



Karaka School

EMBRACING LEARNING. BUILDING RESILIENCE. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE.

"Ka whangaia, ka tupu, ka puawai."

No. 01

01 February 2016

Newsletter

Principal's Note

Week 1, Term 1 2017

Kia ora and welcome to this fortnight's newsletter.

CELEBRATING LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

Kia ora and welcome back to the new school year. We hope that you had a fabulous break and are as pleased to be back as we are to have you back. The school is a very quiet place without our learners!

A very special welcome to our learning community to all our new students, their parents, whanau and our new teacher, Miss Agate who joins us in Mokomoko. We would like to invite you all to our **powhiri this Friday at 9.40am** in the school hall to officially welcome all new students, their parents and whanau and Miss Agate in to the Karaka School whanau. Teachers will organise our new students and we ask that new parents and whanau wishing to be involved in the powhiri meet the staff and students outside the office at 9.30am. Existing parents and whanau are very welcome to join us in the school hall.

We are incredibly excited about the year ahead and look forward to learning alongside everyone this year. **An opportunity to come and meet teachers will be held on Thursday February 9th between 5 and 6.30pm in the school hall.** After a brief welcome and introduction, whanau are invited to chat with teachers who will be available in the hall until 6.30pm. Games for our students will be supervised on the top flat and court area.



Celebrating Achievement

We are incredibly fortunate at Karaka School to have a committed staff who have been working really hard over the past few weeks to prepare learning environments and experiences that are engaging and challenging for our learners. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes and it is very much appreciated! We encourage you to regularly visit your child's room and become familiar with and involved in the learning that is happening.

Our commitment to ensuring that we are delivering best practice, evidence based learning opportunities to our students and ourselves continues. We began the year by hosting 120 of our colleagues here at Karaka School to engage in professional learning with oral language experts Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey. Much was gained from this professional learning opportunity and we shall continue to build on our new knowledge throughout this term. We have received some incredible feedback from the facilitators themselves and from the colleagues who attended congratulating our staff on their organisation, applauding them for the way in which they welcomed others to our place of learning and commenting on how we worked so well as a team to pull the entire event off! A really positive start to the year for our school.

Working collaboratively in the best interests of our learners is at the heart of all we do. We encourage you all to become part of our learning community by participating in your child's learning. Should you wish to discuss anything concerning your child we encourage you to meet with your child's teacher in the first instance. Team leaders, Mrs Cook and myself are always happy to meet with you also. Email is a great way to initiate contact and all email addresses are in the team newsletters and on our website. We are committed to working with you so that all our learners enjoy a safe and happy learning journey at Karaka School.

Nga mihi nui


Sarah Hynds

Principal@karaka.school.nz



Start of the Year Information from the Office:

- The School Office opening times are 8.15am–3pm.
- The newsletter is emailed on Wednesdays. It is also available on our website www.karaka.school.nz
- Our bus bell goes at 2.40pm when bus children are released to go to bus lines. For all other children the school day finishes at 2.45pm. Could parents please collect their child from the concrete area beside the administration block.
- Assemblies occur fortnightly. They will be held on the Friday of even weeks with the first assembly being on **10th February at 1.50pm**. Whole school assemblies will alternate with team assemblies. School parents and whanau are welcome to attend school assemblies.
- Bell Times:

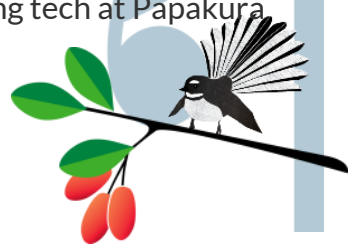


Time	
8.45 - 10.00	Block One
10.00 - 10.20	Morning Tea
10.20 - 12.20	Block Two
12.20 - 1.15	Lunch
1.15 - 2.45	Block Three

- **School Stationery/Accounts:** A letter outlining all details for the Office Max ordering of stationery was sent out last year. Stationery can be purchased from the Office Max website www.myschool.co.nz or from the Office Max store in Manukau. Please see the office if you have any problems. Fee requirements for 2017 will be handed out by the teachers today.
- Please note that there is a discount of \$25.00 for school donations that are paid by the end of term 1. If you need to arrange a payment plan please see us in the office.
- **Absences:** If for any reason on a given day, your child will not be attending school, please make a phone call to the school office before 9.30am or send notice via the Karaka School website so that we know your child will not be at school and is safe. Calls are made to the parent/guardian by 9.30am if there is an unexplained absence.

