



Kerikeri High School

Kerikeri, Bay of Islands
New Zealand

NEWSLETTER

Number 2 | Thursday 9 March 2023



Tū mai tōku maunga ko Pōkākā
E rere atu nei te awa o Wairoa
Riporipo tau ana ki te awa o ngā Rangatira
Tiro kau atu ki te pā o Kororipo
Raro nei i te mana o ngā tupuna
Ko Hongi, ko Rewa, ko Tāreha
Te marae ko Te Pou o Manakō
Te kura ko Te Kerikeri
Tīhewa mauri ora

Standing majestically is my mountain Pōkākā
Where the stream of Te Wairoa flows down
Entering into the river of chiefs
Swirling at the base of Kororipo Pā
The ancestral fortress of Ngāpuhi
Immortalised by Hongi, Rewa and Tāreha
Our marae is Te Pou o Manakō
Embraced by the school of Te Kerikeri

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Kerikeri High School
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Kia ora koutou

The first few weeks of school have flown by, and we are now over halfway through Term One. School is extremely busy with a wide range of diverse opportunities and activities across the Four Cornerstones being offered for our students. Learning is happening in all classrooms and students are well underway and engaged in their various courses of study. Despite the unwelcome disruption caused by the weather, we have enjoyed a very positive and settled start to 2023.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted us with supportive messages and encouragement as we got underway.

WAKA for Phones has been a huge success. Feedback from teachers and parents has been overwhelmingly supportive, and even students are telling us how much they appreciate the change in approach.

Attendance remains a major focus for us. The message is simple. Every day counts. Academic progress and achievement are dependent on being at school regularly, and good attendance needs to be a habit. Please support your child by ensuring their attendance is consistent. If your child is absent from school for any reason, please let us know as soon as possible. Our school app is the most convenient way for you to do this, and of course you can ring us here at school.

We welcomed our new Year 7 and 13 students and our new International Students with pōwhiri on their first morning at school. The Gymnasium was full; our entire staff, all of our Year 13 students and our 60 newly trained 'Kiwi Buddies' were tangata whenua to welcome our manuhiri, who were supported by students from Kerikeri Primary School, Te Whakatupuranga, and many parents and whānau. It was an important and special occasion.

Our 43 new International Students come from a diverse range of countries including: Japan, China, Thailand, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Belgium, France, Luxemburg, Denmark, Columbia and Brazil. If you are interested in hosting an International Student, please contact our International Department at school.

New students in Years 8 – 12 were also welcomed to their new school with pōwhiri at Te Po o Manakō, later in our first week of school, another important and special occasion.

127 Year 13 students signed up for and undertook Peer Support training at our Annual Year 13 Leadership Camp on 1 and 2 February. These leaders volunteered to give up two days of their school holidays to participate in this training, and it was a great way for them to reconnect with each other and with their school as they begin their final year.

Our Year 7 Peer Support programme is now well underway. Peer Support helps our new Year 7 students settle in and connect with each other, as well as giving them an opportunity to meet great senior role models. Our famous Peer Support Camps on Urupukapuka Island have begun, and everyone is having a wonderful time.

2023 is now well underway, the school has settled into a very positive and busy rhythm, and staff and students are working hard. Thank you everyone for your support and encouragement.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Clent'.

M Clent (Mr)
Principal

2023 Prefects Announced

At Kerikeri High School Year 13 students can apply to be considered for the position of Prefect, writing a letter of application, and preparing a formal CV which describes their skills and experience, details their Four Cornerstones involvement, and describes why they believe they are suitable for the position of Prefect. Every applicant has a panel interview with their Year Level Dean, the Deputy Principal of Year 13 and the Principal. The selection process is competitive, challenging, and rigorous.

Our Prefects work hard for us. They exemplify Leadership with and through Service. They take on their leadership responsibility willingly and they understand they are role models for so many of our students.

Congratulations to our 2023 Prefects:

Zoe Ackers, Levi Booth, Josh Bossa, Naoise Breeze, Milaan Butler, Alice Calnan, Grace Calnan, Anni Cameron, Millie Caswell, Jake Couling, Natalie Creighton, Mia Doull, Isabella Elia, Amelia Eyres, Zoe Gilmore, Lily Hargrove, Zara Haynes, Callum Hoult, Mereana Huirama-Moore, Mitchell Javins, Makoare King, Matthew McNulty, Analise Moody, Tony Munford, Rachelle Nichols, Niveka Rhodes, Harry Sadgrove, Jack Sadgrove, Gabrielle Smythe, Kingi Tana, Max Thomas, Zac West, Cameron Willis, Peata Wyeth-Hura.

