



# Karaka School

*Embracing Learning. Building Resilience. Achieving Excellence.*

***"Ka whangaia ka tupu, ka puawai"***

*That which is nurtured, blossoms and grows*

**Newsletter No 04**

**18 March 2015**

## **Week Seven, Term One 2015**

Welcome to Week 7. Thank you to those who have provided us with feedback regarding the frequency of our newsletter. Based on this, from next week we will be supplementing our fortnightly newsletters with a Reminders and Updates Flyer. We hope that this will help those that like to have more frequent reminders of upcoming events and also ensure that important events and achievements are celebrated in a timely fashion.



### **Welcome**

This term we have welcomed Adrian Addison as our new Caretaker replacing Fons who retired recently.

### **Celebrating Achievement**

What a fantastic week our senior children had on their camps. I was incredibly fortunate to be able to spend time at both camps and thoroughly enjoyed sharing in their success as they embarked on new challenges. Camps require an enormous amount of preparation and planning in advance and thanks goes to our senior teachers for this. Without the support of parent volunteers the camps would not be able to go ahead. A very special thank you therefore goes to those who volunteered as parent helpers – we appreciate the time commitment and the way in which you all worked with staff and children to ensure that the camps were successful.

Congratulations to our swim team and to those who participated in the triathlon at Clarks beach. All students represented our school with pride and competed to the best of their ability. A selected group of students will compete Monday at the Beachlands Triathlon. I wish you all the best of luck.

### **Professional Learning Communities**

Our new e-learning equipment is beginning to arrive. Teachers will begin next term to undertake professional learning that will enable them to use these tools effectively within their class programmes in ways that will engage students and enhance their learning. In the meantime, we are learning to use google apps for education (GAFE) and are busy creating and sharing google docs that allow for greater collaboration. Our aim in the long term is to be able to use this collaborative tool with our students.

### **Life Focus Classes**

Should you wish for your child not to attend the Life Focus classes (as discussed in the newsletter in week 5) an alternative Virtue only (non-religious) class will be held at the same time. Please let the office know in writing before the beginning of term 2 if you prefer your child not to attend the Life Focus classes.

### **Nga mihi nui**

Sarah Hynds

[Principal@karaka.school.nz](mailto:Principal@karaka.school.nz)

## Reminders

- **Bus** - Please let your child know in the morning before school whether they are on the bus or not. This especially applies to junior students – writing a “B” for bus on their hand sometimes helps.
- **End of day** – Please pick your children up on time. School finishes at 2.45pm and the office closes at 3.00pm. Teachers have meetings after school and are therefore unable to supervise those children that have not been picked up on time.
- **Attendance** – Please let the office know if your child is not attending school. You can leave a message on the absentee line, use the website, send an email or ask a sibling to call into the office to let us know.

## Parking in the Bus Bay

Please do not park in the bus bay and leave your car unattended. We have had several times lately where we are running around trying to locate the owner of the car or cars parked in the bus bay. The buses have been blocked from getting in and this in turn delays the bus times. This also is a safety issue for our bus pupils. Thanks for your help with this.

## Swimming Demonstration:

Thank you very much to all the parents who supported the Middle Team Swimming Demonstration two weeks ago. The children enjoyed showing you all the skills they have acquired and been practising this season. We are thrilled with the progress all children have made during their daily lessons.

## Bubble Day

Last Friday the sun shone down and the water in the pool glistened. Mrs Corlett and Mrs West emptied 7 litres of bubble liquid in to the pool over about 40 minutes. The children of the middle team had so much fun hanging onto the sides and kicking furiously to make as many bubbles as they could. Once the pool was full to overflowing with bubbles the children had even more fun creating "bubble" hair, beards, clothing and shoes. That was our final swimming day celebration!



## Bubble Up – by James M (Room 8)

On a warm day it was finally bubble day. First we had to line up in our swimming teams. We went and got dressed. Next Mrs West told us to hop into the pool and not make a single splash. When all of us were in the pool, Mrs West yelled “bubble up”. We started kicking like wolves fighting over meat. We were crazy. Then we suddenly turned into bubble monsters. People were making beards and hats. Bubbles were trickling down the sides of the pool. There were rivers of bubbles floating onto the ground. Mrs West was squirting us with the hose. When we got out of the pool we were sparkling clean.

