



Kerikeri High School

Kerikeri, Bay of Islands
New Zealand

NEWSLETTER

Number 6 | Tuesday 16 June 2026



Kerikeri High School Four Cornerstones



Tū mai tōku maunga ko Pōkākā
 E rere atu nei te awa o Wairoa
 Riporipo tau ana ki te awa o ngā Rangatira
 Tiro kau atu ki te pā o Kororipo
 Raro nei i te mana o ngā tupuna
 Ko Hongi, ko Rewa, ko Tāreha
 Te marae ko Te Pou o Manakō
 Te kura ko Te Kerikeri
 Tīhewa mauri ora

Standing majestically is my mountain Pōkākā
 Where the stream of Te Wairoa flows down
 Entering into the river of chiefs
 Swirling at the base of Kororipo Pā
 The ancestral fortress of Ngāpuhi
 Immortalised by Hongi, Rewa and Tāreha
 Our marae is Te Pou o Manakō
 Embraced by the school of Te Kerikeri
 Behold, the essential life force

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Principal's Message

Kia ora koutou

I have really enjoyed watching our students engage widely across the Four Cornerstones over the last few weeks. It's a privilege to stand on the sidelines at the Netball Courts supporting our teams, be a member of the panel of judges for our Year Level Speech finals, attend our wonderful Year 11 Drama Production - Remain in Light, support our soloists and bands at the Far North Rockquest finals, and visit our senior Enterprise Market Day. Tonight we have our annual Mathex competition, touted as 'the most fun you can have doing Maths!', and tomorrow night we have our Year 12 Drama production of Judas Zoo. There's a lot going on and so much to be proud of.

As I shared with you all last week, we are experiencing a difficult period of staff sickness and a shortage of relief teachers; this Friday, 19 June we will be open for instruction and students who are present will be supervised in their learning by relief teachers.

Our teachers have been very generous in picking up extra classes and planning through both Term 1 and Term 2, above their timetabled teaching loads, sharing the workload across the school. We are doing our best to make sure every class has a teacher in front of it. However, this additional workload on our teaching staff is not sustainable in the longer term, and the impact this is having on our teachers is significant.

Not running our normal timetabled classes on Friday 19 June gives us the opportunity to invest time back into our teachers so that they can keep up with their professional responsibilities and keep their heads above water. This will ensure we continue to deliver the very best teaching and learning for our students moving.

We have not taken this decision lightly, and we anticipate this will help us avoid scenarios such as a short notice school closure, and/or rostering year levels home; both these options would be more disruptive for parents and the community if we found ourselves resorting to them.

Ngā mihi nui



Mike Clent
Principal

Student Achievements

Congratulations to all of the finalists in the Kerikeri High School Speech competitions. The standard of speeches was outstanding. And a big thank you to all of our presenters, musicians and judges.

Please see the results below:

Year 7

1st **Isabelle Moir**, 2nd **Samaira Kharche**,
3rd **Harriet Lowe**



Year 8

1st **Georgia Kitchingman**, 2nd **Arlo Jones**,
3rd **Amiya-Lee Arama**



Year 9

1st **Kiki Shimosono-Reid**, 2nd **Tino Nyakudya**,
3rd **Peyton Manning**



Year 10

1st **Felix Lawson**, 2nd **Darcy Clarke**,
3rd **Eva Hunter**



Year 11

1st **Tara Perry**, 2nd **Sophia Ibbotson**,
3rd **Swara Kharche**



Year 12

1st **Isaac Sharp**, 2nd **River Oszajca**,
3rd **Maddison Weight**



Year 13
1st Craig Wilson



Congratulations to the Kerikeri High School students who competed in the Senior Turbo Touch Championship event. Our Mixed Team placed 1st and our Girls' Team placed 3rd.

Congratulations to the Kerikeri High School League Team that played in the Final of the Midweek Schools' Adam Blair Rugby League Competition in Whangārei. This is the first year Kerikeri High school has fielded a team, and they went through the round robin season undefeated, winning five out of five games. The Final was an intense game going down to the wire in extra time with Whangārei Boys High School winning by one point 13-12. Thank you to Tipene Brundell and Bryce Wilson for their coaching and preparation of our team.



Congratulations to **Iolanthe Byworth** (Year 12), **Ana Ebenhoeh** (Year 11), **Elena Helbok** (Year 12) and **Amalfi Robinson** (Year 11) who competed in the recent STANZA National Spanish Debating competition in Auckland. Congratulations to **Elena Helbok** who placed 2nd in the Best Speaker competition.



