

**Tēnā koutou katoa,**

**My name is Sandy Stirling and I am so thrilled to be appointed the new Principal of Elstow-Waihou School. I am really excited to be starting my career as a Principal at such a well-established, dynamic, community school. It has been fantastic to start the process of learning all about the school, and I must thank the staff and board members for sharing their wealth of knowledge over the last few weeks. I am so excited about the future!**



**Before I became a teacher I worked for many years in the music industry, managing a record label. I decided to pursue a career in education after the birth of our first child and it has been an amazing journey ever since. I have been involved in education for the last 6 years and have taught at Redoubt North School in Manukau, and most recently Mauku School in Franklin where I have held the position of Deputy Principal. I have enjoyed being an active participator in all school areas from writing and producing school plays, to coaching football and basketball teams, to overseeing Ag Days. I currently live in Patetonga with my wife Sarah and we have four wonderful children. Rafferty (8), Daisy (6), Lennox (4), and Matilda (2).**

**I cannot wait to meet all the Elstow-Waihou school children, school staff, family and whānau on the 6th June.**

**Ngā manaakitanga,**

**Sandy Stirling**