



Karaka School

EMBRACING LEARNING. BUILDING RESILIENCE. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE.

"Ka whangaia, ka tupu, ka puawai."

No. 36 22nd November 2023

Principal's Note

Newsletter

Week 7, Term 4 2023

Tena koutou Karaka friends and whanau. Welcome to this week's newsletter.

CELEBRATING LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

Kia ora Karaka whānau. As I sit down to write this week's newsletter I can't help but mention the fantastic morning I have had over at the Weetbix Tryathlon today. It was so awesome to see so many of our Karaka students all geared up for their races, some competing in teams and others in the individual events. It was equally as enjoyable to see those who had finished their races in the hot sun enjoying a well deserved ice cream in the shade. On a personal note, I also got to watch my daughter compete in the teams event with the same teammate she has raced with for the 4th year in a row - so this topped off my morning as well! Thanks to Mrs Sutton and Mrs Sutherland for getting there at the crack of dawn to ensure our school got a top spot right on the bend of the finishing stretch (and selfishly right beside The Gardens School tent which meant I didn't have far to walk between the two!).

A big highlight from last week was watching our amazing Kapa Haka rōpū perform at the Hunua Cultural Festival at Alfriston School. Watching the students on stage, I couldn't help but feel immense pride at being part of such an amazing kura, surrounded by parents and caregivers all feeling equally as proud. Once again, thank you to Mr Glover for all the hard work he has put into tutoring our Kapa Haka groups again this year. Yesterday we had ten Year 7&8 students compete at the Counties Athletics Day - a huge congratulations to all of these students. Making it through ECCS to qualify for Counties is a tremendous accomplishment in itself. We'll update you once we know who have made it through to Auckland Champs when that is confirmed.

On the staffing front, I can now inform you that we have appointed someone to take over Mrs Aupa'au's position for next year. Cindy Christensen has done some work previously relieving at Karaka School, before taking on her current position at Te Hihi School teaching in Year 7&8 - in fact, some of our students may well remember her. We are really looking forward to welcoming her into our school whānau in the New Year into one of our Year 5&6 classes.

The breakdown of teachers and learning spaces for 2024 will look like this:

- **Year 7&8: Mangopare** - Mrs Sutton (Senior Team Leader) + Mr Vermeulen
- **Year 5&6: Pepeketaua** - Mrs Redshaw (Senior Team Leader 2IC); **Pateke** - Miss Agate; **Pukeko** - Mrs Christensen
- **Year 3&4: Mokokoko** - Mrs Fielder (Middle Team Leader); **Kokako** - Mrs Collie and Miss Cheyne
- **Year 1&2: Ruru** - Miss Ballard (Junior Team Leader); **Tui** - Ms Sylva
- **Year 0&1: Kotare** - Miss van der Gulik
- **Reading Recovery: Kapowai** - Mrs Vorster

In addition to this, we will also have our fabulous part time teachers who will support our teachers and students in different ways. We look forward to welcoming back Mrs Glover, Mrs Kenny, Mrs Fong and Mrs Jordan in this capacity.

To finish off, remember that this Friday we have our Teacher Only Day so school will be closed for instruction. Have a great rest of the week

Ngā mihi nui,

Anna Powrie

principal@karaka.school.nz

Teacher Only Day—School Closed

Friday 24th November

Board News



It is getting to one of our busiest times of the year as a school with prize giving, preparing our students for graduations, and ensuring our staff and students are still looking after their wellbeing. Within the education sector it is also busy as we wait to see what shape the new Government takes and what their priorities/policies will be as we begin working on next year's budget and our school's Strategic Plan. Whatever the changes that come in, we will be sure to communicate what this means for you, our school and more importantly our children, because our children should be at the centre of everything we do.

We have begun preparing Karaka School's Strategic Plan which will take effect from January 2024 – December 2025. On the 13th of November 2023 the Board met with Julie Schumacher (from the Education Group), Anna, John and the Leadership Team to discuss that plan.

