

Tena koutou katoa. Hello to all.

This is usually the time when we would be celebrating our successes from the year together and farewelling our senior students at our end of year assembly. This year, once again we have had to adapt and my usual PTFA chairperson wrap up is now below for you to read this year.

The PTFA have enjoyed another year, although a little disrupted, still one filled with positive experiences, friendships new and old, achievements and fun. I feel very blessed to work alongside a committee of dedicated and supportive members, who I want to say thank you to.

We have a positive relationship with the School Management Team and the Board of Trustees. I would like to thank you all. Thank you also to our staff rep Jenny Bassett and Craig McKernan for your support, for attending our meetings and advising us about developments within the school. We value the hard work of Jo Ashby and the Board of Trustees and appreciate your knowledge and input. We also value the support of our office staff & caretaker Deborah, Raewyn, Rachel and Shaun who provide an important link between the PTFA and our school whanau and help us with various tasks throughout the year. Thank you also to our Parish staff and Priests for their support.

One of the ways we assist our school is by raising money, with our annual Gala day being the main event. This year we were very lucky to have been able to hold the Gala and raise the highest amount to date. It was a very exciting time for our students, families, staff and PTFA members, being able to come together with our community and have fun whilst raising important funds for our tamariki. Thank you to all those who helped, sponsored, to the businesses that donated and to those of you who supported us this year.

It is about this time we would be pulling together and planning our next Gala. Unfortunately with the new traffic light system coming into play and the uncertainty of the future regarding Covid-19, we have made the difficult decision not to go ahead next year. However, we are very excited to explore other fundraising ideas that the students of St Francis Xavier can be involved in 2022, more about these in the new year!

In addition to the Gala we provide sausage sizzles for our students each term, which are always very popular. Thank you to Rangimarie and your team of Sizzlers for organising and a special thank you to Whangarei Gourmet Meats for their support.

The PTFA has contributed to a number of initiatives and financial commitments in the past 12 months and look forward to continuing this support in 2022. These achievements wouldn't be possible without a dedicated team. I wish to thank each member of the PTFA committee for their willingness and enthusiasm.

To our year 6 students preparing to move on to new schools and new adventures, thank you for enhancing the special character of our school by being strong leaders and positive role models. Everyone has a story to tell, a lesson to teach and wisdom to share. Life is a beautiful masterpiece bound together by experiences. Open up and share your story, become an inspiration to others. You can make a difference because you matter. You were created with purpose. Live your life with intention, go out there and make a difference by being the difference.

On behalf of the PTFA,
Enjoy a safe and happy Christmas with your loved ones.

Renee Procter
Chairperson