



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

You may be aware of the nationwide issues regarding recruiting and retaining teachers.

While there are many more children coming into the school system, there are not enough new teachers being trained. Urgent and significant changes are needed to ensure that the teaching profession can attract the people it needs and to ensure class sizes do not start to increase.

On **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June**, the teachers from this school will be attending a NZEI Te Riu Roa paid union meeting regarding the *Kua Tae Te Wā* - It's Time campaign. The campaign aims to free teachers to teach and principals to lead, by getting the additional support and staff that schools need. The meetings will allow our teachers to discuss how the Ministry of Education has responded to changes that the union is seeking.

Our teaching staff are members of NZEI and legally entitled to attend this meeting. The teachers will be leaving school on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June**, to attend their paid union meeting in Hamilton.

I strongly encourage parents to make arrangements to pick their child/ren up from school **by 12.00pm** on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June (no school buses will be running at 12.00pm, however the normal bus service will be available at the end of the day). If you are unable to pick your child/ren up then, please advise us so that your child/ren can be supervised until 2:45pm, as per the normal school day. Please note we will have very few staff available on that afternoon and therefore classes will not be running as normal, but supervision will be provided for students who are not able to be collected earlier.

I appreciate that this creates some inconvenience for families. However, I encourage you to support your teachers as they strive to achieve the changes which will safeguard quality education for all children and ensure we make teaching an attractive profession for graduates.

Yours sincerely

Pip Mears

Principal

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**Please return to school by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Child/ren's name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

YES – I have made arrangements for my child/ren to be collected from school at 12:00pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June

NO – My child/ren will remain at school on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Parent/Caregiver signature \_\_\_\_\_