



Kerikeri High School Principal's Report

Thursday 8 May 2014

Kerikeri High School has made history in two notable and very different ways in the past weeks.

Kerikeri High School is a Finalist in the Prime Minister's Excellence Awards in the category of Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

The Expert Panel provided the following comment as feedback about the Schools entry:

- "This entry tells a story of revitalisation in a school, focused on lifting achievement for Maori
- The improvement process followed by the school has built sustainability to continuing improvement
- The story describes a school that has really understood the link to middle management and distributed leadership
- The results show an extraordinary shift in achievement at NCEA Level Two
- This is a story about more than good practice, it shows a progressive process that has been undertaken by a principal and leadership team that have reflected deeply on making a difference, have taken a stand to lead significant change"

An Expert Panel and film crew will now visit the school to complete the judging and the result will be announced at the ceremony at Te Papa in Wellington on 25 June. The School is invited to send a team of up to 10, being the key people directly involved in the school's entry.

To further support the School's entry the most recent data held by the Ministry of Education was sourced, still based on 2012 NCEA results. Highlights include retention to 17th birthday for Maori students at Kerikeri High School being 82.1% compared to NZ 66.1% and percentage of Maori students achieving NCEA Level Two or above being 71.8% rising from 59.5% two years ago, compared to New Zealand at 54.8%. Girls 90.5% compared to New Zealand 78.2% and Boys 78.2% up from 66.4% two years ago compared to New Zealand at 70.6%.

Kerikeri High School also made history in the sporting arena becoming the first school to ever win the New Zealand Schools' Sailing Teams Racing Championship five years in a row.

Students

Throughout Term One, 110 Year Thirteen students have led 205 Year Seven students through the Peer Support programme at Kerikeri High School. This fantastic induction programme is generously sponsored by the Rotary Club of Kerikeri, and promotes Year Seven students interacting with and learning from Year Thirteen students from their very first day at school. An additional benefit is the opportunity for the younger students to experience and learn from the leadership qualities which the senior students have developed throughout their years at Kerikeri High School. The highlight of the programme is the series of three day camps held recently at Otehei Bay on Urupukapuka Island. The Year Thirteen students received their certificates at the formal Peer Support Assembly from the President of the Rotary Club of Kerikeri in front of the audience of their peers and the Year Seven students on Tuesday.

Mr Ken Rapson the University of Auckland Schools' Liaison Officer advised that he was most impressed with the Kerikeri High School students who attended the University of Auckland Alumni event in Whangarei on 26 March. He advised they looked fantastic and were at ease in the Reception, speaking to the Vice Chancellor and other guests.

As a result of the generosity of Maureen York, a long term resident of the Bay of Islands and Author of "Barbed Wire on the Beaches" Kerikeri High School Science students now have hands on experience of Geology. Collected for many years the rocks and shells donated to Kerikeri High School by Mrs York are sparking the interest of many students in Geology and Earth Systems.

The Music Department presented a "Music Matchbox Concert" a little spark to ignite the year) on Wednesday 2 April in the school auditorium. The Concert featured our Junior Concert Band, Jazz Combo and many senior music students undertaking performance assessments.

The PTA Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 3 April at 7.00pm in the Library followed by "Meet the Prefects". The 2014 Prefects made their first public speeches after the short AGM. All Parents and Caregivers were invited to attend. This was an inspirational evening with a strong turnout on the night.

Two Parent Feedback Evenings to report to students and parents were held on Monday 7 April and Wednesday 16 April at 7.00pm. The Prefects administered the organisation of both evenings under the guidance of the Senior Leadership Team. A feature is the number of parents taking up the invitation to bring their student with them.

Kerikeri High School extended an invitation to all staff, parents and volunteers who are involved and interested in Sport at Kerikeri High School to a Sports

Forum on Thursday 10 April at 7.30pm in the Library. The purpose of the Forum was to cover many of the school processes involved with sport, and to offer an opportunity for a question and answer/suggestion session.

The 2014 Tai Tokerau Festival was held in Wellsford on Tuesday 15 April. Our strong performance at the outdoor stage was supported by a very spirited haka from our 2014 Prefects. On the last day of Term One Te Roopu Kapa Haka performed their Festival programme twice to enable the whole school to see their performance, to the same outstanding support.

Some very positive feedback has been formally advised by the District Health Nurse administering the vaccinations for Year 8 girls on Tuesday 15 April "an awesome bunch their behaviour was fantastic. They were mature, respectful and over all a real pleasure for the Northland DHB to work with. They helped the vaccinations run smoothly and efficiently, The Northland DHB were most impressed."

Year 9 Enterprise Students hosted guests from the business community for breakfast on Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th April. The students met their guests just before 9.00am to accompany them to the restaurant and to interact with their business mentors in a professional setting provided by the senior Culinary and hospitality students.

The Kerikeri High School Prefects, the Choir and the Band accompanied by Mrs Elizabeth Forgie, Principal, Miss Erica Collins, Dean of Year 13 and Miss Kathryn Thompson, Head of Music showed their support at Anzac Day by attending the 5.45am Dawn Service and the 10.00am Morning Service on Friday 25 April at the Kerikeri RSA. The group were commended on being a credit to Kerikeri High School and thanked for their speeches and contribution on the day. Caitlin Thomas played the trumpet at both Services and delivered her Northland Regional winning RSA Cyril Basset speech.