Congratulations to the students in the Kerikeri High School Clay Target Shooting Team who competed in Round 2 of the Clay Target Shooting competition in Kaitia. **Jack Klinac** (Year 13) had a shootout for 2nd and 3rd place for Senior Boys Single Barrel and placed 3rd. **Jacob Waldron** (Year 12) had a shootout for 3rd place in Senior Boys Single Rise with three others and ended up placing 5th. Our A Squad was place 3rd School Team.



Congratulations to all the Kerikeri High School students who participated in the School Cross Country last month. This year saw the introduction of the Year 7 and 8 WAKA Groups competing for points and students being encouraged to dress up in their WAKA colours to earn extra points.

Results:

Year 7 Girls

1st **Faja Pikel** 2nd **Awatea Samuels**
3rd **Avalon Arama**

Year 7 Boys

1st **Josh McDowell** 2nd **Lucien Ferguson**
3rd **Braeden Davies**

Year 8 Girls

1st **Nina Burges** 2nd **Sophie Redward**
3rd **Lauren Phillips**

Year 8 Boys

1st **Dylan Norman** 2nd **Beau Worrall**
3rd **Cooper Davies**

Year 9 Girls

1st **Indie Lee** 2nd **Zoe Blackwood**
3rd **Sephy Keane Campbell**

Year 9 Boys

1st **Prince Patel** 2nd **Jax McCarthy**
3rd **Tyler Smith Botin**

Year 10 Girls

1st **Bayley Wood** 2nd **Mila Spitters**
3rd **Coralie Byworth**

Year 10 Boys

1st **Sam Jahnke** 2nd **Clay Pieters**
3rd **Josiah Dyer-Tewhata**

Year 11 Girls

1st **Amalfi Robinson** 2nd **Tara Perry**
3rd **Leni Huth**

Year 11 Boys

1st **Harry Brown** 2nd **Liam Hoult**
3rd **Josh Couchman**

Year 12 Girls

1st **Kate Graham** 2nd **Elena Helbok**
3rd **Gabby Robinson**

Year 12 Boys

1st **Charlie Birt** 2nd **Jamal Taylor-Smith**
3rd **Isaac Sharp**

Year 13 Girls

1st **Elisabetta De Domenico** 2nd **Lena Jopen**
3rd **Kaia Derbyshire**

Year 13 Boys

1st **Edoardo Bonifacino** 2nd **Dillan Blithe-Drake**
3rd **Franky Sefton**



Please note the following correction to the results for the Kerikeri High School Squash players who competed in Whangārei. **Amalfi Robinson** (Year 11) placed 2nd in the Girls' Champs. **Bosco Robinson** (Year 13) placed 2nd in the Boys' Champs. In the Girls' Div 1 **Vritti Patel** (Year 9) placed 1st and **Zoe Betts** (Year 13) placed 2nd. In the Boys' Div 2 **Braden Weight** (Year 10) placed 1st and **Ishaan Prakash** (Year 10) placed 3rd.

Staff Achievement

Congratulations to **Mrs Jackie Robertson** who was presented her King's Service Medal for services to science education by the Governor General at Government House in Wellington last month.



Lucas Casey, Ex-student Visit

Ex-student and Highlanders Rugby player Lucas Casey returned to Kerikeri High School last week to speak with some of our aspiring rugby players. Lucas shared some insightful messages with our young men and women, especially about how hard work, a love for rugby and making sacrifices got him to where he is now. Our students were very engaged and performed a haka for Lucas at the conclusion of his presentation.





Te Tai Tokerau Festival

At Te Tai Tokerau Festival, Te Pou o Manakō performed a superb bracket led by kaitātaki tāne **Phoenix Matthews** (Year 13) and kaitātaki wahine **Salena Paul** (Year 13) and **Hawaiki Taituha** (Year 12). The roopū represented our school and their whānau with pride and their performance was outstanding.

A huge amount of time and effort went into preparing the roopū and we acknowledge and thank the tutors and support staff **Whaea Karalee Whiu**, **Whaea Tania Peters-Heihei**, **Matua Jordan Westerlund**, **Whaea Michelle Penman** and **Matua Mori Rapana** for their commitment, expertise and dedication.

E poho kereru and mātou i a kotou - we are all so proud of you.