A short time ago, a community survey was sent out to Whanau, staff and students to obtain an insight into our school performance on the whole. We had a total of 160 community responses, 28 staff responses and great feedback from our students. Along with feedback from meetings with other key stakeholders (our feeder ECE's, Karaka Sports Park, our Maōri and Pasifika whānau hui, and feedback from past Karaka students and families), this data was analysed with some clear themes emerging.

Teaching and learning was identified on the whole, as a strength in a variety of different areas. Many parents commented on the "community feel" as an invaluable strength and liked the idea of long standing traditions remaining as a key feature of our school, which helps set us apart. The sense of being "proud" to belong to Karaka School shone throughout the feedback provided.

Some of the areas that were highlighted for improvement or change were centred around homework, student-led conferences and reporting. Hero also came up as being in need of review and improvement, along with the lack of Music and The Arts from the curriculum. Student behaviour was also highlighted as an area for development, as well as the school grounds looking tired and needing a general spruce up. These items listed were felt important to our wider school community and are currently being addressed and discussed at length for 2024.

A school 'working-bee' has just been coordinated to occur later this month, with the school pool looking to be revamped early 2024 (just in time for that heatwave).

The Board will continue to meet with the Leadership Team to focus on the things that you've highlighted as things that matter, and we will aim to provide updates along the way.

Again thank you all for your feedback.

Dear Community,

We are holding a working bee on Sunday 26th November from 10am - 1pm to include...

- 1) Carting, filling and spreading mulch in the old Junior Playground. (mulch, driver and truck kindly donated by Franklin Trees)
- 2) Plant, stake and wrap new fruit trees on the Bottom Flat (kindly donated by Blackbridge Nursery)
- 3) Planting of shrubs / trees in Sensory Garden and in native bush areas
- 4) Keep / chuck / declutter the Rat Shed, Boiler Room, and a variety of other storage areas around school
- 5) Re-painting giant chess boards
- 6) Transporting furniture
- 7) Water Blasting / cleaning
- 8) General, weeding, sweeping and tidy of school grounds, pool area... and who knows what else!



Lunch and cold drinks will be provided by the school.

Bring along any of your favourite tools that you think can be put to good use.

We will meet at 9.50am by the Flagpole for a 'Health & Safety' briefing.

Please email Mr Dyer (johnd@karaka.school.nz) if you would like to come and join the fun! Thanks in advance!

Library Books

The library is now closed for the year. If you still have an outstanding library book, please return it ASAP, as the stocktake is beginning next week. If you are unsure if you have a library book, please check with your classroom teacher.



Readers and Journals

All readers and journals need to be returned by next **Friday 1st December (Week 8)**. This is so we are able to complete an End of Year Stocktake. Please start searching for these at home and bring them back to your classroom teacher.

Lucky Book Club—Scholastic Orders

Issue 8 came home last week. This is the last order for 2023. Orders are due by next Wednesday (November 29th). Please order online via mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz or the Book Clubs Loop App. Thank you.

Have you created your My Kindo personalised account?

If you require help setting up your My Kindo Personalised account the Kindo helpdesk is open 8am to 4pm weekdays.

Freephone: 0508 4 Kindo (0508 454 636)

Email: hello@mykindo.co.nz

Very easy process...

> **Visit the school website** www.karaka.school.nz

> **Select create account**

THANK YOU

The Board of Trustees and Staff would like to thank everyone who has helped out at School on a voluntary basis during the year.

This especially applies to those who help in the PTA, Ag Day, Library, Uniform Shop, Lunchroom, Lucky Books, Reading Mileage, Early Words, Magazine, Disco, Camps, Book Taping, School Trips, Classroom Help, Transporting and many more.

We really appreciate all that you do for us.



Leaving at the end of the year? Changing Schools? Moving?

Please **urgently** advise the office if you do not intend to come back so we can work out class sizes and placements.

admin@karaka.school.nz

Oxford Pies—Collection from the Hall from **2.30pm Thursday 23rd November.**



We need some more parents, family or friends to help us on the PTA! Team work makes the dream work after all :) All are welcome!

