



Kerikeri High School Principal's Report

Thursday 25 October 2012

The second Assessment week with more some finalized Internal Assessments and External Practice Examinations for the senior students took place over the last two weeks of Term Three and now the senior school is focussed on finals, revision, reports and last marks, including for Prizegiving decisions.

The pressure is also on the final practical assessments such as senior Drama performances, the Year Thirteen Practical Day, (a day of physical activities run for the International students) and the Culinary Global Dinner.

A final Celebration Assembly for the year was held on Tuesday 16 October for Years Ten to Thirteen. The 2012 Prefects were thanked for all they have done for the school at the front of the Assembly, Daniel Field, the Captain of the First Eleven Boys' Football spoke about their achievement, taking the Northland Secondary Schools' Title from Whangarei Boys' who have held it 39 of 41 years, the final Honours were presented for 2012 and the Head Girl and Head Boy spoke, inspirationally, about our students' achievements and gave strong encouragement to do everything possible to achieve well in NCEA.

Kerikeri High School Honours were awarded to students ranging from Year 9 through to Year 13 for outstanding performance over time across the Four Cornerstones of Academic, Sporting, Cultural and Leadership. Honours for Leadership and Service were awarded to our four Head students and two students were awarded Honours Academic, the first for achieving 80 Excellence Credits in NCEA Level One, the second for gaining top three placing in the New Zealand Culinary Fare Hospitality Competitions in both 2010 and 2012.

Cultural Honours were awarded for involvement with Debating, Public Speaking and International Language Competitions and Sports Honours were awarded for outstanding achievements in Sports as diverse as Equestrian, Cycling, Cross Country, Triathlon, Hockey, Swimming, Surfing, Football, Sailing, Rugby, Taekwon Do and Waka Ama.

Students

Out of Zone Applications closed on 14 September and it was not necessary to ballot on the Ballot Day of 24 September. The out of zone application information is tabled.

The 2013 Enrolment Evening takes place between 4.00pm and 7.00pm on Thursday 25 October 2012. Year Seven and Twelve students are serving the school to take students and parents on guided tours.

The comprehensive references for Scholarship applications mainly have deadlines in September and October and we have applicants for the University of Auckland, Massey, Waikato, Victoria, Otago, Allens and for Russell McVeagh and the John Drake Memorial Scholarship. Students have already been shortlisted and interviewed each, for John Drake and Russell McVeagh and an unprecedented number of nine students so far have been awarded \$5,000 University of Victoria Excellence Scholarships.

No students undertook to be nominated for the 2013 Student Trustee for the Board of Trustees and the proposal is to offer the opportunity to attend Board Meetings and represent a student viewpoint to 2013 Kerikeri High School Prefects or to Head and Deputy Head Prefects.

There was a film crew at Kerikeri High School on Monday to film the Te Reo Problem Solvers as part of the Maori Language Awards Evening. They are Finalists.

The final event for Keri Reading took place on Tuesday 23 October. This event was run by Mrs Maria Halliday and both the Year Thirteen students and the Year Seven students received certificates for their participation in the programme. It is outstanding that 40 Year Thirteen students volunteered to work with 40 Year Seven students to provide them with reading assistance in a fun way, one of those students being a Keri Reader when they were in Year Seven.

Staff

The Year Seven Dean for 2013 has been appointed part way through the year in the process established last year to provide more support for the Deans' Network in the second half of the year and for the induction of the present Year Six students. The successful applicant is Mrs Jane Jarman. As Mrs Jarman is a present Dean of Year Thirteen, Mr Chris Whittaker has been appointed to assist in the Deans' Centre for the second half of the year.

Mrs Nicky Barker, Head of Drama will take her maternity leave when the senior students leave and Ms Dana Boisen, Head of Social Studies and Geography will return from maternity leave part time at the same time.

