



## **Kerikeri High School Principal's Report**

**Monday 8 April 2013**

It has been a smooth but very busy start, we are over half way through the term now and the school is in full swing. The Peer Support Camps to Urupukapuka Island have again been a great success the Year Seven and Year Thirteen students really benefit from this wonderful experience.

At Kerikeri High School with our four cornerstones approach and our "busy kids are happy kids" philosophy we are delighted with all the opportunities and activities that are in place already for our students. For instance, the three Kapa Haka groups are underway with the senior Roopu working hard on their Tai Tokerau Festival performance and summer sports are full on and the winter codes are gearing up with Trials and training.

We are indebted to our staff who organise so many four cornerstone opportunities for our students.

### **Students**

The 1<sup>st</sup> March roll is as follows;

Year 7	89 male	87 female
Year 8	88 male	103 female
Year 9	110 male	124 female
Year 10	118 male	99 female
Year 11	115 male	105 female
Year 12	102 male	89 female
Year 13	81 male	110 female

Total 1420 students plus our International Students

The Year Seven and Thirteen Peer Support Camps are a huge undertaking. Deputy Principal Mr Mike Clent, Dean of Year Seven Mrs Jane Jarman, and the Form Teachers of Year Seven as well as the groups of keen parents are hugely thanked for all they do to make these so successful and constructive.

Deputy Principal Mr Daniel Wise and Dean of Year Thirteen Mrs Emma Wise also managed to get to Urupukapuka Island to see the Camp in action.

This year's Swim Fest was held on Monday 11 March, credit to the Sports staff, Deans and Form Teachers involved in the Swim Fests, for instance to the Year Nine Form Teachers who dressed in fancy dress and generally engendered Form Class spirit.

The 2013 Russell McVeagh Regional Tournament for Northland was held on at Whangarei Girls' High School. Kerikeri High School entered two teams Kerikeri High School 1 – Jesse Prendergast, Samantha Scahill and Lucy Ellingham and Kerikeri High School 2 – Meg Murray, Jason Leaming and Cassy Osokin. The Northland Team that was chosen for the National Final in August includes Jessie Prendergast, Samantha Scahill, and Lucy Ellingham. Jesse Prendergast was awarded Best Speaker of the Tournament and Meg Murray, Promising Speaker. This team will be trained by two university adjudicators one being Corinne Marti an ex-student from Kerikeri High School. The team will go to the National Finals and Miss Melissa Johannson will accompany them as a representative from our school.

We acknowledge the strong leadership and support for Debating at Kerikeri High School and in Northland from Mrs Di Eastwood, Mr James Eastwood, Mr Seth Brown, Mrs Sandra Leeming and Miss Melissa Johannson.

Parent Feedback Evenings will be held on 8 April 2013 and 16 April 2013 from 4.00pm to 7.00pm in the Kerikeri High School Library.

The PTA Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 10 April 2013 at 7.00pm in the Library followed by "Meet the Prefects". The 2013 Prefects make their first public speeches after the short AGM.

The Kerikeri High School Prefects will be showing their support at Anzac Day by attending the 6.00am Dawn Service and the 10.00am Morning Service on Thursday 25 April at the Kerikeri RSA.

Kerikeri High school is very inclusive of students with priority needs and Mrs Eileen Bedford leads the Learning Enrichment Department constantly seeking inclusive opportunities for those students.

### **Staff Professional Development**

Kerikeri High School was closed to all students on Thursday 28 March 2013 due to a Standards Alignment Day. The Minister of Education last year announced professional development days that secondary schools were mandated to take for the implementation of the alignment of NCEA Achievement Standards to the New Zealand Curriculum and advised this to the Board. The first of these days was Thursday 28 March.

The second day is determined by the Northland Secondary Schools and Whangarei schools decision to collaborate to enable Teachers to work together in their subject areas with NZQA Moderators and Subject Advisers. This day is the first day of Term Two, Monday 6 May. Kerikeri High School has to fit in with this regional arrangement. If Kerikeri High School is to continue to achieve the outstanding pass rates of the past few years it is essential that our Teachers are as prepared as possible to teach the new aligned Achievement Standards.

The Staff Forum on Waka was very positive including the unveiling of the colourful signage and the positive classroom competition.

Deputy Principal Mrs Glenys Ross held a Tuesday afternoon staff presentation on our NZQA Procedures for Managing Assessment to update staff on our processes assuring assessment is fair, valid and accurate. Mrs Ross also facilitated a Thursday morning professional learning session about marks analysis using the purchased software "On Your Marks" Statistical Analysis of Kerikeri High School Data.

Mr Seth Brown who has responsibility for Year 7 and 8 English and Ms Su Neave, Literacy Coordinator, led a staff professional development session on the use of the new English Spelling Dictionaries across all subjects.

The Principal attended the Northland Secondary Principals Association (NSSPA) meeting on Friday 8 March in Whangarei, the Secondary Qualifications Advisory Group (SQAG) meeting on Wednesday 20 March in Wellington.

The SPANZ Executive Meeting on Thursday 28 February and Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March in Wellington and the SPANZ Symposium and 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Sunday 24 through to Wednesday 27 March.

### **Self Review and Innovation**

At present we have 90 International Students at Kerikeri High School. This month we have been joined by 20 Thai students staying in Kerikeri for one month). The group range in age from 11 – 16years and are in Years 7 – 10 at school.

The school has welcomed them warmly with a Powhiri on the first morning with our junior Kapa Haka group. They were totally immersed into the school on day two, joining their appointed Kiwi Buddies in their classes.

A big thank you goes out to the Kiwi Buddies who have been welcoming, understanding and displaying great amounts of common sense and leadership. The buddy system is working really well.

The General Manager, School's Infrastructure Group from the Naitonal office of the Ministry of Education visited Kerikeri High School on 21 February 2013. And had this to say in response to the visit to Kerikeri High School.

“It was a real pleasure to see what you have achieved from what was a terrible situation. The learning environments that you have created are excellent. The upstairs room for the staff were well thought through and would be the envy of others schools. Your Deputy Principal, Mike Clent, outlined the thinking that framed the way you and the board conceived of the design to enhance the educational outcomes of your students. He was very knowledgeable of the school and took us on a tour of all of the facilities. The commercial kitchen was a stand out. I managed to read both the schools cookbook and magazine on the plane back. The character of your school came out in both documents. I was really impressed.”

E A Forgie (Mrs)  
**Principal**