At our Celebration Assembly to introduce the Prefects to the school, our Deputy and Head Students were named. In 2023 our Head Students are:

Head Boy: **Joe Howells**

Head Girl: **Ella Parker**

Deputy Head Boy: **Tuhikaiariki Smith**

Deputy Head Girl: **Ariella Ripohau**

PPTA Strike

The PPTA has advised through the media that its members at our school, and nationwide will be taking strike action on Thursday 16 March.

We will be closed for instruction on that day. This means normal classes will not be running. However, we will remain open for supervision for students who are under the age of 14. If your child requires supervision on 16 March, can you please email us on enquiries@kerikerihigh.ac.nz to advise that your child will be attending.

At this stage we are uncertain if school buses will run on Thursday 16 March, and we will confirm this for you early next week.

The Post Primary Teachers Association (The PPTA) has also given notice of a partial strike from 30 January until 6 April 2023. PPTA members are refusing to cover classes where there is a lack of teachers or relievers during this time, or until the negotiations to the Secondary Teachers Collective Contract is settled. We are fortunate that we have a good supply of regular relieving teachers, and so far the Partial Strike has not meant we have had to change any arrangements or cancel any activities.

Student Achievements

Congratulations to 2022 Year 13 students **Lydia Bailie-Bellew** and **Samuel Kee**, who gained Scholarships in the 2022 examinations. These are outstanding achievements.

Lydia Bailie-Bellew – Scholarship Painting

Samuel Kee – Scholarship Physics, History, and Technology

Congratulations to **Nikisha Blakeman** (Year 10), who broke a NZ Junior Record for the largest Yellowfin Tuna during the Whangaroa Ladies Fishing Competition. The Yellowfin weighed in at 79.6kg and is pending confirmation as a Junior World record.

Congratulations to **Evana Gaffar** (Year 9) who won the Juvenile Cup at the Whangaroa Golf Club. Evana is the first girl to win the event since it started in 1955.

A Kerikeri High School team of 21 riders competed in the Northland Secondary Schools Mountain Biking Championships at Mt Parihaki MTB Park in Whangarei. The team put in an outstanding effort with many riders putting in a personal best and showing some great potential. Congratulations to the following students.

Junior Boys Cross Country

1st **Devon Ray**

3rd **Zachary Trautz**

Senior Boys Cross country

1st **Lucas Bayer**

2nd **Marcus Shrubshall**

Junior Boys MTB Enduro

1st **Devon Ray**

Junior Girls MTB Enduro

2nd **Leah Shrubshall**

Senior Boys MTB Enduro

1st **Callum Hoult**

2nd **Lucas Bayer**

Congratulations to everyone who took part in our School Swimming Championships recently, and especially to the following students who placed and won in their various Year Levels.

Girls	Boys
Year 7:	
1 st Alexis Farmiloe	Blake Smith
2 nd Alysha Hawke	Sam Jahne
3 rd = Sienna Ripohau/ Bayley Wood	
Year 8:	
1 st Layla Bell	Luke Schofield
2 nd Aimee Broom	Jack Whitlow
3 rd	Vince Walker
Year 9:	
1 st Sakura Tau	1 st = Charlie Birt/ Isaac Sharp
2 nd Stella Bowron	
3 rd	Blake Barker
Year 10:	
1 st Kaia Derbyshire	Finn Ludbrook
2 nd Lisa Schofield	1 st = Evan Lothstein-Dobbin/ Kyle Munford
3 rd Keira Featherstone	
Year 11:	
1 st Sasha Bell	Devon Ray
Year 12:	
1 st Dayna Hawke	Oliver Horsfield
2 nd Charlotte Degenkolb	Lukas Bayer
3 rd	Bede Hickey
Year 13:	
1 st Ariella Ripohau	Oliver White
2 nd Cheyenne Erdmann	Callum Houlth
3 rd	Tony Munford

Junior Medley Cup: **Kaia Derbyshire**
Senior Medley Cup: **Oliver Horsfield**

Congratulations to **Erin Kee** (Year 11) and **Isla Kee** (Year 10) who recently won the 3rd event in the RS Feva Travellers' Sailing Series by taking three 1st places, a 2nd and a 3rd place. In the North Island championships, the following weekend, Erin and Isla finished as 1st Women and 2nd Overall.

