

7 December 2009

To the Parents and Community of Pyes Pa Primary School

These are the findings of the Education Review Office's latest report on **Pyes Pa Primary School**.

Pyes Pa School is located in the Western Bay of Plenty near Tauranga, and caters for students from Years 1 to 8. At the time of this ERO review it had a roll of 155 students the majority of whom identify as New Zealand European/Pakehā. School grounds and buildings are well maintained and attractively presented. Since the previous review in December 2006 a purpose built environmental art centre has been established.

Student achievement information collated and analysed by the school indicates that the majority of students are achieving at levels similar to national comparisons in areas of reading and mathematics.

The principal, supported by the leadership team, has a focus on further improving student achievement. This group is implementing comprehensive ongoing professional development for teachers in the use of teaching strategies that promote student engagement and achievement. The experienced board of trustees is supportive of the principal, teachers and initiatives to raise student achievement.

While there are some examples of teachers using effective formative assessment practices, strengthening the leadership of teaching and learning is likely to develop greater consistency in the use of these strategies across the school.

The school implements a wide range of support and extension programmes to meet the needs of students. Year 7 and 8 students benefit from a variety of leadership roles and extensive extra-curricular opportunities. Students learn in a safe family-like atmosphere.

Positive and affirming relationships are evident between teachers and students. In addition there is considerable community involvement in school events and activities and parents welcome and appreciate the school's open door policy. Students benefit from learning in a safe and secure family-like atmosphere.

Future Action

ERO intends to carry out another review in 24 months to evaluate the extent to which improvements begun have been sustained and those planned have been implemented.

Review Coverage

ERO reviews do not cover every aspect of school performance and each ERO report may cover different issues. The aim is to provide information on aspects that are central to student achievement and useful to this school.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please contact the school or see the ERO website, www.ero.govt.nz.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Stoop', written in a cursive style.

Dr Graham Stoop
Chief Review Officer