



Karaka School

EMBRACING LEARNING. BUILDING RESILIENCE. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE.

"Ka whangaia, ka tupu, ka puawai."

No. 01

03 February 2016

Newsletter

Principal's Note

Week 1, Term 1 2016

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 students!

A very special welcome to all our new students, their parents, whanau and our new teachers. Miss Holly Yeardeley has joined us in pepeketua (room 3), Miss Leah Maihi in kotare (room 10), Miss Tanya Davis in ruru (room 5) and Miss Rachel Yuretich in weta (room 4). We also welcome Mrs Carla Cook our new Deputy Principal. We would like to invite you all to our **powhiri this Friday at 9am** in the school hall to officially welcome all new students, their parents, whanau and teachers to our school. Teachers will organise our new students and we ask that new parents and whanau wishing to be involved in the powhiri meet the new staff and students outside the office at 8.50am. Existing parents and whanau are very welcome to join us in the school hall.

2016 is shaping up to be a very exciting year. You may have noticed already the beautiful new signs that have gone up to name our classes (thanks Sasha!) and there is great excitement about the new look pepeketua room (room 3). We look forward to sharing more with you at our 'Munch, Mingle and Meet' evening on February 17th. More details of this event are included later in this newsletter.



Celebrating Achievement

We are incredibly fortunate at Karaka School to have a committed staff who have been working incredibly hard over the past few weeks to prepare learning environments and experiences that are engaging for our students. A lot of work goes in behind the scenes and it is very much appreciated. Thank you to you all for your commitment to our children.

The staff would also like to thank the BOT for hosting a team building day that embraced our school values and introduced us to an exciting new app that we can use with our students (thanks George!). Much fun was had by all and important connections were created.

Professional Learning Communities

Our commitment to ensuring that we are delivering best practice, evidence based learning opportunities to our students and ourselves continues. We began the year joining 5 other local schools to enjoy a day with writing experts Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey. Much was gained from this professional development opportunity and we shall continue to build on our new knowledge throughout this term.

Working collaboratively in the best interests of our students 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 students enjoy a safe and happy learning journey at Karaka School.

Nga mihi nui

Sarah Hynds

Principal@karaka.school.nz



The Staffing for this year is:

Principal	Mrs Sarah Hynds		
Deputy Principal	Mrs Carla Cook		
Assistant Principal	Mrs Judith West		
Senior Team			
kokako (room 1)	Mrs Meagan Flett	Year 7/8	
kapowai (room 2)	Mrs Kim Sutton	Year 7 /8	Team Leader
pepeketua (room 3)	Miss Holly Yeardley	Year 5/6	
mokomoko (room 9)	Mrs Kim Richardson	Year 5/6	
Middle Team			
pukeko (room 8)	Mrs Judith West	Year 3/4	Team Leader
pateke (room 7)	Mrs Suzanne Corlett	Year 3/4	
kotare (room 10)	Miss Leah Maihi	Year 3/4	
Junior Team			
tui (room 6)	Mrs Diana McDonald	Year 1	Team Leader
ruru (room 5)	Ms Tanya Davis	Year 1/2	
weta (room 4)	Miss Rachel Yuretich	Year 2	
Performing Arts	Miss Jessica Sweeney		
Part Time Teachers	Ms Ann Siriett and Mrs Jenny Glover		
Administration Staff			
Office Manager	Mrs Debbie Withers		
Admin/Teacher Aide	Mrs Lynne Fell		
Teacher Aides	Mrs Kylie Thorby and Mrs Robin Himsley		
Caretaker	Mr Rob Chitty		



Start of the Year Information from the Office:

- The School Office opening times are 8.15am–3pm.
- The newsletter will be emailed fortnightly 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 or grass area beside the hall and administration block.
- Assemblies occur fortnightly. They will be held on the Friday of even weeks with the first assembly being on **12th 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 previously. 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.
- 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. The school pool has undergone an upgrade over the holiday period and we hope to be able to have it open next week for swimming. Our sincere thanks to the PTA for making these upgrades possible.
- **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. Please see Claire Monteith 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 have received a notice re attending tech at Mansell. This starts next Wednesday 10th February.

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.
- **2016 Head Students:** Students wishing to be chosen as a Head Student will present a speech to the Senior and Middle teams on Friday 19th at 1.30pm in the Hall. Parents/family are welcome to attend.
- **Camps:** Camps this year will be held 23rd to 27th May. Notices were sent home on Tuesday for those parents interested in being a parent helper. **Deposit of \$100 is due by next Friday 12th February.**

Year 7/8 MERC, Long Bay

Year 5/6 Camp Bentzon, Kawau Island

- **Guitar and Piano Tuition:** Guitar and piano tuition at all levels is available at Karaka School. If you are interested in guitar lessons please contact Peter on Ph:02102495838. If you are interested in piano lessons please contact Kathy on Ph:092927554.



Frozen February

Every Friday in February the Year 7 and 8 students will be selling ice blocks for \$1.00 to fundraise for their school camp. Junior classes will hand their money to their teacher each Friday morning and the middle and senior teams will line up outside the hall after lunch eating.

Karaka School Senior Swimming Sports

On Friday 26th February, Karaka School will be holding it's senior swimming sports day for Year 5 to 8 students which will be held at the Franklin Pool and Leisure Centre in Pukekohe. This day will be split into two events:

Non-Championships Event: The aim of this day is for the students to build on their water confidence and swimming skills by competing in fun races against other students in the year group.