Professional Development

Our Boys Achievement Professional Learning Group is continuing to meet this year. Staff involved include Mr Mike Clent, Mrs Judy Cleaver, Mr Russell McCabe, Miss Melissa Johansson, Mrs Rachel Kilpack, Mrs Rene Loggie, Mrs Jane Jarman, Mrs Bridget Crooks, Miss Madeleine Ware and Mr Leon Margon.

The group is focussing on the goals of continuing to raise boys academic achievement. This work has been structured in a 'Teaching as Inquiry' model as outlined in the New Zealand Curriculum. Staff are exploring a range of teaching and learning approaches in their subject area and classrooms which may further engage boys and lead to increases in academic achievement. They are identifying a targeted group of boys in their class and a range of formative and summative assessment opportunities by which they can measure the academic achievement of those boys and reflect on what may have and what may not have worked for boys in terms of their learning. The group members are sharing ownership of the group by taking turns chairing the meetings and presenting and sharing their findings and strategies.

Mr Daniel Wise was a successful applicant for the 2012 NASDAP e-Learning Study Tour. The NASDAP Scholarship is to enable one Deputy or Assistant Principal to undertake study and/or a programme of visits to other secondary education institutions in New Zealand and/or overseas to provide an opportunity for educational leadership development focussed on raising achievement in the secondary sector. The NASDAP Scholarship is open to all Deputy and Assistant Principals currently employed in secondary and area schools throughout New Zealand, who have demonstrated strong interest and success in the practice of educational leadership and who are likely to benefit from the learning and experience, in their own practice, for their school and for the wider secondary education community. Their school must be a current financial member of NASDAP.

The Principal attended the September SPANZ Executive Meeting including meetings attended with the Minister of Education and President of the School Trustees Association and the one day meeting of the Leaders' Forum Qualifications Group. Her notes are tabled. The Leaders' Forum has been terminated and that representation for SPANZ will no longer be necessary. The letter is appended.

There was a Staff Professional Learning session at 8.20 am on Thursday 18 October on Facebook Groups, the School Policy and included models and guidelines for successful use of social media to promote learning.

Teachers who attended Staff Professional Development and Professional Learning Seminars were; Mrs Jacquie Robertson (Chemistry Spectroscopic Techniques), Ms Erica Collins and Mrs Emma Wise (PB4L), Mrs Charlotte Merrygold (Science Teaching Leadership), Miss Kerri Williams (TPDL), Miss Kathryn Thomson (School Music Teachers Conference) and Mr Roger Chignell (Level Three Standards Alignment).

Curriculum

The Deans have completed course counselling for students and the option choices have been entered providing the data to generate the number of students taking courses and the number of classes required at each level. The overall picture was discussed Department by Department at the PR (Positions of Responsibility) Forum on Wednesday and in the case where class numbers do not reach the economic threshold, usually 14 at Kerikeri High School, some students will need to be assisted to find alternative pathways.

Innovations and Self Review

A major curriculum innovation in 2012 was the trial of a Head of Moderate Needs position, aimed at assisting students who were behind their cohort to make up ground. Mrs Maria Halliday was appointed to the position and reported back to the Senior Leadership Team and the Board of Trustees on the progress of this programme. Concurrently four extra hours were also provided to the Mathematics Department for a Mathematics Teacher, Mrs Megan Magon, with recent Year Five and Six experience, to work with the Department to assist students to make up ground in Mathematics.

The Kerikeri High School Parent Teacher Association organized a major and very successful event for Kerikeri with the speaker Celia Lashlie talking about growing great boys into great men. It was an outstanding evening.

Huge thanks is also due to the talented and very hard working Kerikeri High School Cookbook Committee of Mrs Susan Manning, Mr Mike Clent, Mr Simon Hart, Mrs Sharlene Belcher, Ms Kate Crawford, Mrs Eileen Andrews and Mr Stewart Fraser. In record time they brainstormed the scope and prospective budget, sought sponsors, vetted printers and sourced recipes which were trialled and photographed. The Cookbook was launched at Gala Culinary Evening on Thursday in the last week of Term Three and "A Taste of Kerikeri" went on sale last week.

Elizabeth Forgie
Principal