Year 7 Swimfest

Our Year 7 Swimfest has also been held. This is a fun event that all class members can participate in and enjoy a great time in the water. Events included an underwater scavenger hunt, races with floatation devices, team events and points were based on number of students from each class in the water. This fun participation event

is totally run by the Sports Council and supported by the Year Level Prefects.



2023 Sports Council

Our 2023 Student Sports Council has been selected with 23 student members meeting regularly to discuss "how to make the sporting experience better at Kerikeri High School". The Sports Council represents all students, and members help implement changes to existing events, work to establish new events on our Sport calendar, help run school events, promote school sport at Year Level Assemblies and present Sports certificates. They are also actively promoting our "Balance is Better" philosophy and encouraging students to participate in a wide range of activities.

The 2023 Sports Council is:

Kai Aihara, Ciara Andrews, Alice Calnan, Lucy Clent, Kirsty Coyle, Solomon Dickey, Benji Ellicott, Gemma Griffiths, Mitchell Hayes, Callum Houlth, Mitchell Houlth, Joe Howells, Mereana Huirama-Moore, Charlie Klinac, Abby McNulty, Matthew McNulty, Ella Parker, Devon Ray, Ariella Ripohau, Izzy Robinson, Harry Sadgrove, Jack Sadgrove and Ella Scott.

Te Pou o Manakō

Te Pou o Manakō Senior Kapa Haka are gearing up for the Tōkihi ki Tua Secondary Schools' Kapa Haka competition in Term 2, with lots of practices happening after school and every weekend.

Year 12 Biology Field Trip to Opito Bay

On 1 March 96 keen Biology students visited Opito Bay. The students were able to observe the organisms they have been learning about in class and experience first-hand how to sample populations in the field using transects. We were pleased to partner with Trioceans for the day, who provided expert advice and scientific equipment for the students.



Wairoa Stream Visit

The Wairoa Stream features proudly in the Kerikeri High School pepeha. Tū mai tōku maunga ko Pōkākā. E rere atu nei te awa o Te Wairoa.

Students have taken an active role as kaitiaki of the stream since 2018 working alongside a number of community groups.

19 enthusiastic volunteers, from Year 7 through to Year 10, spent a day at the stream clearing weeds from around newly planted trees. The students also positioned wēta motels made by Year 9 and 10 students along the track. It is hoped these motels will provide homes for wēta in the newly regenerating forest.



Kaitiakitanga - caring for the mauri of the Wairoa Stream

SAVE Groups

The Junior and Senior SAVE groups have been working hard planning their year. This week (6th – 10th March) is Sea Week and there have been quizzes each day in the Daily Notices. On Friday, Junior SAVE students will go to Paihia to learn about our marine environment and complete a beach clean-up.

Itinerant Music Lessons

Itinerant Music Lessons began last week with 160 students learning a range of different instruments, from brass and woodwind to piano, guitar, and drums with our specialist music teachers. Lessons happen once a week for half an hour on a rotating timetable that comes out in the Daily Notices each Monday.

PE Uniform Update

We are excited to advise our new Physical Education uniform is now available for purchase from the Uniform Shoppe, Waipapa, and will be available for an online purchase from 13 March 2023. Our hope is that all of our students in Years 7 through to 10 will be in our new

Physical Education uniform for their PE classes by the beginning of Term 2.



Uniform Shoppe

Our school uniform providers, SAS, sell Kerikeri High School uniform items from The Uniform Shoppe, State Highway 10, Waipapa. Their opening hours are Tuesday 12 – 4pm, Thursday 2 – 6pm and Saturday 11am – 3pm.

Wellbeing Centre

Our Wellbeing Centre is a safe and welcoming place for our students who need emotional support to visit. It is open every day and students can come for a reset or a counselling session if needed. We have two full time counsellors, Fleur Kelaher and Carol Atkinson. We welcome families to contact staff in the Wellbeing Centre if you have any concerns. Fleur and Carol are happy to meet with you to help support you and your rangitahi. Bookings can be made by emailing wellbeing@kerikerihigh.ac.nz or by visiting the Wellbeing Centre and making a booking with our receptionist.

Parents to Reception not Te Puna Waiora

A reminder that all parent visitors should report to Reception when arriving at school. We ask that parents do not go to Te Puna Waiora to collect students, drop them off or with queries. Our friendly Reception staff will always be able to assist you in those circumstances.