Senior Ball – PTA Helpers Needed

The Senior Ball for Year 11, 12 and 13 students is on Saturday 25 July. The PTA will be preparing and serving supper, and this is always one of the highlights of the Ball. If you can provide home baking – brownies, slices, truffles, coconut ice or anything sweet and bite sized, your donations will be very much appreciated. The PTA is also looking for food prep helpers on Saturday 25 July from 3.00pm. If you can help, please contact Rebecca at PTAChair@kerikerihigh.ac.nz

Kerikeri High School Business Students

Congratulations to all the finalists in The Young Enterprise Mid-Year Celebration which took place on June 4th in Whangārei, shortly after every YES company in the region (approximately 90 teams) pitched their business ideas to a panel of judges. The top nine pitches in the region were invited to compete for a trophy and a cash prize on the night. Congratulations to **Leah Shrubshall** (Year 12) (*Wingin it*), **Luke Norman** and **Charlie Rowe** (Year 12) (*Gnarly Co.*), **Fenix King**, **Nathan Laybourne**, **Kunwar Mann** and **Declan Mills** (Year 13) (*Super Taco*), and **Brianna Osbourne** (Year 13) (*Sprout Studio*) who all pitched a second time. **Leah Shrubshall** was first on the night taking home the \$100 cash prize for the most convincing pitch.

school were **Hayley Foster** (Year 12) (*Clean Fusion*), **Fenix King**, **Nathan Laybourne**, **Kunwar Mann** and **Declan Mills** (Year 13) (*Super Taco*), **Laith Ahmed** (Year 13) (*Essentics*), **Brianna Osbourne** (Year 13) (*Sprout Studio*) and **William Kennedy** and **Lorcan O’Toole** (Year 12) (*Lustr A.D*). *Super Taco* came 3rd in the Business Card Design competition winning 100 business cards. **Laith Ahmad** came 2nd in both the 5-page Business Plan competition and Business Card Design winning \$150 and 100 business cards. **Brianna Osbourne** was first in the Business Plan competition winning \$250.



Brianna Osbourne



Leah Shrubshall



Laith Ahmad

There were two other competition winners announced on the evening, for Business Card Design (sponsored by Kerikeri Design and Print) and a 5-page Business Plan. Finalists from the



(Super Taco) Declan Mills, Fenix King, Nathan Laybourne, Kunwar Mann

Congratulations to **Laith Ahmad** (Year 13), who has been selected for the Entrepreneurs in Action, a Young Enterprise Extreme Experience. He is one of 36 students from around the country who will attend this all expenses paid, three-day event next month in Wellington, which focuses on developing creative thinking to solve problems.



(Essentics) Laith Ahmad

Senior Business students hosted the annual Senior Market last week. Year 11's put their planning into action and Year 12 and 13 students were able to launch their Young Enterprise Scheme businesses before continuing selling in more public places over the next few months. Nearly 30 stalls were selling a variety of products from chocolate and pizzas to sunglasses and haircuts. The street-food style Taco business was popular, as was an international cookbook showcasing recipes contributed by our current international students. Congratulations to all the students who made it to market for this event.



(Cuisine Collective) Jose Burgos Rodriguez, Lena Jopen, Sander Walker, Tassio Illig, Milla Hofmann

Year 10 Economics and Business trip – ProSwing
On the 9th and 10th June, the Year 10 Business and Economics students visited ProSwing Golf to chat with the owners about the challenges and rewards of setting up a new business. The owners generously answered students' questions and shared information to inspire and motivate students as they start work on creating their own mini-businesses. Students were then offered a hands-on experience of ProSwing's virtual golf. A huge thank you to ProSwing for sharing their knowledge.



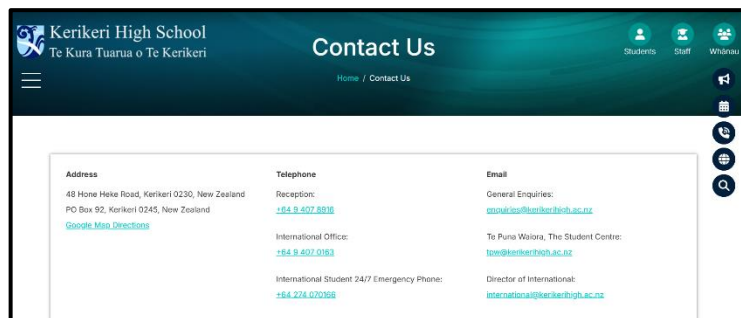
KERI Reading

Last month's launch of KERI Reading marked the 25th year this Reading programme has been run at Kerikeri High School. 25 trained Year 13 Tutors have been partnered with a Year 7 student KERI Reader. The 'KERI' in KERI Reading stands for Kiwis Enjoying Reading Interaction. The aim of this programme is for Year 7 students to have an enjoyable, shared reading experience with Year 13 students, to encourage our Year 7 students to read more. This programme was developed in 2001 by a group of Kerikeri High School students as a Community Problem Solving project and went on to win National and International awards. It has remained very successful in our school for both the Year 13s and the Year 7s.

