



CAMPBELLS BAY SCHOOL

Not self, but service.
Ko te ratonga te tuatahi, ko koe te tuarua
Est. 1925

Dear Parents and School Community,

Following on from our school newsletter update on 9 February, we wanted to share our relief that the Ministry of Education has now finalised the design of our school's long awaited classroom block.

As you will all be aware, settling on a purpose-built design for our students that also allows the retention of the school's existing native trees has been a long and arduous process. With further input from the group working to save those trees, the Ministry agreed to reconsider the building design late last year to try to find a compromise that allows our school to keep the trees and have our urgently needed new classroom block. This is the successful outcome that the Board was striving for from the outset.

After conducting an air excavation of the roots and receiving updated specialist advice, and following consultation with us, the project architects and an arborist, the Ministry has developed a revised option that will allow us to keep the five pōhutukawa trees and the Norfolk pine on the boundary.

We are pleased to advise the Ministry has now finalised this modified design that they believe will provide the outdoor learning and recreation spaces we need (albeit slightly reduced) while also keeping the trees.

In order to retain all the roadside Pōhutukawa trees, the new building has been repositioned further forward on the site and away from the road. The building shape will be unchanged, but the Ministry believes this repositioning allows us to strike a balance between the space required for the trees to be retained, provision of necessary outdoor learning and recreation space, and the maintenance of an emergency vehicle access path to the rest of the school.

We have been advised by the Ministry that the Pōhutukawa trees will need to be pruned on the school side. They have committed to put additional measures in place such as irrigation, composting, succession planting, mulching and a monitoring programme before and after construction, that will help to minimise the effects on the trees.

While we are delighted that the Ministry has found a compromise, we are also disappointed that these delays will have an impact on the timing of our build. Due to the revised positioning of the building and subsequent changes to the consent process, we are advised that construction won't begin until late April/early May with an estimated completion date of mid to late 2022.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the CBS community for their patience and perseverance with this new build and all the challenges we have experienced to get to this point.

As we turn our attention now to the start of construction and development, we will provide regular updates on our new building via the regular school channels.

Sincerely,

Campbells Bay School Board of Trustees