Students Driving to School

Students in Year 12 and 13 who have Restricted or Full Drivers Licences are allowed to drive their cars to

school. However, we do ask that all student drivers complete a Permission Form, available to them from Te Puna Waiora, which includes a parent signature. Students who have restricted Licences are obviously not allowed to travel with passengers, and we do ask that students who have Full Licences and wish to carry passengers have the signed parental consent of both their own parents, and the parents of the passengers. This is to help reduce risk and ensure the safety of everyone.

Students in Year 12 are not allowed to use their cars to leave the school site during the school day.

Bike Helmets

It is great to see so many students riding bikes to school. A reminder that we expect all students riding bikes to and from school to be keeping themselves safe – that includes following the appropriate road rules and wearing a suitably fitted bike helmet.

Who to Contact

We want every student in our school to have a safe adult they can confide in and turn to for help. Often for our students that will be a Parent. Parents and whānau, please feel free to contact us if you become aware that something is going wrong, or if you have concerns. We will help. There are a range of people in our school who parents and students can talk to, including any staff member who teaches your child, a Form Teacher, Year Level Dean, Guidance Counsellor, Deputy Principal, and Principal. We are here to help, and we encourage you to contact us if you have concerns.

You can ring Reception on 09 407 8916 and we will put you in touch with the right person to help you. If it is a governance matter, you can contact our Board of Trustees at board@kerikerihigh.ac.nz.

Mr Wise on Sabbatical

Our Deputy Principal Daniel Wise has begun a long awaited and well-deserved Sabbatical, and we wish him all the best for his studies and travel. Mr Wise returns to school at the beginning of Week 6, Term 2.

Next Board Meeting

Our next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Monday 27 March at 5.30pm.

The previous meeting originally scheduled for 16 February was deferred following the Cyclone and was held on 1 March.

Our 2022 School Magazine

Finally, a reminder you can access the last few years School Magazines online, including last years. They can be found under the 'About Us' tab on our school website, clicking the School Magazine link.

This link will also take you directly to the digital magazines:

<http://www.kerikerihigh.ac.nz/magazine.php>

Year Level Deans



Year 7

Matua Jordan Westerlund

Ko Whakarongorua tōku maunga
Ko Utakura tōku awa
Ko Mataitaua tōku marae
Ko Ngātokimatawhāorua tōku waka
Ko Ngāti Toro tōku iwi
He hekenga tēnei nō Ngāpuhi
Ko Matua Jordan Westerlund ahau

Kia Ora, I am Matua Jordan Westerlund and I am the Year Level Dean of Year 7. I am a proud descendant of ancestors that hail from Samoa, Germany and Aotearoa, New Zealand. I have a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Tourism Management and Te Reo Māori and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning. I am teaching Te Reo Māori and Pathways and Kapa Haka Tutor for Te Pou o Manakō.

As we settle into the new academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on some of the highlights we have experienced in Year 7 so far. First and foremost, I am incredibly proud of our pōwhiri ceremony, which was a symbol of our school community coming together to welcome new students, particularly our new Year 7's. I was extremely impressed with how they showed tremendous respect and maturity during the ceremony. I would like to give a great acknowledgement to Tyler Patrick, who represented the Year 7 cohort with confidence and grace during the delivery of his powerful whaikōrero.

Our Year 7 students have had or will have the opportunity to participate in our amazing three-day camp on Urupukapuka Island where they have been creating memorable moments with their class peers and Year 13 Peer Support Leaders. We are very grateful to the Year 13 students for their contributions to our Tutorial classes, helping the Year 7 students feel welcome and supported. Their dedication to the Peer Support programme has fostered a sense of community and belonging that will stay with our students for years to come. Among these highlights, they have also had a blast at Swimfest making the most of this annual swimming event – a day filled with competition, camaraderie and fun.

Lastly, I would like to express my pride in the newly appointed Class Representatives and Deputy Class Representatives of all seven Form Classes. These students have demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities, and I am confident they will be great ambassadors for their respective classes.

As we move forward, I am excited to see how the Year 7 students grow and develop throughout their time at our kura. I am honoured to be part of their journey and look forward to seeing them achieve great things. Here is to an outstanding school year for our Year 7 cohort.

Mauri Ora
Matua Jordan Westerlund



Year 8
Mr Seth Brown

Kia ora tātou,

My name is Seth Brown and I am the Year Level Dean of Year 8.

