

Dunsandel School PTA AGM 2025
Thursday 13th February 2025

President's Report

Good evening everyone - I sort of can't believe we are here already, but I also feel like this is the earliest AGM we've had for a while, and I feel like that bodes well for the year ahead.

2024 was nothing short of a great year - it felt like we had quite a lot going on in the PTA space, busy, but mostly in a good way. It was nice to have a new face or two come along to meetings throughout the year, always wonderful to see those of you who make it along to most meetings, and so valuable and appreciated to have Miss Harrold come along as the staff rep. We appreciate that whoever fills that role each year does give up a few evenings and it really makes a difference to us in terms of being well-informed and efficient.

The awesome tried and true fundraisers of quiz night, cake auction, food fundraiser, lily bulbs, and calves went really well - calf fundraiser was a particular standout this year largely thanks to Selene and Johnny's hard work coordinating it all. The new fundraiser we tried was a Kings Seeds one, and we also had success in applying for some free fundraising sausages from Hellers in their Sausages for Schools program, which enabled us to make much more profit from the sausage sizzle on Country Day! It is awesome to have folks come along to meetings and bring up new fundraising ideas, as I feel like I probably don't think outside our "normal" fundraising box super well - fresh ideas always appreciated.

We had, as we always do, incredible support from our school and wider community, throughout the 2024 school year. We are super grateful for the support from all corners and in all the ways in which people provide that - whether it be donating a plate of baking for a catering gig, a calf to the calf fundraiser, entering a quiz team, helping with a sausage sizzle, taking a role on the PTA committee, baking a cake to auction, or sponsoring some aspect of quiz night. I am grateful to be able to participate in all of this, and that all of these successful fundraisers enable us as a PTA to fund amazing things for school that they wouldn't otherwise have funding for. We committed to fund all of our "usual" things, as well as a couple of specific requests for kapa haka uniform, an automated pool chemical dispenser, and a new projector for the school hall. It is incredibly nice to be able to say yes to all of those things, and know that we'll have the support to raise the money and be able to fund them.

I'm really looking forward to 2025, however it shapes up. I'd like to thank my committee for their hard work throughout the year, and Mr R and the teachers and staff at school for their support of PTA - the good working relationship we have is so valuable. On a personal note, it will be my last year with a child at Dunsandel School, having started here with Claire in 2015 - so looking forward to enjoying all the year 6 moments and working with all of you to make 2025 another fantastic year!

Katharine Sheppard
Dunsandel School PTA President 2024