

Kairanga School

Building firm foundations for a lifetime of learning.

2018: Term 4, Week 6

What's on top?

Thanks again for all the support you have given the teachers over their strike action. Yesterday was a busy morning and at the massed meeting, with approx. 1000 teachers, the feeling was very determined. The issues remain the same: attracting people to teaching and retaining them, through pay and workload. I'll let you know what happens next...

The next stage in this 'Year of Change' was completed in the weekend, when the Board Appointment committee made its selection of our new Deputy Principal. We are pleased to announce that Greg Codyre, currently teaching at Ross Intermediate, has accepted the position. Greg comes with lots of experience and ability, and he's ready for the new challenges and opportunities that Kairanga has to offer. Greg lives in Feilding and is anticipating a hole-in-one at any moment with his golfing passion. We look forward to having Greg join us in Term One 2019.

Plans for 2019 are coming together really well, but our head is in the game to finish this year as best we can. Remember to keep up to date on our school calendar of events, via our website.

Have a great week, Alastair & The K Team.

International Students & Kairanga School

It is now official – Kairanga School has become, finally, a signatory to the International Students Code of Conduct. This means we are now able to take long, or short-term International Students. We are excited by this prospect, and although we won't be having a wave of IS pupils, we will be able to enrich the lives of our pupils through having them here.

Our children are a part of a global community, in more ways than we have been so far. This initiative, as well as bringing in funds for our school, will help our children understand different cultures and ideas, still within a safe and stable environment.

We are currently exploring how to advertise and connect with the IS community.



Here is the AMAZING Te Kawai Athletics team that represented us at the Massey Track on Monday. They all competed very well and were also helping at events where needed.

They came back with the Big School's Trophy!
Congratulations Kairanga!

Teacher Only Day: November 23rd.

Yes the T.O. Day is going ahead NEXT FRIDAY, to plan for the end-of-year events, our Professional Development for 2019, and End-of-Year Reports.

Remember that because of this TODAY, we are now finishing on Dec 18th, at 12.30pm.

Year Eight End-Of-Year Activities

All Yr8s have received today a notice about their end of year activities. We are very fortunate to have such a great bunch of pupils and these activities are the culmination and conclusion of their leadership journey here: Camp and Dinner. Look out for the notice!

Remember to support our sponsors! They help make our school a great place too!



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Te Kawau Athletics: Thanks!

We want to thank all the people who helped on the day with each of the activities and the support given to our pupils as they went to each one. Many people took days off work to be there, and gave up their normal routines and we appreciate it very much. We are especially grateful to Amy Fisher, who was all day on the BBQ, with only a little help. Amy wrote an excellent piece on the Facebook page about volunteering and the reasons why she does it. I am impressed, amazed and really grateful to Amy and people like her, who so generously give their time to help our pupils succeed. That's one reason why Kairanga is a place that is so highly regarded. One question though: we ALL need to pull our weight to volunteer, otherwise these generous people will give up. So, in what ways can YOU help at the next activity do you think?

Freyberg High School Homestay help needed

Freyberg High are looking ahead to 2019, and are requiring more homestays for our International students. Some will be attending Freyberg High School for short visits and some will be staying long term. A welcoming homestay environment is beneficial, with a family who are happy to include the student in activities and share their New Zealand way of life. The homestay payment is \$257.50 per week per student. If you know of families who would be interested in accommodating a student, we would appreciate hearing from you. Feel free to email them directly if you wish to be involved. Email: buddens@freyberg.ac.nz or partridgen@freyberg.ac.nz

They would appreciate your help.

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Year Eight Friday Lunches
 Lunches this week will be oven-cooked chips, served hot and with or without sauce. Only \$2 per serving. Please put in your order on THURSDAY, in a named envelope, with the money and order on it. Thanks for all your help in helping the Yr8s support their activities.

End of year Reports: December.
 The End of year report forms are undergoing a change this year, as we review and incorporate better thinking into them, and use the Progress and Consistency Tool, to ensure that reports to parents on progress and achievement are clear and accurate. We will be informing you of changes in each of the next few newsletters to prepare you for the information you will receive.
 The second change you will see is the use of the **PaCT Teacher Judgements** for Reading, Writing and Maths. These are in **graph form**, they report on progress over time, and they have several key elements:

- A rating against the New Zealand Curriculum (NZC) Levels, including where they are at against our expectation;
- A line of expected progress against the NZC and their current trajectory of progress;
- Comments about what learning they do at this level and what comes next.

These three elements I will be explaining further in the next newsletters.

Harakeke Trimming
 Talking to Mirianata at Athletics, she was asking if there was a small group (no more than four) who would be interested in learning from her, about the traditional and environmentally friendly way to trim our flax on the back field. Mirianata has a lot of knowledge and she is willing to pass this onto others. If you are interested in meeting together one afternoon, you have a sharp knife and can use it sensibly, then please let Ann in the Office know and she will make a list for Marianata to co-ordinate.