I have been a staff member at Kerikeri High School for 12 years, teaching English and English Speakers of Other Languages. I am also the teacher in charge of Year 7 and 8 English.

I am pleased to report that the Year 8 cohort has made a great start to 2023. There has already been a lot happening in the first half of the Term. We have had Year 8 students out and about involved in events such as Equestrian Show Jumping, Kerikeri High School Swim Champs, Weta Motel Construction on the Wairoa Stream Track and Kapa Haka, just to name a few out of class activities. During Tutorial on Tuesday 28th, we had our Interclass Capture the Flag Tournament, where all nine Year 8 classes played for the Year Level trophy. The second half of this tournament will be held in Week 7 during Tutorial on Tuesday 14th and students are reminded to please bring their PE gear.

There are a host of activities in the second half of Term 1. I encourage all Year 8 students to get involved in the many activities available at Kerikeri High School. These out of class activities are a great opportunity for students to discover what activities they enjoy. They also introduce the students to new skills and new friends who share similar interests.

The next big event on our school calendar is the annual Year 8 Swimfest on Thursday 9th March. Due to our Year level having more than 250 students, we are running two Swimfest events. During Periods 1 & 2 we have 8BKR, 8FIT, 8DNK, 8ROG and 8WRN competing and in Periods 3 & 4 we have 8AFA, 8EDW, 8KOL and 8GDN. Students can dress in a fun theme/class colours but must ensure that they do not wear glitter, paint or any loose items that will come off their person in the pool.

We have appointed our Year 8 Class Representatives and Deputy Class Representatives for Term 1 and 2. I look forward to working with these class leaders and the Year 13 Prefects to create further events and opportunities for the Year group. Thank you to all the students who wrote letters of application and interviewed for the position.

My role as Year 8 Dean is to be a support person for your child and to bridge the gap between parents, caregivers, and teachers. I have an open-door policy for both parents and pupils and look forward to working with your child this year. The year has started well, and it is my goal to have Year 8 become the success that Year 7 was last year.

Ngā mihi
Seth Brown



Year 9
Mr Andy Willis

Kia ora Whānau

Firstly, welcome back to all our Year 9 students, and a warm welcome to all our new whānau. I am pleased to report that the Year 9 cohort has settled into the start of the year with a positive approach. In particular, embracing our WAKA for Phones initiative and our uniform standards.

Feedback from a wide variety of teachers is that they are really enjoying teaching their Year 9 classes. The cohort has embraced the new and exciting prospect of 'real' high school, and I look forward to their continued mature approach to classes. Year 9 options create new and interesting opportunities for the students, and they appear to have aligned themselves well with their subject choices. Year 9 core subjects have interesting and challenging curriculum that will continue to stimulate minds.

I am encouraged to hear that so many of our students are getting involved with the wider opportunities that our extra-curricular Four Cornerstones activities offer. The year ahead is full of opportunities, and I look forward to seeing how our students embrace these.

Ng mihi
Andy Willis



Year 10
Mrs Kate Montgomerie

Kia ora tātou

My name is Kate Montgomerie and I am the Year Level Dean of Year 10.

I have been a staff member at Kerikeri High School for 16 years, teaching mainly Social Studies, I have also taught Enterprise and Geography. I am also one of the many past Kerikeri High Students on our staff.

I arrived to Kerikeri when I was 12 years old from Australia. We were fortunate to make this move, which allowed us to be surrounded by our whānau here in Kerikeri. I completed a Bachelor of Education at the University of Auckland.

I am proud to say Year 10s have made an awesome start to 2023. They have settled well into their new Form Classes and are enjoying their learning in their option classes. Many students are taking part in the many Cornerstone activities that have been available this term and there are many more coming up in the second half of Term One including NSSSA Futsal, the Otago Junior Mathematics competition and Kapa Haka. Year 10s also have a guest author coming to speak with them in Tutorial (Tuesday Period 4) in Week 7.

I encourage all Year 10 students to get involved in the many activities available at Kerikeri High School. These experiences are a great opportunity for students to discover what activities they enjoy. They also introduce the students to new skills and new friends who share similar interests.

Year 10 is an important year as we support our students in getting ready for Year 11, NCEA Level 1. Form Teachers will be working closely with their form students to set and reach new goals as we work together towards Year 11.

With Year 11 just around the corner, attendance is important. Please contact the school via the app, email or phone to inform the school of any absences. Form Time is a crucial time of the day as it

helps to set our students up for success. If your child is late to Form Time, can you please write a note or contact the school, this is appreciated and helps support your child.

