



Kerikeri High School Principal's Report

Thursday 15 March 2012

The school received more exciting academic results this month with the confirmation of the Literacy and Numeracy pass rates from NZQA. NCEA Level One students cannot achieve the qualification unless they pass Literacy and Numeracy. The pass rates have steadily increased over the past several years and we thank our staff, especially in the English and Mathematics Departments and the Dean of Year Eleven, for their efforts to ensure that almost every student in Year Eleven passed Literacy, 97.5% and Numeracy, 96.7%.

Also in addition to our Dux and Head Boy Michael Prendergast's four Scholarships, two of them Outstanding was Maggie Hewitt (Photography) and Andrik Lugnet (Statistics and Modelling). Scholarship examinations enable candidates to be assessed against challenging standards, and are demanding for the most able candidates in each subject. Approximately only three percent of Year 13 students studying each subject at Level Three are awarded Scholarship.

The unseasonal weather has been testing for the many events that are scheduled in Term One. Fortunately the Celebration Assemblies for the 2012 Prefects were moved forward so the postponement date for the Athletics Day could be used and the Triathlon proceeded on Monday in good heart but with a few showers. The middle Peer Support Camp came off the Island a day early and completed their Peer Support activities at school on the Friday.

Students

The Year Seven and Thirteen Peer Support Camps are a huge undertaking and Deputy Principal Mr Mike Clent, Dean of Year Seven Miss Kate Langman and "Camp Mother" Mrs Bettina Simpson who attend all three Camps, and the Form Teachers of Year Seven and the groups of keen parents are hugely thanked for all they do to make these so successful and constructive.

These Year Thirteen Peer Support Leaders were especially looking forward to the Camps because they were one of the Year Seven cohorts who missed out due to the reconstruction of the facility at Otehei Bay.

The Principal managed to get to Urupukapuka Island for the Thursday of the second Camp and so was able to support the decision to bring the Camp in a day early due to the rain.

Credit also to the Sports staff, Deans and Form Teachers involved in the Swim Fests, the Year Nine Form Teachers actually won the relay against the students. Form Teachers dressed in class colours and generally engendered Form Class spirit.

Self Review and Innovation

The International Department welcomed 23 new students this term from Germany, Singapore, Belgium, Brazil, Thailand, Japan and Korea. We have 8 Colombian students coming for Term Two. The four day orientation took place at the beginning for February and for the first time, the whole International Department had a full Marae experience at Whiti Ora Marae for two days. This was very successful. We will be looking at incorporating a Marae stay for each semester intake. Special thanks to Mrs Kim Rogers, Mrs Tania Peters-Hei Hei, Mrs Blossom Silich and Mr Taua Kemp.

The Principal represented the school and SPANZ at the occasion to celebrate the 80th Birthday of Trevor Grice, Director of Life Education Trust, a compelling speaker over a number of years at Kerikeri High School for students, staff and parents and then author with Tom Scott of "The Great Brain Robbery". It was a small gathering, mainly of the big corporate investors in Life Education Trust.

E A Forgie (Mrs)
Principal