Championships Event: These students have been selected because they have shown that they are capable of swimming and completing 25m in one or more of the following strokes—freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke (selected Year 3 and 4 students will be chosen to swim in this event). The aim of this day is for students to compete competitively within their year group. Swimmers will be selected from this event to compete for Karaka School in the E.C.C.S swimming sports day on Wednesday 2nd March.

We will be asking for parent helpers to help out on the day and more information will be coming out soon about these two events.

Franklin School Triathlon

Wednesday 16th March at Clarks Beach Reserve. 8-10 year old boys and girls (100m swim, 4km bike, 1km run) and 11-12 year old boys and girls (200m swim, 8km bike, 2km run). Entry fee \$20.00 (please enter online asap to avoid missing out)

We encourage all students wishing to enter the triathlon to be prepared for the event to participate in the 6 week training programme appropriate for their age group.

<http://www.fultonswimschool.co.nz/triathlon>

Please see Mrs Sutton for more information/forms etc.

Yummy Apple Stickers

Each class has sheets for collecting stickers. Please bring in any stickers and put them on your classes chart. The more stickers we collect the more sports equipment we can buy.



Please join us for:

Munch Mingle and Meet—a welcome back to school picnic and information evening.

This is an opportunity to meet and mingle with the staff and BOT of Karaka School, mingle with other parents and whanau, find out how you can become actively involved in our school and learn about the exciting year ahead!

When: Wednesday 17th February 5pm

Where: Top flat

What: BYO picnic

Followed by....

6pm: Introductions—staff and BOT and an overview of the year ahead—Hall

6.20pm: Junior School meeting in tui (room y6)

6.40pm: Middle School meeting kotara (old library)

7.00pm: Senior School meeting kapowai (room 2)

Between 6pm and 7.30pm Youthtown instructors will be supervising children on the bottom flat.

We look forward to welcoming you all!

Sports Equipment

Each class has a green sports equipment bin to store the classes sports equipment in, for students to use during morning tea and lunch time breaks. If your child has a ball at home that they would use during this time please put their name clearly on the piece of sports equipment and place it into their classes sports bin. Your child will be in charge of their own sports equipment and the teachers will take no responsibility for it should it get lost.

Thank you

The School would like to say thank you to Mrs Corlett, Mrs Noakes, Mrs Lamb, Briar Corlett and Alex McDonald for all their help in packing up and relocating the old library into the new area . Also to Rob our caretaker for putting up all the shelving in the new room and also the new resource room. Your hard work is much appreciated.



Welcome Back to School!!

Our PTA will be starting the year off running.... our first PTA meeting is **Wednesday 10th February** in the staffroom at 7pm. Anyone who would like to join, be put on a helpers list or share ideas, please don't hesitate to attend. All welcome!!

Lunchroom

The lunchroom will be closed on Thursdays—NO sushi until further notice due to a problem with the supplier.

The lunchroom will be open on Fridays only for normal ordering.

The uniform shop will be open on Thursday 11th February 8.15—9.00am

The PTA would like to announce the near completion of the swimming pool refurbishment!! We are just waiting on the ladder and lane ropes.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Hayden and Hanna Walker from Infab Ltd for their very generous contribution of the S/S hand rails and installation.

A huge thank you also to Damian and Terri Smith from Revamp Construction for sourcing, organising and building the decking along the side of the pool.

These additions have both improved the visibility and safety for the children and will make teaching so much easier.

Thanks for all your time and effort involved during the school holidays.

Thank you also to Carters Building Supplies for the incredibly generous donation of the timber for the decking.

A special thanks to Rob our caretaker for helping with this project.

Finally, thanks to parents and whanau for their fundraising support for this worthwhile project—the PTA really appreciate it!

Reminder Dates

05 February	Powhiri 9.00am School Hall, Frozen Friday
08 February	Waitangi Day public holiday
10 March	Year 7 and 8 Technology starts
12 February	Assembly 1.50pm in the Hall
15 February	BOT meeting 6.30pm
17 February	Munch Mingle and Meet 5pm Top Flat, BYO picnic
22-25 Feb	ERO visiting
26 February	Senior School swimming sports
02 March	ECCS swimming
10 March	Middle team trip to Maritime Museum
11 March	Zone swimming

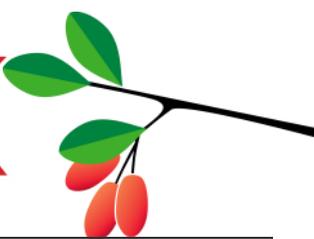
Community Notices

Waterpolo

Those interested in playing Waterpolo for Karaka School in term 1 please contact Trudi Goldsworthy 021 772 003 The Year 7 & 8 Intermediate competition starts Saturday February 27th, games are played at the Manurewa Aquatic Centre. Strong year 6 players will be considered. Thank you



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Young at Art offer children's after school, weekend and holiday art, craft and clay classes to 5-15 year olds in Pukekohe, Pokeno and our new after school class in DRURY School. For more information or to enrol please contact anna@youngatart.co.nz, phone: 0297 712 923 or check out our website: www.youngatart.co.nz. Classes commence from 9th February 2016, bookings are essential.

OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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