## Karaka Museum Trip

Today the Middle Team classes have had a very informative visit to the local Karaka Museum. They worked in five teams assisted by parent helpers and moved around the museum during the rotation of activities. They enjoyed the talk in the war section and the chance to see a vintage car and old army jeep up close. We are very grateful to the volunteer museum staff and parent helpers who all helped make our trip a true first hand learning experience.



## Year 7 & 8 Camp –Tongariro

From Monday 9th of March to the 13th of March the Year 7 & 8 students attended Camp at Tongariro National Park. It was an action packed, fun filled week that provided new learning and experiences for our students that they will remember for a lifetime.

Taupo Volcanic Centre, the Waiouru Army Museum and Turangi National Trout Centre provided excellent learning programs that developed skill, challenged thinking and built knowledge and understanding around geological features, environmental sustainability and service and remembrance.



Tramping, the chair lift ride and white water rafting were among the highlights of the week. We also prepared a traditional Maori puia pit meal for them at the Tokaanu thermal area, which was thoroughly enjoyable.

Thanks to our camp parents who helped to make the camp a fantastic and memorable experience for our students – Kath, Scott, Ingrid, Melanie, Jason, Philip, Andrew and George.



## Year 5 & 6 Camp – Camp Adair

Thank you so much to all the parents who attended camp – Stuart, Jo, Andrea, Rachel, Kim, Bronwyn, Trevor, Kurt, Cameron, Mark and Nick. Your help and enthusiasm was much appreciated.

### Camp Adair – by Aurelia L Room 2

I thought Camp Adair was wonderful and would love to go there again. At first I was scared about camp but Camp Adair was so much fun. I didn't need to be worried. My favourite activities were the crate challenge which I got to stand on and got 13 crates!; the climbing wall (I chose the hard one); the high swing which was probably my favourite! Jumping off a 13 metre platform and swinging mid-air, who wouldn't love to do that? There was also the confidence course, which was full of mud! I also thought the instructors and parents were kind and hilarious. I would like to say thank you to all the parents that came to camp and helped me because I was scared of leaving my parents but I survived with just a few itchy bites and scratches.



## Camp Adair – by Scarlet G Room 2

Camp Adair was awesome this year and not just because of the amazing activities and fabulous instructors. Camp really was outstanding and it helped me in many ways. My personal favourite activity was the confidence course because of all the slimy squishy mud but I know lots of people loved the high swing and I have to agree it was pretty cool. The crate wasn't too fun, well it was, until the crates fell on me but I enjoyed it anyway. Most of all I would like to thank all the parents that joined us on camp, you were amazing and we couldn't have gone without you. Thank you.

## Senior School Swimming

Karaka School's best swimmers from the senior school attended the East Counties Group Day Swimming Competition on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March. The competition was very tough with an incredible standard of swimming ability across all age groups. The swimmers that went on and gained a placing in the finals were:



<u>Backstroke</u>		<u>Freestyle</u>		<u>Breaststroke</u>	
<b>Yr5 Boys</b>		<b>Yr5 Boys</b>		<b>Yr6 Girls</b>	
Wyatt P	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Zane W	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Scarlett G	1 <sup>st</sup>
Zane W	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Yr6 Girls</b>		Jamie S	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Yr6 Girls</b>		Scarlett G	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Yr7 Girls</b>	
Jamie S	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jamie S	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Emma S	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Yr7 Boys</b>		<b>Yr7 Boys</b>		Kaiya S	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Jacob K	1 <sup>st</sup>	Cole H	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Yr7 Boys</b>	
Cole H	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Joshua P	3 <sup>rd</sup>	William H-S	1 <sup>st</sup>
		<b>Yr8 Boys</b>			
		Robson M	3 <sup>rd</sup>		

Well done to all students who participated and thank you to the parents that transported and helped out on the day, it was very much appreciated.

## ANZAC Remembrance Service

There will be a remembrance service held in the school hall on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 at 9.30am.

Everyone including parents, grandparents and community members are welcome to attend. All those attending are encouraged to wear a poppy. The service will include input from some of our students. We have received white crosses from the Ministry of Education with names of local men who served in WW1 and lost their lives. These crosses will be set up on the grass at the side of the hall. At the completion of the service we will all file out the front door of the hall and past our field of remembrance crosses.



There will be morning tea served in the hall following the service and all are welcome to join us.

## Mathletics

Mathletics is a computer based maths programme. It provides your child with the opportunity to work on fun maths activities at home. It supports the numeracy curriculum taught at school.