- **Sun Safe:** Karaka School Safe Sun Policy states that during Term 1 & 4 children are required to have a suitable hat that gives protection to the face, ears and neck. We strongly suggest that our official school hat is the most suitable for this. Hats are in stock. These are sold in the uniform shop (Open Monday 8.15-9.00) or in the office - \$17.00 each.
- **Swimming:** Swimming is an important part of the school physical education programme. Please ensure your child brings their togs and towel every day.
- **School Uniform:** All children at all levels of the school are required to wear the full Karaka School uniform on a daily basis. Just a reminder, that specific footwear is included. For summer this is either **black sandals with a back strap** – black crocs are OK. For winter this will be black shoes (black sneakers acceptable) with black or navy socks. Hair accessories are to be black or blue only. All children representing the school at interschool sporting fixtures will also be expected to wear the official sports uniform which is available from the uniform shop. We look forward to our students looking smart from top to toe and believe this further enhances our positive image and promotes the school's identity throughout the community. **Please ensure that all items of your child's uniform are named.**
- The **uniform shop** is located in the hall meeting room and is open for sales on Monday morning's 8.15am to 9am.
- **School Banking:** We will be continuing with the ASB School Banking. Registration forms are available from the office if you wish to start school banking. **School banking day is Thursday.** A secure box is located in the office on the outside wall of the sickbay (enter through the rear door to place in the box). All deposits are taken to the bank on Friday.
- **Technology:** All year 7 and 8's will be attending tech at Papakura Intermediate. This starts on Wednesday 8th February (11.15–1.15) **The tech fees per year will remain at \$65.00.**

This needs to be paid before the end of Term 1 please.



- **School Bus Travel:** Parents are reminded that the school bus service runs under strict rules and regulations for health and safety reasons. If your child travelled by bus last year you should have already viewed and signed a bus transport contract with the school. If in doubt, please check with the office. If you are picking your child up after school and have not advised the office in advance please ensure that the teacher on bus duty is informed.
- **Bus Fees:** Bus fees (if applicable) must be received within the first two weeks of each term and a reminder letter will be sent should these remain outstanding.
- **School Car Parks:** Please take care when using our school car park and our drop off/pick up bay. The most important rule is to use your common sense. Please do not leave your car in the bus bay or drop off area! Cars parked here, should have drivers in them at all times! Our buses do not always arrive at the same time. Remember this is a “pick up and drop off area” only.
- **Out of Bounds Area:** For reasons of safety we would like all children and parents to enter and exit the school past the main office and not through the staff car park behind kotare (Room 10). This area is out of bounds for students. Bus students will need to make their way to and from the bus bay along the front of the office block, as do students who are dropped off in the 'drop off zone' when the bus is not present. A reminder to all parents: Please do not use the staff car park behind kotare (Room 10) as a drop off point.
- **Camps:** Information for the Year 7 and 8 camp has been sent home previously and further information is coming.

Year 7/8 Kokako Lodge, Hunua 20th—24th February

Year 5/6 Shakespeare Lodge, Whangaparaoa 6th—9th June

- **Piano Tuition:** Piano tuition at all levels is available at Karaka School. If you are interested in piano lessons please contact Kathy on Ph:092927554.





PTA News

Welcome back from the PTA. We look forward to an exciting 2017, full of fundraising and community/ school events. We will keep you all posted on PTA events, notices and meeting dates via the newsletter. It is a great way to give back to the school and contribute to the education of your child. We look forward to seeing some new faces and acquiring some fresh ideas.

PTA Lunchroom

Happy New Year everyone! The lunchroom will be open from Friday the 10th February 2017 selling the usual yummy lunch time treats. If there are any parents or family members who would like to assist with lunch orders on Friday mornings please email me ASAP. The time commitment is usually from 8.15am until 9.30am (at the latest) on Friday mornings. If we have lots of volunteers then you will only need to be available 2-3 times a term, so if you have a free hour or so on Friday mornings and would like to help keep the lunch room running please let me know. Cheers, Debbie Holmes d.holmes@auckland.ac.nz or johnnyx-file@clear.net.nz

Please note that the lunchroom will be closed the first week of term, Friday 3rd February.

Reminder Dates

03 February	Powhiri 9.40am in the School Hall
06 February	Waitangi Day (Public holiday)
07 February	BOT meeting 6.30pm
08 February	Year 7/8 Technology starts Papakura Intermediate
09 February	Welcome back meet and greet 5.00–6.30pm
10 February	Assembly
15 February	PTA meeting
20-24 February	Year 7 and 8 camp

Community Notices

The Flash Bang Science Club Children's Science classes for children aged 7 yrs+ are open for booking in Pukekohe on Saturday's for Term 1. We are also taking expressions of interest for Waiuku. For more information and bookings please check out <http://www.flashbangscienceclub.co.nz/> or email: admin@flashbangscienceclub.co.nz

OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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