Year 13 students volunteer to be KERI Reading Tutors and to work with a Year 7 student in Terms 2 and 3 for one of their study periods each week. This year 45 Year 13 students have volunteered to be tutors and work with Year 7 students, and we thank them for their commitment and service.

School Website

On the Contact Us page of our School website are useful phone numbers and email addresses.



Email

General Enquiries:
enquiries@kerikerihigh.ac.nz

Te Puna Waiora, The Student Centre:
tpw@kerikerihigh.ac.nz

If you need to pass on a message to your child during the day, please email Te Puna Waiora or direct dial **09 407 0150**.

To notify the school of your child's absence you can email attendance@kerikerihigh.ac.nz, use the School App or go through your School Login.

Communication – School App

We use our School App to get urgent messages out to you all in real time and so we strongly encourage you to download it and set it up to notify you when we post to it.

Download our App from the Playstore on Android or the App Store on Apple. Search for School Apps New Zealand and once you have downloaded it you add Kerikeri High School as your school. From the front page there are several useful links including Absentees, Daily Notices, the School Calendar, and the App pushes out Alerts to you.

Parents to Reception not Te Puna Waiora

A reminder that all parent visitors should report to Reception when arriving at school. We ask that parents do not go to Te Puna Waiora with queries or to collect or drop off students. Our friendly Reception staff will always be able to assist you in these circumstances.

FACTS Parent/ Caregiver Logins



Login and check out your child's attendance, their subjects, reports, and Cornerstones, and pay any accounts.

If you have any questions, please contact FACTS@kerikerihighschool.ac.nz

ICAS Assessments 2026

Please see the letter attached to the Newsletter for information about this year's ICAS Assessments, and instructions for registering your child.

Transition to Tertiary Whānau Evening

Thursday 25th June
6.30pm – 8.00pm in the School Library

We would like to invite interested parents, whānau and your child to our annual Transition to Tertiary Whānau Evening where Mrs Eileen Crawford (Careers Advisor) will talk about applying for University, Polytech and Private Training Establishments, applying for accommodation, Student Allowances, Student Loans and Scholarships.

This information evening would be beneficial to Year 13 students (and Year 12 students who will leave for tertiary study at the end of this year) and their parents and caregivers.

Pink Shirt Day

Our Student WAKA Team organised a range of activities and events to raise awareness and highlight the important message behind Pink Shirt Day.

Many students and staff wore pink or accessorised their uniform with pink, supporting the kaupapa of Pink Shirt Day - tolerance, respect and acceptance

of everyone. Thank you to students and staff who supported Pink Shirt Day at Kerikeri High School and helped raise approx \$1,700 which will be donated to the Aotearoa Mental Health Foundation.

Students are encouraged to speak to a safe adult if they are being bullied or witness bullying.



MUNA

The two-day Rotary Model United Nations event was held in Auckland at Rosmini College. The event involved 300 Year 12 and 13 students from Northland and Auckland secondary schools. They represented nations that are part of the United Nations. Students embodied their nation's views and perspectives on current world issues. They took part in Bloc meetings to discuss issues that were important to each of the regions, presenting speeches on remits on current world issues, voting on whether remits were to be passed or not and lobbied for support of remits. Our students were wonderful representatives of their given countries and did Kerikeri High School proud with their professionalism, positive manner and humour. The students representing Somalia were **Pippa Sager** (Year 12), **Isaac Sharp** (Year 12) and **Jayde Wakeford** (Year 12). Representing Guatemala were **Ikaroa Armstrong Kingi** (Year 11), **Alex Gates** (Year 12) and **Kate Graham** (Year 12).



Year 13 Uni Trip

30 Kerikeri High School Year 13 students, accompanied by Mr Brown, Year 11 Dean, and Mrs Crawford, Careers Advisor, travelled to Auckland and Hamilton on the annual University Trip. The students toured the AUT City Campus, the University of Auckland, and Massey University Albany campuses and accommodation. They had talks with Liaison Officers from Victoria University of Wellington and University of Otago at their Auckland offices. They also attended the University of Waikato Open Day in Hamilton where students attended mini lectures and were taken on campus and accommodation tours.

This trip has been a core staple at Kerikeri High School since 2010, helping our students explore their options for university. Hearing about scholarships, viewing accommodation and discovering courses on offer is all part of that discovery and many of our Year 13 students have benefited from the experience.

