



Kerikeri High School

Kerikeri, Bay of Islands  
New Zealand

# NEWSLETTER

Number 1 | Thursday 25 January 2024



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 Manako  
Embraced by the school of Te Kerikeri  
Behold, the essential life force

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## Principal's Message

Ki ngā mātua to our parents

Ki ngā kaiako to our teachers

Ki ngā tamariki to our students

Tēnā koutou

Tēnā koutou

Tēnā koutou katoa

A very warm welcome to parents and whānau, students and staff as we near the beginning of our 2024 school year. An especially warm welcome to those students and whānau who will be new to Kerikeri High School this year. I have no doubt there will be a range of emotions as our new students begin their time with us, from excitement and enthusiasm to some nervousness and uncertainty. We pride ourselves on being a warm, caring, and friendly school and I want to assure you that we will do everything we can to make sure everyone settles into school quickly and finds their place and their people in the first few weeks of Term 1.

As we start the year, I want to share my vision for Kerikeri High School with you, just as I did at the beginning of last year, to offer you assurance and certainty about Kerikeri High School.

My vision for Kerikeri High School is

A school which our people - staff, students, and our community - feel positively connected to – whanaungatanga.

A school that is genuinely bicultural, and where we consistently model culturally located and relational teaching and learning across our classrooms.

A school that is kind and caring - where our people come first.

A school that strives for, and values, high academic achievement – a school where everyone can reach their potential.

A school that lives our WAKA values.

A school that promotes our Four Cornerstones of a Balanced Education philosophy, where students are engaged, positive and contributing, leading to the development of well-rounded young people.

A school focused on continual improvement.

We want all our students to experience success, to achieve to their highest potential, to be positive, to feel connected and safe, and to be actively engaged in the diverse range of school activities we offer.

We continue to actively encourage all our students to involve themselves as widely as they can in the Four Cornerstones of a Balanced Education: Academic, Sporting, Cultural, and Leadership with Service. We know that students who are committed and involved in school life feel connected and proud of Kerikeri High School, experience a wide range of success and make strong, positive and often lifelong connections with friends.

As a Positive Behaviour for Learning School (PB4L) we have a strong and well-articulated understanding of our school values, which are expressed using the acronym WAKA. We expect everyone in our school community to respect these values, and we explicitly teach our students what they look like in our various school settings. As a result, all our students know what is expected of them.

Our school experienced a lot of change last year, some of it internal such as the change in leadership, and some of it external, such as the changes to NCEA. This year will be about consolidation, and as always, building on the work we have already done. In 2024 you will receive more frequent Progress Reports, and you will have more timely information on your child's academic progress, their attitude to their learning, and their attendance. We will also continue the work we began last year in restorative practice with our staff.

Last year we also began a new partnership process with the Education Review Office. Our agreed collaborative focus with ERO is "evaluating how effectively data is used to inform curriculum planning and design to create equitable and excellent outcomes for all". We understand ERO will evaluate this and report to our community by the end of 2025.

I am proud of our school, and of our students. I am also proud of our staff; they are a dedicated, motivated and hard-working group of people who day in and day out do their very best for all of the students in their care. They work relentlessly to create the conditions in which your children can thrive, feel connected, settled, safe and happy and achieve to the best of their potential. I acknowledge their efforts and expertise, and I thank them for their commitment to your children.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone return to school over the next two weeks, and to welcoming all our new students. On each of the days our seven Year Levels begin, we will have staff right around the school to welcome you personally and point you in the right direction.

I wish all our students, new or returning, a very successful, exciting, and stimulating year, and I encourage each and every one of you to work hard in all your classes to reach your potential.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Mike Clent

**Principal**

## Starting Dates 2024

Year 7 Friday 2 February  
Staff and Peer Support Leaders will assist Year 7 students to find their Form Rooms where they will have their first Form Time at 8.40am. Parents and Caregivers are welcome to return for the Pōwhiri at 9.30am in the Gymnasium. Year 7 students, please bring your togs.

Year 8 Monday 5 February  
Year 9 Wednesday 7 February  
Year 10 Wednesday 7 February  
Year 11 Wednesday 7 February  
Year 12 Monday 5 February  
Year 13 Friday 2 February

Tuesday 6 February - Waitangi Day – School closed.

## Pōwhiri for New Year 7, Year 13, and International Students

We will formally welcome all of our new Year 7 and new Year 13 students, and our new International students, with Pōwhiri on Friday 2 February at 9.30am in the Gymnasium. Parents, whānau and caregivers are most welcome to join us. We will seat our students in the front rows of seats.