Next week Year 10 Class Representatives will be announced. I look forward to working with our Year 10 leaders and our amazing Year 10 Prefects to create further fun events for our cohort to enjoy and make memories. I believe our Photo Challenge from last year is high on the list to be repeated in Year 10.

My role as Year 10 Dean is to be a support person for your child and their whānau. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can be of any support big or small.

Ngā mihi
Kate Montgomerie



Year 11
Mrs Roz Clent

Tēnā koutou katoa, my name is Roz Clent, I am the Year Level Dean for Year 11. I also teach Photography and History and I write the Kerikeri High School Magazine. I have been enjoying getting to know our Year 11 students, who I will be working with for the remainder of their time at Kerikeri High School.

This is a busy and exciting year for Year 11's as students new to the senior school and starting their NCEA qualification journey. In our first assembly for the year, I talked about what being a senior student at Kerikeri High School "looks and sounds like." Already as a cohort they have been stepping up to the challenge.

In our second assembly, Mr Wise presented an introduction to NCEA which Form Teachers followed up on in a tutorial to check students' understanding of the key words and the process of NCEA. Please have a chat with your students to double check they understand, and to support your own knowledge about NCEA if you are also new to the assessment process. You can access the Kerikeri High School NCEA Handbook on our website under the atSchool tab.

In Year 11, students are working towards their NCEA Level One Certificate. They need to achieve 80 credits at Level One or higher, including 10 numeracy credits and 10 literacy credits. Numeracy and literacy credits can be gained in several subjects including Mathematics and English. If a student gains 50 or more credits at Merit or Excellence level, their NCEA Level One Certificate will be endorsed at Merit or Excellence.

In addition to our focus on NCEA Level One, Year 11 students continue to be involved in a range of activities from our Four Cornerstones opportunities. It is never too late to try something new!

Please chat with your child about what they have on, what is coming up, and encourage them to organise their workload by keeping track of assessment deadlines. They will be leading up to their first Achievement Standard in some subjects now.

Noho ora mai,
Roz Clent



Year 12
Mrs Jess Lowe

Welcome to Year 12 2023!

My name is Jess Lowe, and I am the Year Level Dean for Year 12. I'm a past student of Kerikeri High School. I taught here in 2016/17 and returned to Kerikeri High school last year. I teach English at Year 10, 11 and 12. My husband also works at Kerikeri High School and my daughters attend Kerikeri Primary School across the road.

We are off to a busy start with opportunities to apply for Class Representative, Student Librarian, music lessons, rugby, netball, basketball, volleyball and more. Year 12 is an extremely important year. Whether your child is planning on moving into an apprenticeship or work or looking ahead to university the decisions they make and effort they put in will see them well on their way.

We are using our Tutorial lessons this term to focus on preparation, goal setting and learning the road rules, as so many will be sitting their restricted licenses soon. This is an exciting step toward independence, and a big one. We will be discussing rights and responsibilities of driving regularly in our assemblies.

Our attendance mantra in Year 12 is, Every Day: Every Lesson.

Ngā mihi
Jess Lowe



Year 13
Ms Erica Collins

Kia ora koutou Year 13 Parents and caregivers,

It is much pleasure that I return to be the Year Level Dean of this cohort, seeing them through their final and very important year of High School. Last year I was lucky enough to obtain a Secondary Teacher's study grant for 32 weeks, whereby I completed a thesis to obtain a Master of Art (Psychology).

I am very excited for the year ahead and supporting the students in their goals for the year. It is an extremely busy year and there is a lot to look forward to. We began the year with a wonderful Leadership Camp, where 120 students were trained to be Peer Support Leaders for our new Year 7 students. The Year 7 camps at Urapukapuka Island are underway. These are a great way for our new Year 7's to integrate into the school, and so we are very grateful to have a lovely and dedicated group of Year 13 Leaders who are willing to put their hands up and lead. I am sure they get just as much out of the camps as the Year 7's!

The Year 13 students have made a great start in respect to attendance and dress code. This term we are asking that Year 13 attend Form Time and Tutorial (Tuesday Period 4) so that the Form Teachers can make connections and communicate important messages to them. Every lesson counts significantly towards learning, so we please ask that you help support your Year 13 student to attend all of their classes. Please continue to report absences in the school app to assist your student's Form Teacher with their attendance tracking.

If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact myself or your student's Form Teacher.

Ngā mihi mahana
Erica Collins