The Kerikeri High School Drama Department presents "Awatea" (By Bruce Mason) on Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th May and "The Pohutukawa Tree" (By Bruce Mason) on Wednesday 7th and Friday 9th May at 7.30pm in the Auditorium.

Kerikeri High School Parent Teacher Association Work Day will be held on Friday 9 May 2014. This is our School's major full school fundraiser. Our students have raised money for projects and many extras not covered by Government Funding. The Student Council makes the decisions about the use of the funds raised and each class, through their Class Representative. Work Day builds school pride and a sense of achievement for the students and has made an enormous difference to Kerikeri High School.

Huge congratulations to the two school teams who competed at the Northland heat of the Kids' Lit Quiz. Of the twenty-eight school teams our two teams came Second Equal. The teams had to work collaboratively to answer 100 questions prepared by the Quizmaster, Wayne Mills, Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education at Auckland University and for both teams to get the same result is unexpected.

We currently have 25 students enrolled in Mau Rakau for 1 hour per week. The tutor is Mr Harry Muunu who holds a Pou Toru (Level 3 Grading).

The Recycling Action Group (RAG) now being run by Mrs Kelly Bowers and Mrs Kate Moss who offer wonderful new energy and ideas. A big thank you to Mr Richard Forstner who has managed and continues to monitor the recycling area. Mrs Ria Bright was formally thanked for all of her years of development of RAG.

A very keen group of students and parents with the leadership of Ms Kerri Williams are underway with a plethora of fund raising projects for the Spanish Language trip to Spain next year.

The evacuation drill held recently went exceptionally smoothly in Term One and everyone was thanked for their patience and cooperation. Although the drill causes disruption; the calmness and quick response meant the students came out in a very orderly fashion, lined up quickly and their behaviour was exceptional. The School was evacuated and everyone accounted for in 10 minutes and 23 seconds.

Staff

The PPTA (Post Primary Teachers Association) held a Paid Union Meeting as part of their national series of meetings on Wednesday 9th April in Kaikohe.

Principal Mrs Elizabeth Forgie was again elected to the SPANZ Executive.

A Spanish Teacher is coming to Kerikeri High School through the AFS Immersion Programme for the first 4 weeks of Term 3.

Staff Professional Development

Mrs Forgie represented SPANZ at the Northland Regional Property Forum on Wednesday 7 May.

Curriculum

The CHOICE programme continues this year lead by the Head of Moderate Needs (Creating Triumphant Outcomes in Children's Education) during each term a group of identified students spend 1-2 hours per week completing the programme in order to raise his/her academic success. The programme focuses on raising student awareness and confidence as an active learner. Students are encouraged to spend time exploring their individual knowledge building process. They will focus on developing inference, text reorganisation and evaluation skills in order to reduce reading errors and increase text decoding skills.

Gateway is open to students from Years 11-13 and the school is funded by the number of placements. Currently Kerikeri High School has 102 places. Year 11 students must be approved by INAC as their priority should be working towards NCEA Level 1. Students who undertake Gateway, are in

real workplaces, gaining work experience and building skills for employment. Many students gain part-time work or apprenticeships out of their Gateway placements, as employers get to try them for free. The school has established great working relationships with many employers in town and neighbouring areas who willingly take our students.

STAR (Secondary Tertiary Alignment Resource) is funded to assist students' transition into tertiary. At Kerikeri High School to run classes that are vocationally based, including Hospitality, Tourism, Outdoor Education, Rural Studies, Automotive, Technology Engineering, Product Development, Food Studies and Human Development. Students are working on unit standard credits that are linked with industry. Mrs Eileen Andrews manages both of these significant programmes as well as the Careers Portfolio.

In 2014 iPed Team members will undertake a Teaching as Inquiry Project. Specifically, we want to further develop our knowledge and experience of what eLearning might look like in the Kerikeri High School environment. The aim is to create a body of knowledge about eLearning at Kerikeri High School that we can share with other staff members to encourage more people to take up the challenge. We are aiming to run a full staff professional development day on Work Day 2015. What we aim to develop is a better understanding of what eLearning looks like in the context of Te Kotahitanga and Relationships-based pedagogy.

Self Review and Innovation

The Kerikeri High School Sports' Department is now on Twitter, follow us for all of your sports results, news and notices @KKHSSport.

The Information Technology Strategy Group including the Property Manager initiated the SNUP project with the Ministry of Education last term. School Network Upgrade Programme provides for schools to upgrade their information technology infrastructure including their wifi capability with Ministry contribution of 80% of the project. The School's 20% contribution is split between 5YA funds for capital or cabling and School's own funds for items regarded as contents.

The exciting aspect of this development work is that in Term Four the School could be trialling eLearning in a Bring Your Own Device environment.

The second all-school WAKA lesson will be based on good manners and what good manners look like in differentiated settings. The lesson will be age appropriate for example for Year 13 students in job interview contexts.

The Teachers will go through the lesson and resources for the Year Level class they will be teaching at 8.20am on Thursday morning to prepare for the lesson next week.

E A Forgie (Mrs)
Principal