## Pōwhiri for New Year 8 - 12 Students

We will formally welcome our new students in Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 on Thursday 8 February at 10.00am at Te Pou o Manakō. Again, parents and whānau are most welcome to join us.

## Meet the Form Teacher and NCEA Information Evening

On Wednesday 7 February at 6.00pm we will host an opportunity for you to meet with your child's/children's Form Teacher as we begin to build the important relationships between home and school. We will begin in the Auditorium, before breaking into Year Level and Form Class meetings.

Following this at 7.00pm in the Library, will be an opportunity to hear from our Principal's Nominee, Deputy Principal Mr Daniel Wise, about how NCEA works and what is involved. Parents of students new to NCEA, and perhaps especially parents of Year 11 students will find this presentation particularly informative.

## Staff News

At the end of 2023 we said farewell to several teachers including Mr Adam Doughty, Mrs Jenni Edwards, Mrs Rebecca Flood, Mr Zach Holly, Miss Lilli Kolo, Mr Jonas Kortner, Mrs Melissa Rennes, Mr Michael Salmon, Mrs Katie Smith and Mr Alex Ward.

We are fully staffed as we begin 2024, and we are excited and fortunate to welcome several new teachers to Kerikeri High School.

Mr Ryan Barker	PE and Technology
Miss Katie Batterton	Science
Mr Neil Brazier	Hospitality
Mr Mark Broadwith	Science
Miss Kelly Bunce	Science
Ms Rosie Edwards	Social Studies
Mr Matiu Makiha	PE
Miss Danika Soper	Science
Miss Emma Stovell	PE and Social Studies

We are also pleased to be welcoming back to our staff:

Mrs Lucy Hayman-Brown	English
Mrs Sue Judd	Mathematics
Mrs Victoria Lemon	English
Mrs Emma Wise	Art

## Phones at School

As we are all aware, last year we introduced 'WAKA for Phones', which laid out our expectations that phones be off or on silent and in school bags during lessons. The new Government has subsequently directed that phones not be used at school during the school day. To this end, our approach will be that students may bring phones to school (as they may need them before and after school), but they may not use them at school, and they must be off and in school bags. Any phones seen being used will likely be confiscated and require a parent to collect them. This includes Interval and Lunchtime.

We suggest that if you know your child does not need their phone at school, that you make every effort to ensure they are not bringing it to school.

Students will also not be allowed to be wearing airpods or headphones. Because we expect phones to be off, there will be no need for headphones.

We have good systems in place to get messages to students from parents, that do not interrupt lessons and learning. If you need to get a message to your child, please contact us at Reception and we will get the message delivered as soon as possible.

## Uniform

As a result of covid, and as students emerged from lockdowns, we made a conscious decision to back away from some potential points of conflict with students and this included some school uniform issues. We have heard concerns from a number of parents about how some students wear some aspects of our school uniform and the time has come to reset our expectations.

We signalled towards the end of last year that some students were wearing their skirts too short, and that from the beginning of this year all skirts must cover three quarters of the thighs. Please support us with this and ensure skirts are not rolled up, taken up or being worn incorrectly. We want to work with parents and students to make this adjustment without the need for coercion and consequences.

Two other uniform areas we will be paying attention to are correct school shoes and making sure students are not wearing non-school uniform hoodies or sweatshirts to, from and at school. Again, please support your child by ensuring they have the correct Kerikeri High School uniform. If there are hardship issues which make this difficult, please contact your child's Year Level Dean in confidence and they will assist.

## Year 13 Dress Code

We allow our Year 13's to wear mufti, recognising their growing maturity and independence. With that right comes some responsibility. We encourage our Year 13's to consider school as their place of work, and as such present themselves in a neat, clean and tidy fashion and take pride in their appearance. And so, we have a well understood Dress Code for Year 13 students.

Students must have their feet sufficiently covered in Science Laboratories and Technology areas including Hospitality and Automotive.

Jandals, scuffs, work-boots, beachwear, collarless T-shirts, singlets, beanies and knitted hats, bare

midribs and clothing with large advertising logos as well as ripped denim are not permitted.

If any further clarification is needed regarding the Year 13 Dress Code, please do not hesitate to ask us for guidance.

## Strategic Planning

In 2023 our Board of Trustees consulted widely with our school community as part of their work developing a Strategic Plan that will guide our school through the next two years. Your voices were heard, and as you would expect there was a range of views on a range of matters. Our Board worked hard to synthesise the feedback and has developed a draft Strategic Plan, which will be finalised and publicly available on our website from the beginning of March. The vision for our school which guides the strategic planning is: *'Success for all across all aspects of school life, equipping every student to reach their potential and be resilient, positive, optimistic lifelong learners'*.

