



# AWAHOU SCHOOL

## POHANGINA VALLEY.

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21.11.2018

Dear parents/caregivers

### **Matt is leaving Awahou School early**

This morning, the Board of Trustees and Matt agreed to an early release from his principal role for the remainder of Term 4. Matt's last day with us will be Friday 23 November.

Matt will not be attending Pet Day, so please drop into school before then to say your farewells.

This move has been made possible by the huge effort Matt has put into completing the many administrative matters required to ensure Trudi's smooth transition into the role in 2019.

The Board of Trustees thanks Matt for his leadership of Awahou School over the last 3.5 years, the many positive and innovative changes he has made at the school, and the learning pathway he has set the school on.

From my perspective Matt's legacy will be the introduction of play-based and inquiry-based / project based learning, along with his work incorporating Te Reo Maori and iwi relationships into the school. Although this approach took a while to bed in with our students, we are now seeing the results in terms of student learning and academic achievement. Our learning pathway puts Awahou School on the leading edge of education best practice, and is equipping our children with the skills and knowledge they will need to succeed in the rapidly changing world they will inherit. Thank you Matt for having the confidence and conviction to make this critical change, the skills to challenge our community's thinking in this space, and patience to lead the BOT/school through the transition. The BOT remains committed to continuing this learning journey.

Matt is leaving the primary sector for a job where he will work with youth who the education system has struggled to cater for. I can think of no one better to take on the challenge of helping turn these kids around.

All the very best for the future Matt.

Kia Kaha

Alistair Beveridge  
Chair - Awahou School