If you are interested in attending, please email kateyapope@gmail.com

NEON DISCO UPDATE

Thank you so much for all the staff and parent support with the Neon Disco! Team work makes the dream work. We raised just over \$2800! This is amazing!

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is open on Mondays only 8.15-9.00am. Uniforms can be tried on for sizing.

Uniform items can be ordered and paid through Kindo and the uniform will be delivered to the child's class during the week.

If you have any uniform queries please send an email to uniformshop.karaka@gmail.com.

Any questions/fundraising ideas you can email us on karaka.pta@gmail.com.

Any uniform queries can be emailed to: uniformshop.karaka@gmail.com

The Karaka School PTA account is **12-3031-0851231-00** From the PTA team

Reminder Dates

24 November	Teacher Only Day
29 November	Rainbows End Leadership Trip
1 December	Year 5 and 6 T-Ball Fun Day
4-8 December	Year 7 and 8 Camp to Raglan Holiday Park
12 December	Year 8 Graduation Dinner
13 December	Karaka's Got Talent 9.15-10.15am
14 December	Prizegiving 5.30-6.30pm
15 December	Last day of Term 4— School closes at midday , buses will be at this time
25 January	Uniform Shop will be open 8.30-10.30am
25 January	Office open 8.30—12.00
30 January	Term 1 starts



Community Notices

A colorful poster for a 'Monster Mash Up' event. The title 'MONSTER MASH UP' is in large, blue, bubbly letters. Below it, the date 'Teacher Only Day - Friday 24th November 2023' is written in red. The poster features two cartoon monsters: a blue one on the left and a green one on the right. At the bottom, there is text describing the activities: 'Mash it up with us! We will be creating our own monster art, masks. Making up a monster dance, and being creative with monster themed cooking/baking.' The bottom left corner has contact information for bookings, and the bottom right corner has the 'KAS KIDS AFTER SCHOOL' logo.

MONSTER MASH UP

**Teacher Only Day -
Friday 24th November 2023**

Mash it up with us!
We will be creating our own monster art, masks.
Making up a monster dance, and being creative
with monster themed cooking/baking.

For bookings go to:
www.kidsafterschool.co.nz
or call 09 236 4078

KAS
KIDS AFTER SCHOOL



Artz on Show School Holiday Performing Arts Workshop

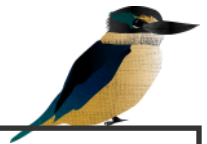
This is a fun yet educational week for students
aged 5 - 15 years.

Students participate in a range of performing
arts classes, concluding the week with a
performance!

15th - 19th January 2024, 9am - 4pm daily

Held at Karaka War Memorial Hall,
319 Linwood Road, Karaka

***View our website; www.artzonshow.co.nz
or contact Hayley on either
artz@artzonshow.co.nz or 09 294 7129***



KARAKA SCHOOL WHĀNAU FACEBOOK PAGE

Thank you to all those Families who have joined our [Karaka School Whānau](#) closed group on Facebook. We have had a huge amount of families join and it is great to see!

When sharing, please advise family and friends, that they need to accept the rules and answer the question, in order to be approved to join the group. This makes it far easier for our group admin.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS WHO ARE SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL

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Proven Stress and Anxiety Solutions



- Beneficial for adults and kids (generally shorter sessions recommended for children)
- Learning blocks and learning resistance
- Exam fear
- Performance anxiety (sports, speeches, singing, acting)
- Self-confidence building
- Concentration and focus improvement



Barb Starke | m 0211735743

e barb@empoweryou.co.nz | w www.empoweryou.co.nz

Unichem

Karaka

Your local health professional

opening hours:

Mon - Fri: 8:30am-6pm • Sat: 9am-1pm • Sun: Closed

PH 09 869 3346

E dispensary@karakapharmacy.co.nz
Shop 7A, 71 Hingaia Road, Karaka

Interior Furnishing | Homewares | Linen, cushions and more



Contact Toni Charteris | M: 027 537 5252

The Bespoke Living Room
128 Stan Wright Road, Karaka
Open: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 10am - 3pm
Weekends 10am - 3pm

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