SAVE Group

Junior SAVE students visited the Kerikeri Retirement Village and joined with residents crafting flowers using paint and native leaves. It was a wonderful opportunity to continue the community connection.



The SAVE Interact Group organised a Cans for a Cause collection. Around 100 cans and other items donated were passed on to the local Women's Refuge. Thank you to everyone for their generosity.



Friday 5 June marked World Environment Day and to acknowledge this the SAVE Group gave away 100 plants and trees to students who wanted them.

Special thanks to Kerikeri Plant Production who supported this initiative by providing plants to the SAVE Group for a very generously discounted cost.



Careers Roadshow

Last month Kerikeri High School hosted the Far North Careers Roadshow with 25 different providers. The Careers Roadshow is designed to help students explore their future career options and connect with real opportunities after school. Year 10 - 13 students were able to view the displays, engage with the personnel and gather information.

The Careers Roadshow enables students to:

Talk directly with staff from universities, polytechnics, private training organisations, apprenticeships, and industry skills boards

Learn about jobs, courses, and career paths they might not have considered

Get advice about what subjects or skills are needed for different careers

Explore options like trades, tertiary study, armed forces, and volunteering.



Kerikeri High School Students Community Involvement

Last year saw Kerikeri High School students working alongside Healthy Families Far North and engage in the redesign of Te Pātukurea, the 30-year spatial plan for Kerikeri-Waipapa developed by Far North District Council. Te Pātukurea took

out two major awards at the New Zealand Planning Institute's national conference this year including the supreme Nancy Northcroft Award. The judges were impressed by the rangatahi-led engagement, generating one third of all community submissions. "When our young people are trusted with the tools, time and resources to shape the decisions that affect their lives, the health and wellbeing benefits for their whānau and communities are intergenerational."



AUT School Onsite Teacher Education Mid-year Intake

Kerikeri High School has partnered with AUT's School of Education – Te Kura Mātauranga in launching School Onsite teacher education in 2026 with the Graduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching. If you are interested in working alongside our high calibre staff while training to be a Secondary Teacher, there is a mid-year intake for 2026-2027.

AUT is an approved provider of School Onsite Training, which provides funding for places in school-based initial teacher education programmes. It gives student teachers the opportunity to gain practical teaching experience in a host school, while studying towards their teaching qualification. Successful applicants (must be New Zealand Permanent Residents or Citizens) for this programme will be eligible for a \$19,930 bursary.

We are especially interested in applicants for Mathematics, Science, Technology, Hospitality, PE, Te Reo Māori and Te Ao Haka; applications in other subject areas are most welcome.

[School Onsite teacher education programme - AUT.](#)



ReSport Charitable Trust

Two years ago, our 2025 Deputy Head Boy Kosta Silich was a member of the Sports Council and lead an initiative for Kerikeri High School to join forces with the ReSport Charitable Trust. The Trust collects and repurposes sports gear, in good condition, for people who cannot afford to buy sports clothing or shoes, enabling more people to be active and participate in sport.

A ReSport container is located at our school Reception for the collection of donated second-hand sporting gear.



KK4 and KK5 Buses

We have been asked to remind parents to not park in Nurture by Nature on Kapiro Road when waiting to collect students off the buses in the afternoon.

Next Board of Trustees Meeting

Our next Board of Trustees meeting will be at 5.30pm on 12 August 2026, in the Boardroom.

Upcoming Dates

Transition to Tertiary Evening – 25 June
International Graduation – 3 July
End of Term 2 – 3 July
Term 3 Begins – 20 July
Parent and Whānau Feedback Evening – 21 July
Senior Ball – 25 July
Parent and Whānau Feedback Evening – 30 July
Options Evening – 11 August
Board Meeting – 12 August
Teacher Only Day – 21 August
New Parents & Whānau Evening – 24 September
End of Term 3 – 25 September

Saturday 25 July 2026

Senior Ball

PTA helpers needed.

The PTA will be preparing and serving a delicious supper to our students again this year. It is a very special night for our Year 11, 12 and 13's and we like to make the supper as fabulous as possible. The donations of home baking that are received from our school community are much appreciated and play an integral part of our overall supper.

We would love items such as brownies, slices, truffles, coconut ice or anything sweet and bite sized. We can happily supply you with a recipe if you would like.

We are also looking for food prep helpers on Saturday 25 July from 3pm. If you are able to help, please let us know.

Are you able to help?

email Rebecca:

PTAchair@kerikerihigh.ac.nz

