

## TAPU SCHOOL



*Thank you to the school community* for the outpouring of support during our recent tragedy. This was an incredibly difficult time for everyone. I know the Redwood family found some solace in the respect the community has shown Mrs. Redwood in our bereavement.

In our sadness, there were many gestures which showed our love and admiration of her. These included the memory board, the children's notes, drawings, singing and haka, the balloons, flowers and phone calls, Emma's moving and eloquent speech at the funeral and the way that people stepped up to do what needed to be done, without needing to be asked or expecting thanks or recognition.

The staff did a marvellous job of coordinating the support services, welcoming the community to the school to share their grief and for getting the school back on its feet to provide a secure environment for the children on the first day back this term.

The Board feels sincere pride in representing the school with families were so responsive, spontaneous and generous with their kindness and caring. We extend a heartfelt thank you to you and the staff.

### BOT By-election

We are having to schedule a by-election to fill three Board positions. One of the seats was vacated by Helen Wilkinson in February. The other two are currently filled by sitting Board members, but according to Ministry requirements, need to be open to nomination and election every three years. These positions are currently held by Kathryn Reed and Emma Harris. Both Kathryn and Emma are standing for the election, but nominations are open.

Nomination forms will be sent out to all parents and caregivers early next week. Eligibility information is on the back of the forms.

To align our elections with other schools nationally, we will hold an election again in early 2010.

#### 2009 BOT By-election Timetable

**Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>** Nomination forms mailed to all families

**Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** Nominations close. Note, if only three nominations – one for each position – there doesn't have to be an election.

**Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>** Voting papers mailed to families

**Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>** Voting closes

*Please contact the school if you have any questions.*

### Welcome to new staff

This is our new principal, **Nik Edward's**, first official week at Tapu School, but it already feels like he is an integral part of the school community. Nik and Fiona and their three children Hannah, Amy and Oliver moved up from the Kapiti Coast and settled into the school house on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We are very lucky to be able to welcome **Caroline Walmsley** to our staff as junior classroom teacher. Ms Walmsley, born and bred in Thames, has been most recently teaching at Mercury Bay Area School.

Both Mr. Edwards and Ms Walmsley bring experience, enthusiasm, warmth and excitement to their classrooms.

With Mr. Ingerson continuing part-time in Room 1, the school is very fortunate to be staffed with a team of highly competent teachers, dedicated to their students' learning.