

22 September 2021



Kia Ora Whangārei Heads School Community,

We would like to share some exciting news with you all about the recruitment of our new principal. We received a very high professional standard of applicants, which was fantastic. We would like to gratefully acknowledge all applicants – it was an honour to be a part of this process with you all.

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees by unanimous decision has appointed Kelly Mercer as the new Principal of Whangārei Heads School.

Kelly is currently the Deputy Principal of Riverdale Primary School in Palmerston North, a position she has held for the past 11 years. Prior to this, Kelly has worked in a variety of schools, including Onerahi Primary. Kelly is returning to her whānau in the North and is excited to join our amazing community.

Kelly impressed the Board with her proven leadership experience, strong curriculum knowledge, and overall passion for ensuring a high standard of teaching and learning for all children. Kelly has implemented a number of innovative programmes at Riverdale School. We are excited to have Kelly join our school and share with us her innovation and passion for our children's learning environment.

Kelly will take up the position at the end of 2021, however she will be in our school from time to time throughout term 4 to build her knowledge of what makes our school tick. The wonderful Denise Humphries, our current Deputy Principal, will continue as Acting Principal for the remainder of the 2021 school year. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Denise for her brilliant and tireless work in leading the school so well in the interim.

Please join the Board in welcoming Kelly to our amazing school.

Kind regards,

Josh Gwilliam and Hanna Woods
Co-Chairpersons
Whangārei Heads School Board of Trustees