

Kairanga School

Building firm foundations for a lifetime of learning.

2019: Term 2, Week 4

What's on top?

Today the Year Eight pupils are in Wellington for the annual Leadership Trip. The focus is on what leadership is, talking to leaders, both young and old, visiting leadership sites (Parliament and Government House), and connecting all this to the Leadership Programme we run here at Kairanga School.

This is a fairly unique programme, developed over many years at this school. One feature of our programme is that EVERY Yr8 gets to be in this group by right. We believe that everyone is able to show leadership, display the attributes of being a leader, and can develop these skills into their own life. I am sure that all our parents, no matter what their job or calling in life shows leadership daily. It is the same with our pupils. But if Leadership is only for a select group how do we learn these skills & attitudes?

Kairanga School is a place where all pupils get to shine in many ways and experience many opportunities. At large intermediates this doesn't happen due the size of their roll, but here our pupils get every chance. I'm petty proud about that.

Have a great week, Alastair & The K Team.

BoT Elections

So far we have two nominations to fill the three vacant places, and if there are more nominations coming, please get them in BY noon THIS Friday, 24th.



International Students

Thanks for the offers so far of Homestays for the international students coming in June. Freyberg High School are co-ordinating this and at present we do not need to supply any homestays, BUT we have kept the contacts for the future. There may be further opportunities in July.

Next month we will have three International Students coming to our school from Vietnam. They are all intermediate pupils and will be in the senior team, to experience a very different lifestyle here. So, 'Xin Chao' (pronounced: 'Seen-Chow' Hello).

Home & School News:

*Over the last school holidays sadly our Home and School shed had been broken into and a lot of our stock and equipment **has been stolen**. For our committee this means starting from scratch, we need to replace equipment and purchase stock for our upcoming events, a cost we weren't prepared for. How can you help? **Support our fundraisers and events!***

Buy that extra sausage or hot drink at events, ask friends and family to support our fundraisers, share our posts on Facebook. Every little bit helps our children and our school. Upcoming events and fundraisers where you can support Home and School:

- *First aid kits will be on sale next week, keep an eye out for order forms.*
- *Cross country - where we will have a sausage sizzle, juices, hot drinks and water for sale.*
- *Kairanga School Disco Friday 14th June.*
- *Cuba Street Bakehouse pie fundraiser will be out near the middle of June.*

We are very fortunate to be a part of a wonderfully supportive community and we truly appreciate your support!

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 tomorrow. This is such an exciting addition to our learning and we are all looking forward to it. We will be attending the NYLD day in Porirua, travelling to Wellington to stay the night, then visit Parliament and Government House. We are leaving at 7am tomorrow! Return Thurs at ~ 5.30pm

We had our 'Ferdinand the Bull' Lockdown practice on Monday. We learnt a lot from it and are taking seriously what we found. We will be trialling again to get this right. In the meantime, if your child mentions our Ferdinand practice, please have a chat to them about responding to the signal quickly and to remain calm as the teachers lead them through the process.

2019 ERO Report Published!

What ERO say about us: *'The school achieves positive achievement outcomes for students. Data provided by the school, shows that most students achieve at or above curriculum expectations in reading, writing and mathematics.'*

**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!



Congratulations to Cooper Robinson, who is about to travel to Sydney, to compete in the International Climbing competition. He is entered in the speed, bouldering and climbing events. Can't wait to hear how it goes! Kia kaha Cooper!
Also, congratulations to our families who entered the iBike Challenge last weekend. What a great event – lots of fun and fitness for life!



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 careful 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. 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 got it, but over time it has disappeared. 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.

As a help to parents if needed: **After School Adventures** is going to be open for the strike day on the 29th May, and we are taking enrolments for care.

Also for the Month of June, you can enrol at **ASA** and receive your 1st week free

View us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/AfterSchoolAdventures/?epa=SEARCH_BOX

Conditions Apply

Or contact us: Vanessa Whale, After School Adventures Manager

06 357 5323 - 027 822 1800

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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.



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Te Kawaui Recreation centre

7pm Wednesday May 29th

complimentary refreshments

no clothing item over \$5

stalls and entertainment

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MARY KAY

Skin Love
BY LUNA

Rongotea Signs

Honey & Butter

\$2 ENTRY

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