



Karaka School

EMBRACING LEARNING. BUILDING RESILIENCE. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE.

"Ka whangaia, ka tupu, ka puawai."

No. 2

7th February 2024

Newsletter

Principal's Note

Week 2, Term 1 2024

Kia ora and welcome to this fortnight's newsletter.

CELEBRATING LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

Kia ora koutou. I hope you all enjoyed Waitangi Day yesterday - some of you have even made it up north to join in the official celebrations. I enjoyed a day with friends and family with our jet skis out at The Elbow on the Waikato River which was awesome fun.

Today we held a Pōwhiri to welcome all our new staff, students and whānau to Karaka School. We were really pleased to see so many families in attendance (both new to our school as well as our existing school whānau). A special mention on behalf of the Board as we welcome our new staff members - Mr Vermuelen (Year 7&8 in Mangopare), Mrs Christensen (Year 5&6 in Pukeko), Miss Cheyne (Year 3&4 in Kōkako) and Mrs Bennett and Mss Dodd (Teacher Aides). Thank you also to our PTA for providing the lovely Morning Tea.

Our Intermediate students (and teachers) have really hit the ground running this term. Today the Technology programme kicked off at Papakura Intermediate School and Mrs Sutherland and I were lucky enough to accompany them for the first time while Mrs Sutton and Mr V continued to prepare for camp next week. Needless to say, it was a really exciting experience, especially for our Year 7 students for whom it was their first time. Speaking of camp, on Tuesday our Intermediates will head off to Finlay Park Adventure Camp in Maungatautari (near the beautiful Lake Karapiro) and we know they are going to have an amazing time!



Now for an update on the pool.... While we have had fun with the infamous lunchtime waterslide this week, we are keen to get the pool back up and running. At this stage it is looking like we will get the paint work signed off tomorrow which means we can go ahead with plans to fill the pool. With any luck, classes will be back in our newly sanded and painted pool by the end of next week at the latest.

One exciting bit of news I have to share in terms of our school newsletter is that we are moving to a web based platform and scaling back on the amount of updates/information included each week. Once this kicks in (Mrs Fell and I have some training sessions lined up next week to 'build' our first one), we will put these new processes into action. One way we can scale back the number of pages is by having a 'Community Update' post each Friday which will include info/flyers from the wider community not directly related to school (eg Sports Clubs). We will also have a weekly 'What's Coming Up' post that My Dyer will do each Friday. This will leave the important information that we want to ensure is not missed for the newsletter, and also ensure our HERO posts are not coming out to you in overdrive! Watch this space.....

That's all from me - have an awesome week and I look forward to seeing many of our families at the William Pike presentation in the Hall at 6pm tonight.

Ngā mihi nui
Anna Powrie
principal@karaka.school.nz



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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)

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Very easy process...

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

>Select create account

School Fees/Donations in Kindo

School fees and donations have now been loaded into Kindo for your child/ children.

Our preferred method of payment is through Kindo but you can also pay by Eftpos at the office.

Note—there is a discount of \$25.00 per family if the school donation is paid before the end of Term 1. Please contact the office to arrange this.

Ineligible bus students—bus fees are due to be paid by 17th February (as per your signed contract).

Casual bus use is \$2.00 per time.

Technology (Year 7 and 8) fee of \$65.00—please could this be paid before the end of Term 1.

Mathletics

Year 1 and 2—if you wish to sign up to the Mathletics programme, please contact the office before 24th February. This is online (not in class). The cost is \$35.00.

Absences—If for any reason your child will not be attending School or will be arriving late, please:

- **Leave a message on the absentee line or**
- **Send a note through the Hero app**
- **Send a note via the Website**
- **Send an email to the class teacher AND to the office**



Lucky Book Club—Scholastic Orders

Issue 1 has been sent home with your children. Orders are due by Friday 23rd February. Please use the **Book Clubs Loop App** available to download here: mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz. You will find extra book titles available on the Loop App that aren't in the paper catalogue. Thank you.

Safety at the School Gate

Safety at pickup and drop off times is important to us at Karaka School. We ask that all parents collect their child(ren) from inside the school gates by the flagpole. Once we have seen you, we will quickly send your child to you. Please also remember to use the crossing in the school car park and not to park in the bus bay.

Immortalise yourself in Karaka History - Sponsor a School Flag!

To celebrate our amazing learners and families at Karaka School, we continue the new tradition of flag sponsorship in our school hall. We will do this each year at the start of Term 1 and Term 3. The cost is \$50 to sponsor a flag. You can have your child, family name and year printed onto an existing flag or we can create a new flag for you!

If you would like to sponsor a flag, please email Mr Dyer johnd@karaka.school.nz by 9th February with details and pay the \$50.00 into the school bank account (12 3031 0734641 01)





Launch Event William Pike Challenge Wednesday 7th February 2024

**Karaka School
Presentation at 6.00pm
Parents & Students Welcome**



Come and hear William's real-life account of being critically injured on Mount Ruapehu when an unsuspecting volcanic eruption occurred. William was trapped, crushed and became severely hypothermic. In addition to other life-threatening injuries, his right leg was amputated below the knee. Even after having his leg amputated, William is still a fanatical outdoorsman. He will inspire you to be passionate, resilient, embrace challenge and more.

William is not only here to speak about his phenomenal story, he's also visiting us to launch our **William Pike Challenge** programme. In this youth development programme, students will participate in 5 Outdoor Activities, 20 hours of Community Service and 20 hours of Passion Projects (developing a new skill). Our students will be empowered to embrace challenge, step outside of their comfort and experience extraordinary things.

Don't miss out on this engaging launch event!



*Buy official merchandise
at the launch! Eftpos available.*

www.williampikechallenge.co.nz

ATTENTION

Are you looking
for a way to
get involved with our
amazing school in
2024?

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 HELPING, PLEASE EMAIL
KATEYAPOPE@GMAIL.COM

Any questions/fundraising ideas or if you require uniform items urgently, you can email us on karaka.pta@gmail.com.

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

Reminder Dates

- 7 February** William Pike visit
- 9 February** Assembly 1.45pm
- 13-16 February** Year 7 and 8 Camp
- 6 March** Learner Led Conferences

Community Notices



**THIS YEAR,
LET'S SHAKE
THINGS UP**

ZUMBA

**Karaka School Hall.
(12 Blackbridge Road)**

Mondays + Wednesdays 6.30pm

Gold coin donation 👍

A Zumba advertisement featuring a woman dancing in a black crop top and blue shorts against a grey background. The text is overlaid on the image in various colored boxes: yellow, pink, red, and blue. The text includes the main title, the activity name 'ZUMBA', the location 'Karaka School Hall. (12 Blackbridge Road)', the schedule 'Mondays + Wednesdays 6.30pm', and the donation request 'Gold coin donation' with a thumbs-up emoji.

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