

## **KERIKERI HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER**

Hello all

Welcome back to the start of Term 2!

The second term often seems to be one of consolidation after the hurly-burly of the first term with its camps and multitude of extracurricular events. For your Board, however, this term will be a busy one. The current Board meets for the last time this week and then the next board meeting will be with a new Board in place.

Elections are late this month and nominations for Parent Trustees on the Board remain open until next Thursday 16 May. If you are interested in throwing your hat into the ring for the impending election then make sure you do. Having a diverse range of people and skill sets is important for the good functioning of the Board and there are six Parent Trustee slots to be filled. If you have any queries about the process or what you need to do please contact Loree Jellick at the High School, who is the election Returning Officer. If you aren't interested in standing as a candidate please still involve yourselves in the process by voting!

The Board and staff at the High School were rather surprised at last week's article in the Chronicle announcing the supposed demise of Te Kotahitanga. The paper reported the views of an individual who used to be a PE teacher at the High School some years ago. In fact, contrary to the contents of the article, Te Kotahitanga is regarded by the School's Senior Leadership Team, the Board and staff at Kerikeri High School as an amazing success story. Since its inception the pass rates for Maori, for boys, and for the overall School, have all climbed at a rate and to a level that the whole School community is rightly proud of. While of course it would be oversimplifying matters to say that Te Kotahitanga is the sole cause of the improvement it has nonetheless become a fundamental part of the way subjects are taught at the High School and the results speak for themselves.

Speaking of great results a reminder please to those who have not yet paid their subject fees or voluntary contribution that these are key for Kerikeri High School continuing to provide a top drawer education for your children. The point cannot be overstated and every dollar received is well spent.

It was wonderful to see how involved the High School was at the recent Anzac Day services held in Kerikeri. Not only were speeches made and wreaths placed by Head Boy Reuben Cane and Head Girl Grace Bentley, but the High School choir led the singing of the hymns and the anthems and Head of Music Kathryn Thompson provided an extremely professional Last Post and Reveille. The service is always moving. Lest we forget.

Naku noa

The Board