



Kerikeri High School Principal's Report

Wednesday 1st March 2017

The 2017 academic year started formally for all staff with the annual “State of the Nation” Principal’s address on Tuesday morning 31 January. This year it was preceded by the Leaders of Learning session on Friday morning, with a shared lunch with the Pastoral Network (Deans and Guidance) before their meeting in the afternoon. The Senior Leadership Team shared leadership of both meetings.

“State of the Nation” was followed by the staff splitting three ways – to Year Thirteen Peer Support Leadership Camp at Waimate North, school-based with senior course counselling and the First Aid Course and to Te Kotahitanga sessions for relievers and new staff school-based.

Year Thirteen students on Tuesday, with the staff, supported the new Year Seven students, families and whānau beginning their journey at Kerikeri High School.

We were very pleased with the number of people who felt welcome to come to the first Year Seven Assembly – the Auditorium was full to overflowing. Not one student was unhappy with their placement and students and their parents, who had been invited to stay during the day for as long as they wanted to feel happy about their child’s first day, went off happily with their Form Teachers. We were also heartened to see every student in school uniform despite the change to online.

Students

The roll stands at 1586 including international students. The roll as at 22 February 2017 (excluding international students) is as follows Year 7, 212, Year 8 186, Year 9, 240, Year 10, 248, Year 11, 217, Year 12, 216 and Year 13, 193.

The timetable has stood up to the demands on it and has been sufficiently well built and flexible to be able to accommodate the students’ re-selections during course counselling. There were over 80 new Kiwi students at the Year 8-12 and International Powhiri.

A school of over 1600 (this year) takes a number of days to undertake orientation and course counselling for seven cohorts of students in a managed and caring way, especially if our new Year Seven students are to gain confidence right at the beginning.

The Powhiri for new Year 7 and 13 students was enormous with a staff of over 100, a Year Thirteen of over 200 and our Kapa Haka students (most coming in specially for the day before their Year levels started) tangata whenua and the manuhiri of over 200 Year Seven students, new Year Thirteen students and whānau supported by Reverend Kaumatua Mr Sid Kingi and Whakatipuranga from Kerikeri High School.

We had the same wonderful experience with the older students and international students last Thursday and followed that Powhiri with morning tea. The Powhiri followed an Orientation session on the way we do things at Kerikeri High School. Students in answer to the “how was that” question say it was “really good” “helpful” “useful,” especially to understand our WAKA values.

The formal Peer Support process began with two days at Year Thirteen Peer Support Leadership Camp at Waimate North as the Year Thirteens were trained to work with their incoming Year Seven students and for the three Peer Support camps on Urupukapuka Island. Between are the welcomes and orientation provided for Year Seven by Year Thirteens for their Day One and the Tutorial activities sessions.

The Programme delivers responsibility and leadership experience to the 120 Year 13 volunteers and role modelling and security to the 212 Year Sevens. Peer Support establishes warm cross year level friendships, confidence and “eyes up” right from the beginning. It is hard to know which year level, Thirteen or Seven, enjoys it the most.

The Prefect selection process began with the closing date for CVs and Letters of Application on Friday 10 February and the 76 panel interviews took place on Monday 13th, Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th February. A feature of the interviews was the warm and genuine way the student applicants could articulate the values and philosophy of the school and to their benefit, their place in it.

The 2017 Kerikeri High School Prefects will be introduced at the formal Celebration Assemblies for students, families and staff on Tuesday 14 March, 38 Prefects were appointed which enables each year level of the school from Year 7 to Year 12 to have 6 plus Prefects working with them.

The Prefects have attended an intensive two-day Leadership Training Seminar at the Scenic Hotel. The students were prepared for their critical new role by Principal Mrs Elizabeth Forgie, Deputy Principal Mr Julian Cosgrove and their Year 13 Dean Miss Kate Crawford. The Board Chairperson addressed the Team and we thanked her for her attendance as well as at the Powhiri.

Following the Training the Head Students were selected with input from the Prefect Team after they had worked together for two days.

The 2017 Kerikeri High School Prefects are –



Front row (from left): Principal, Mrs Elizabeth Forgie, Savanah Peters-Hei, Josephina Pantano, Sophie Piesse, Laila Abada, Emilie Gordon, Olivia Frear, Alice Autet.

Second row: Jasmin Winikerei, Libby Inwood, Sophie Morrison, Nyena Weeds, Eve Robson-Clark, Darcie Stumpf, Arni Bailie Bellew.

Third Row: Shinae Smythe, Billie Klinac, Tyler Selwyn, Tiana Edwards, Sarah Barnard, Stella Green.

Fourth Row: Jaimee Miskelly, Jack Williams, Caleb Read, Owen Arthur, Joe Wadman, Callum Judd.

Fifth Row: Java Grant, Nico Natha, Felix Drew, Miles Halvorson, Guy Yarrall, Jerry Tang.

Back Row: Jayden Gibson, Jamie Struthers, Finlay Fraser, Keegan Thomas, Jack Bunce.

The Prefects have committed to the following engagements in Term One; Year Level Introductions, Powhiri, Year Seven Peer Support Camps, Haka Practice every Tuesday and Thursday at interval, guest speakers hosted by the PTA, Parent Feedback Evenings, the Tai Tokerau Festival and the Anzac Day Dawn Service and Morning Service.

There was an outstanding turnout for “Meet the Form Teacher Evening” and the redeveloped WAKA presentation was unveiled. This was followed by an NCEA Information Evening presented by NZQA Principal’s Nominee Mr Daniel Wise.

E A Forgie (Mrs)
Principal