## Reporting to Parents

This year we will continue with our new look Reports to Parents which we began last year. In Term 1 you will receive two Reports, one at the end of Week 6 and one at the end of Week 9 (Term One is eleven weeks long this year), and in Term 2 and Term 3 you will receive three, at the end of Weeks 3, 6 and 9. In Term 4 Seniors will receive one report (their year breaks for examinations quite early), and students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will receive three reports.

These Reports will give you ongoing feedback on your child's academic progress, their attitude to learning, and their attendance, as well as detailing their Four Cornerstones involvement. You will be able to track trends in their progress and attitude in real time. You will also be able to see their overall school attendance rate, and their attendance for each of their subjects.

Parents, whānau and caregivers can email subject teachers with any queries or concerns about progress via hyperlinks in the subject report; we believe it is reasonable that all parent queries are responded to within 5 working days of them being received by teachers.

## NCEA Results are Now Available

A reminder that 2023 NCEA results are now available for students through their NZQA learner logins. This includes any 2023 Year 10 students who sat the Literacy and Numeracy corequisite assessments during Term 4. Students can log in using the username and password they have previously set up to check their results at this link [Log in to NZQA](#)

If students have forgotten their passwords, they can also reset these on the NZQA site.

## Who to Contact

If your child is having issues or you are concerned about something at school, there are a range of people you can contact. For curriculum issues, the best first contact is your child's teacher, and/or the Head of Department for the subject. For issues to do with interactions with other students, your child's Form Teacher and/or Year Level Dean are the best points of contact. For issues that are significant and urgent, an Assistant and/or Deputy Principal will be the best people to contact.

### Year Level Deans

Mr Kaleb Adams	Year 7
Matua Jordan Westerlund	Year 8
Mr Seth Brown	Year 9
Ms Davina Derecourt	Year 10
Mr Paul Boardman	Year 11
Mrs Roz Clent	Year 12
Mrs Jess Lowe	Year 13

### Assistant Principals

Miss Dana Boisen	Year 8, Year 10, Year 13
Ms Erica Collins	Year 9, Year 12
Mr Rolf Weight	Year 7, Year 11

### Deputy Principals

Mrs Renae Rakena	Year 12, Year 13
Mrs Justine Strang	Year 7, Year 8, Year 11
Mr Hal Walker	Year 9, Year 10, Year 11
Mr Daniel Wise	Principal's Nominee, NZQA

If your child needs guidance, our School Counsellors Fleur Kellaher and Carol Atkinson in our Wellbeing Department are both outstanding, caring, warm and experienced. Please reach out to them if you feel your child needs their support.

Please feel free to call us at school and our friendly Reception staff will be able to put you in contact with the right person you need to speak to.

## School Policies

All our school policies are publicly available and can be accessed here: [Kerikeri High School Policies](#)

Our Community Username is: kerikerihigh  
And our Community Password is: waka

## Stationery

Stationery lists are available from our Reception and on [www.kerikerihigh.ac.nz](http://www.kerikerihigh.ac.nz)

Stationery items can be ordered from a range of online and local suppliers.

## Next Board of Trustees Meeting

Our next Board of Trustees meeting will be at 5.30pm on Tuesday 20 February, in the Boardroom which is at the back of the Staffroom.

## The Uniform Shoppe, Waipapa Extended Shop Hours

Thursday 25 January	12:00pm – 6:00pm
Friday 26 January	9:00am – 2:00pm
Saturday 27 January	9:00am – 2:00pm
Tuesday 30 January	9:00am – 4:30pm
Thursday 1 February	12:00pm – 6:00pm
Friday 2 February	9:00am – 2:00pm
Saturday 3 February	9:00am – 2:00pm
Monday 5 February	9:00am – 4:30pm
Thursday 8 February	12:00pm – 6:00pm
Friday 9 February	9:00am – 2:00pm

Return to normal hours Saturday 10 February 2024

Tuesday	12:00pm – 4:00pm
Thursday	2:00pm – 6:00pm
Saturday	12:00pm – 4:00pm

## 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.



### Download the Kerikeri High School App

Our School app is an essential communication tool to stay in touch.

- Send absentee notifications
- Find the Daily Notices and school newsletters
- Use our Helpful links
- Receive important alerts - ensure notifications are enabled

*Available through the Apple App Store, or the Google Play Store - search for School Apps NZ and select Kerikeri High School.*