At Karaka School we sign up all of our senior school students because this programme is part of their home learning activities.

In the middle and junior school it is optional. The cost for the year is \$30.00 and children can use the programme until February 2016. If you would like to sign up your child please pay at the office or send in payment and details of your child's name, class and age.



PTA AGM TONIGHT AT 7.00PM  
IN THE STAFFROOM  
ALL WELCOME.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED. COME  
ALONG AND SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL,  
MEET OTHERS AND JOIN OUR PARENT  
TEACHER GROUP.

**PTA Scrap Metal Fundraiser**  
Our next organised fundraiser  
is the Scrap Metal Fundraiser  
**on Saturday, 28 March**. See  
attached flyer. If you can help  
out during the morning,  
please come to the school.

## Lost

Lost uniform shirt, labelled Jonty. Lost at senior interschool swimming sports.  
Please return to Room 1 if found.

### REMINDER DATES

18	March	PTA AGM Meeting 7pm Staffroom
20	March	Cut off for ICAS exam entries
28	March	PTA Scrap Metal fundraiser
02	April	Last Day of Term 1
03	April	Good Friday
20	April	First Day of Term 2



## Community Notices

**Taste Franklin Festival – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 11am-6pm**

**Karaka Sports Park, Blackbridge Road, Karaka**

Community event for all the family showcasing great local food, beverages, restaurants,  
growers and artisan producers, live music, performers, arts and crafts and more.

Guest speakers including Nadia Lim and Sarah the Gardener.

Adults \$18 (ID required for alcohol service)

Kids under 18 years FREE with accompanying adult.

[www.tastefranklinfestival.co.nz](http://www.tastefranklinfestival.co.nz)

## **FAST (Fulton Amateur Swim Team)**

It's not too late to register for the FAST (Fulton Amateur Swim Team) Open Day for swimmers  
interested in joining our competitive swim club this Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 3–4pm at the Patumahoe  
School Pool, 38 Patumahoe Rd. For enquiries or to register interest contact: [enquirefast@gmail.com](mailto:enquirefast@gmail.com) or  
021 944 727.

## Young at Art

Young at Art are running Easter holiday Art, Cartoon and our NEW Flash Bang SCIENCE workshops these coming holidays in Pukekohe and Drury. For more information please check out <http://www.youngatart.co.nz>, email [anna@youngatart.co.nz](mailto:anna@youngatart.co.nz) or phone. 0297 712 923

## Rainbows End Easter Extravaganza

Easter Extravaganza will be on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> along with Night Rides on April 4<sup>th</sup>. The park will be open from 10am-5pm with all rides operating and live entertainment throughout the day. Kidz Kingdom will be open as well for little ones to enjoy.

## Rugby Club Registrations

For a club near you check out the Counties Manukau website [www.steelers.co.nz](http://www.steelers.co.nz) Steelers 2015 season memberships are now on sale. All kids 13 and under, accompanied by a supervising adult are FREE entry to the embankment at ECO Light Stadium Pukekohe.

## Maramarua Golf Club

School holiday golf program at Maramarua Golf Club – Wednesdays 8 and 15 April 9.30 to 1.30. Coaching with Kaye Maxwell. Come one or both days, clubs available. Suitable for primary school aged children and over. Questions and bookings to Golf Club 0923 25702 or Avril 0923 25738 or 0276431958.

## Counties Manukau Sport – Have A Go At Dance Holiday Programme

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April at Groovit Dance Studios and Eight Count Dance Studios 10.00am – 2.00pm. Contact Maree Wallace [mareew@cmsport.co.nz](mailto:mareew@cmsport.co.nz) or 027 6189513



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Girls are enrolled in Years 9 - 13 (Boarding/Day Student)

School tours by appointment

Parents of prospective students are encouraged to contact the College office (09) 237 0224 to request an Application Form to Enrol or alternatively an application can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.wesley.school.nz>

Email: [barbaran@wesley.school.nz](mailto:barbaran@wesley.school.nz) Address: 801 State Highway 22, Paerata, Auckland. (P.O. Box 58, Pukekohe, 2340)



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**Karaka School**

# **SCRAP METAL FUNDRAISER**

**SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2015**

**8.00AM – 1.00PM**

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- Nuts
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- Bolts
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- Chainsaws
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- Old gym equipment
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- Clean tins cans:  
Example baked beans

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