of achievement as you seek to continuously improve the quality of what you deliver at St Ignatius Catholic School.
- 2.0 Our New Zealand Catholic Schools are demonstrating that increasingly they are standard setters in a number of areas of educational attainment. This engenders confidence and pride, not only amongst the Catholic community, but also in the wider community of the nation. After all, education is a great personal liberator.
- 3.0 Thank you, most sincerely, for the leadership, energy and hard work you bring to the task of educating the young people in your school. Education for young people is a hope filled activity which has positive life long consequences. The good you do, not only touches the students in your care, it has a ripple effect for their families and for the wider community.
- 4.0 If there is anything, anytime, I may be able to assist you with, please let me know. Again, congratulations on your Report – it is very encouraging and a tribute to you all.

With encouragement and support.

Sincerely,



Patrick J. Lynch
Chief Executive Officer