

Kairanga School

Building firm foundations for a lifetime of learning.

2019: Term 2, Week 3

What's on top?

Thanks to those who went on the Tawhaiwhai Camp to Forest Lakes last week. It is a neat campsite and well-maintained too. The activities kept everyone on track and challenged and the parents who went to support were an absolutely terrific bunch. It makes leading the camp so much easier, so thank you!

EOTC (Education Outside The Classroom) and Camps are a feature of our school. We try to take learning into the real world every term for our units of learning. Why? Well, it connects classroom learning to real-world contexts. It helps pupils who may find 'book-work' hard to engage in learning more easily. It builds confidence, builds relationships and it motivates children.

Our community have consistently said they want camps and EOTC to be a feature of our school, and you have willingly supported this year-on-year. We appreciate people opening their businesses to children coming to visit, for transporting, for coaching and managing, for taking time off work to come on camp and enjoy their own child, but also other children. And so, community connections are made, giving our pupils a strong connection to positive role models

Have a great week, Alastair & The K Team.

BoT Elections

Nomination forms have been mailed out to letter-boxes and will arrive this week. There are three parent representative places to fill. If there are more nominations than places we will begin the voting process. Nominations are due at noon on 24th May, and can be left in the post box in the foyer.



CRE Starts this week

The Students who run the Bible-in-Schools programme on Friday mornings will begin THIS Friday. Officially the school is closed during this time as the classes are run for Rms 1-5 from 9-9.30am. Any children who do not attend these sessions are welcome to either not come to school until 9.30am (when school is then open), or come into the warmth of the library to read during that time.

We are grateful to the LAC students for their time and commitment to our pupils each week, and for bringing this programme into our school, to meet the request from our community.

2019 ERO Report Published!

Kairanga School's latest ERO report became live yesterday for the world to see! I'm happy the process has been completed and we can finally share it with you all.

The report is very complementary of the work we are doing, the progress of our pupils, the team atmosphere, the effectiveness of our school and the initiatives we have put in place. They also highlight the hard work of the staff and the community & Board working together.

Thank you all for the work you do here every day and the support you give our school. I truly believe that here, more than any other school I've experienced, we work as a partnership between home and school to make the best outcomes for our pupils. We wouldn't be as good without everyone doing their bit for each other and for our kids.

Happy reading: <https://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/kairanga-school-26-04-2019/>

Year Eight National Young Leader Trip to Wellington

As part of our leadership programme for all our Yr8 pupils, we are once again heading down to Wellington on next Wednesday and Thursday.

We will be attending the NYLD day in Porirua, travelling to Wellington to stay the night, then visit Parliament and Government House. We are focussing on leadership attributes, meeting inspiring speakers and seeing our nation's leaders in action, including the Governor-General! It's a great trip.

If there are any outstanding permissions slips, please get these back to Alastair now. The fee needs to be paid by the day before we go, so please feel free to send this in now.

**Calling All Musical Adults:
Kokako Needs You!**



Do you play a musical instrument?
This term Team Koru (The Junior Team) are looking to expose the students to *live musical instrument playing*. If you play a musical instrument we would love for you to come in and play to us and tell us about the instrument. Please see Susan in Room Kokako if you can help out or know of someone who can. We look forward to hearing from you!



Teacher Strike: May 29th

Last week we heard that the 'mega' teacher strike is confirmed for May 29th. This means that both primary *and secondary teachers* across the country will be on strike. This action is unprecedented in the NZ history of education and is cause for our country to think carefull about what is happening. **This is not a case of greedy teachers out to break a government. It is about the worry we have for the future of education in our country.**

The minister recently announced \$95 million to recruit new teachers. What is so frustrating is this strategy does not stop the teachers leaving the profession. It does not solve the massive percentage of new, young teachers who resign within the first 5 years. It's like filling up the bucket with more water, but not fixing the holes where the water is leaking.

For your information, some of the issues that remain for us are:

Workload: Primary teachers get *10 hours a term* release. That is 21 minutes per term to be able work one-on-one with a student assessing them in reading, writing or maths. Secondary teachers get 5 hours a week. The lack of release time impacts on the teaching in the classroom – and our students deserve better.

Teacher supply: A decade ago we used to get 50 applicants for a teaching job. Principals could choose the best candidate to meet the needs of their school. Now – we see vacancies having no applicants at all. Across the country classes being split because we can't find a relievers. We have jobs being advertised over and over again.

There are a huge number of teachers in New Zealand who will be retiring over the next decade, and if we are struggling to fill positions now, what will happen then? We need to make teaching an attractive career for our best and brightest, and have pay and conditions that will keep them there.

Pay Parity: We fought for this twenty years ago and go it, but over time it has dissappeared. Primary teachers are no longer paid the same as secondary. Teachers should be paid the same for equal qualifications – regardless of the age of the students.

We have already endured these negotiations for a year. It has cost us financially. We love our students; We hate striking. We know that it is frustrating (we are EXTREMELY frustrated).

I don't expect May 29th will be the last disruption over these issues. But please believe me that we are fighting for your children for the long-term benefit. We have come too far to give up now. If we stop, we will have a huge deficit of capable, experienced teachers in five years time. A gap that we just won't be able to plug.

We value your support as we work to secure New Zealand's future to ensure that our education system continues to be world class.

We value your support as we work to ensure that every child in New Zealand gets the best education possible, now and into the future.

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Year Eight Lunches are Pizza Slices.
 Each Slice costs \$2.50.
 Meat-lovers or Hawaiian.
 Please put order, name and money in envelope on THURSDAY (not Friday, because we need to buy the stuff), in the office. Many thanks for the support.



Up and coming sporting events- if you are able to help, please keep these dates free!

Friday 31st May	Te Kawau Rippa Rugby tournament at Tangimoana Year 4-8 involved to make teams Will need: transport, coaches/refs, managers for teams
Friday 7th June	School Cross Country All children will be running the course Will need: Marshalls to help on course, parents to help Home and School on stall
Tuesday 11th June	Interschool Cross Country – Year 7/8 Personal Choice Details are yet to be forwarded.
Wednesday 12th June	Interschool Cross Country – Year 5/6 Personal choice Details are yet to be forwarded
Friday 21st June	Te Kawau Cross Country - held at Bainesse School Representatives due to placings in our Cross Country Will need: transport, support to set up home base
Friday 28th June	Te Kawau Junior Gymnastics - held at Sanson School. Rooms Takahe and Tui Will need: parent help (bus for transport)

Cross country training

Our school cross country event is **just 17 school days away**. Classes have started training and we encourage our students to wear appropriate clothing during this time. It is a chance for us to foster the lifelong practice of maintaining a healthy level of fitness for our Physical and Mental Wellbeing.

We would appreciate your support in talking to your child about the benefits of physical activity, hydration and nourishment.

If you would like to support their training programme at home, the approximate race distances that they will complete on the day (7th June) will be;

- Year 1/2 - 1km
- Year 3/4 - 1.5km
- Year 5/6 - 2.5km
- Year 7/8 - 3km

We are looking forward to a successful day for all.

Keen Cross Country runners – please consider the following:

Appropriate information and permission forms will be sent home at the **beginning of week 5** for those children who wish to enter. Please follow the deadlines for return of permission details – late entries will not be accepted.

****Year 7/8 Interschool Cross country – Tuesday 11th June**

Held at the Ashhurst Domain – 10am start

****Year 5/6 Interschool Cross country – Wednesday 12th June**

Held at the Ashhurst Domain (a new venue this year) - 12 noon start

Postponement date - Thursday 13th June

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