

# GREEN BAY SCHOOL.

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9th September 2010

## Principal's Piece

What a fabulous few days of celebrations for our Jubilee! A big thank you to all the members of our community who turned out for the Powhiri, the Open time, the Wine & Cheese function, the Family Fun Day, and the Dine & Dance. A good time was had by

everyone. Weren't our children beautiful? They gave us every reason to be very proud of their performances, displays and conduct over this time.

The spell-binding karanga was a fitting beginning to our celebrations. The Kapahaka girls looked enchanting in their new costumes and sounded so melodic, the boys were passionate in the haka, and it was interesting to hear speeches from distinguished guests who had been involved in the school many years ago. Children enjoyed an enormous birthday cake which was cut by our oldest student, Duncan R14 and our two youngest students, Christopher and Couper R18. Our guests included many past pupils and staff, as well as Barbara Harvey, the Mayor's wife, and Ross Clow from the Portage Trust, Board of Trustees members, and present parents. Intermediate students conducted tours of the school, showing off classes at work, our Enviro projects, an archival display in the library, and robotics operating in the Tech Room. Guests from the past were amazed he new technology and new style of education in operation.



The Wine & Cheese evening saw the Information Centre packed out. Past staff enjoyed catching up with one another, past pupils matched up and reminisced, enjoying the photos, and people from our community today enjoyed hearing the stories about the good old days. I love the story about the fundraising event held when the pool was opened and how they floated a piano on a pontoon in the middle of the pool. Astonishingly, it was even played on without disaster striking. It must have been great fun.

The Family Fun Day had a hiccup at the beginning – wouldn't you know it, the rain waited right until we were due to start, but in true Green Bay style, we were not daunted. Setting up in our hall, it was a tight squeeze and our children had to be adaptable to having less space for their performances, but it was lovely. With Norm Wallace egging us on, what a treat we had with the performances. The Juniors looked so cute as little rainbows. What with folk dancing and Jump Jam, sign language songs performed that brought a tear to my eye, Afrikaan songs, and very clever movie clips from the Intermediates, it was a thoroughly enjoyable time. The Fun Day ended with planting two rare trees, plus a tree representing each syndicate



As you can expect with an event that took a year to plan, there are a lot of people to thank:

- Jubilee Committee: Erica Koves (Team Leader), Andrea Mei, Barbara Taylor, Elaine Talbot, Gill Abernethy, Jill Harper and Jude Black
- Norm Wallace for his wonderful MC'ing
- Robin Mansfield for helping us with display boards and Dave Taylor for helping him
- Peter Koves for the photography on Friday
- Gloria Honan-Crann for the Jubilee cake, and organising food
- Pupils Milan, Devin, Harrison and the Honan-Crann family for hard work at the Wine & Cheese
- Pupils Milan & Devin for sound system support all weekend
- Sharon Giacon, supported by Gill Abernethy and Jill Harper, for the fabulous library display
- Diane Wiechern, Jude Black and Jo Draisey for the Jubilee Booklet
- Linda Allen for allsorts of work behind the scenes and programme support
- Karenne Pascoe for multitudes of tasks involving registrations and admin support
- Pauline Paterson for working like a demon on sewing costumes, as well as registrations and admin
- Adrienne Ackerman (and family) for organising the Powhiri, and Kapahaka leadership, plus costume support
- Helen Coffin and Martha McPherson for Powhiri and Kapahaka support
- Kaumatua Tom Watford, Pat Heremaia, and Reg Matenga for Powhiri leadership
- Jenny Bishop, Letitia Maine, Amelia Carpenter and Lester Mismash for huge help with sewing costumes
- Cara Gilkinson for programme support
- Murray Emmerson for allsorts of jobs behind the scenes
- Garrick Bridges and Deryck Freeland for furniture set-up for all the functions
- Victoria Bartlett and Melissa Tonkin from Green Bay High School for Friday entertainment
- Nick Taylor for organising the bar on Friday and Craig Allen for being barman



**All our teachers and children for all their work in organising performances and classroom displays**

We would like to thank our sponsors, ASB Bank, Programmed Property Services, and Ready Press Print.

If we have omitted anyone, our most sincere apologies. At the end of the commemoration, and reflecting on all the work that went into it, we can say that it truly was a community event. Bless you one and all.

The whole-school Jubilee photo has had to be re-scheduled for next term to Monday, 18th October due to the wet ground making it impossible to erect the scaffolding on the field.