



Kerikeri High School

Kerikeri, Bay of Islands
New Zealand

NEWSLETTER

Number 12 | Thursday 12 December 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
 Tihewa 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

IN THIS ISSUE

Principal's Message

2025

Student Achievements

Year Level Prizegivings

Staff Farewells

Reception Holiday Hours

Aerospace Academy

Senior SAVE Group

Year 10 Music Class

Junior SAVE Group

2024 School Magazine

The Uniform Shoppe Holiday Hours

Upcoming Dates

Next Board of Trustees Meeting – 26 February 2025

School Stationery Lists

Principal's Message

Kia ora koutou

This is our final Newsletter for 2024. I want to thank everyone in our school community for all the contributions made to Kerikeri High School throughout what has been a very busy and successful year. Our hard-working staff, our students and our student leaders across the year levels, our parents who help with coaching, managing, supporting and transporting students, and the community organisations we interact with on a regular basis – ngā mihi nui to you all.

Every school year is busy, and this one has been no exception. To add to the complexity, in 2024 we have also faced significant changes, namely the new NCEA Level One requirements, new assessments for Literacy and Numeracy, the nationally mandated 'Phones Away for the Day', new attendance reporting requirements, and an hour a day of reading, writing and mathematics for students in Years 7 and 8.

Overwhelmingly we have absorbed and adapted to these changes successfully and maintained our focus on the important things that keep our school strong and moving forward – our teaching programmes and student learning, WAKA, the Four Cornerstones and our commitment to Te Tiriti, and always striving to be a genuinely bi-cultural school where all our students can feel comfortable in both Te Ao Māori and Te Ao Pākehā.

Our students have worked hard and achieved a lot throughout 2024. Our regular Year Level Assemblies, our academic and our Four Cornerstones results, our Elite Senior Prizegiving, and our Junior Prizegivings are evidence of that. There's a lot to be proud of and celebrate.

Last week we warmly welcomed students from Te Whakatupuranga, Kerikeri Primary School, into our school community with pōwhiri and a symbolic handing over (photos on cover). We are looking forward to welcoming all our new students into our school in the first week of February next year and making sure they have a wonderful start to their time with us.

On the following page I've covered a few points parents and whānau may be interested in for 2025. We will continue to move the school forward, lift the bar and improve; we are already working hard as we plan and organise for what's ahead next year. Before then though, there is the summer and Christmas break to enjoy. I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and my best wishes for a very well deserved relaxing, safe and enjoyable break with family and whānau.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Mike Clent

Principal

2025

School Uniform in 2025. We saw a marked improvement in students wearing correct school uniform in 2024, and I have no doubt that this has contributed to an improved orderly and settled environment at school. Thankyou parents and whānau for supporting our students to be in the right uniform every day.

In 2025 we will continue our focus on school uniform, and we will be especially vigilant about skirt lengths, which remain too short, and correct school shoes. Please support us by ensuring your child has correct and full school uniform that fits. If there are financial circumstances that make that challenging, please reach out to your child's Year Level Dean confidentially and we may be able to assist.

There will also be a new school jacket available for students next year which is more modern, waterproof and will help keep them warm on our colder days.

Attendance in 2025. School attendance continues to remain a concern, and there are still too many students whose school attendance does not meet the levels required to be considered 'regular', which is above 90% a term. In 2025 we will be taking school attendance into account when we are offering opportunities to participate in Four Cornerstone activities, such as sport, and we will likely have an attendance requirement that students in Year 11, 12 and 13 will have to meet to be able to attend the School Ball. These requirements will not be onerous, but they will need to be met. Every day at school counts and is important for student learning and achievement.

Parent Portal. In early 2025 we will release details about our Parent Portal which will allow parents real time access to your children's attendance, school reports, Four Cornerstones records, achievement and NCEA results and your school financial accounts. You will also be able to review your contact details. I know a lot of parents will welcome this step forward.

Our New School Website. I've been talking about this for some time now, and was perhaps overly ambitious about how quickly we would get his launched, however we have made significant progress, and we will be launching our new look website in early 2025.

Chewing Gum in 2025. We will also be very clear with students that chewing gum must not be brought to school or chewed at school. It has become a major issue with chewing gum being dropped on carpets, concrete and stuck under chairs and desks.



Student Achievements

Congratulations to **Kate Graham** (Year 10) who won the 'Never Such Innocence' International Poetry competition. Kate attended a Zoom session with the judges, and winners from other countries.

Congratulations to the following Year 9 students **Finn Hofer, Swara Kharche** and **Jack Mounter** who all received High Distinction in the International Chemistry Quiz. **Finn Hofer** got 29 of the 30 questions correct.

Congratulations to **Peyton Manning, Charly Mikkelsen** and **Isis Pikel** who won the final debate in the Year 7 Junior Debating Competition and were declared the Year 7 Northland Debating Champions for 2024.

Congratulations to Year 11 students **Devon Crawford** and **Jack Klinac** who competed at the 2025 National Spearfishing Championships at Rakiura Stewart Island last week. **Devon Crawford** placed 2nd in the U16s and 3rd overall in the U23's. **Jack Klinac** placed 4th in the U18s and 4th overall in the U23s.



Year Level Prizegivings

Thank you to the parents and whānau who supported their Year 7 – 10 students at our Year Level Prizegivings and Te Hui Whakanui, where students were recognised for their outstanding academic, sporting, cultural, and leadership achievements.

The programmes listing all the recipients can be viewed here:

[Year 7 Te Hui Whakanui Programme](#)

[Year 8 Te Hui Whakanui Programme](#)

[Year 9 Prizegiving Programme](#)

[Year 10 Prizegiving Programme](#)

Staff Farewells

As the school year closes, we say farewell and thank you to several staff members who are retiring or moving on to other opportunities. Some have been at Kerikeri High School for a long time and others more briefly – all have made an impact and a contribution. **Matua Taua Kemp, Mrs Shona Gordon, Ms Erica Collins, Ms Lisa Keilman, Mrs Shelley Ash, Mr Peter Kee, Mr Daniel Conti, Mr Ryan Barker, Miss Lydia Anderson, Ms Armanya Potatau, Mr Eli Molloy-Watt.** We wish them all the very best for what's ahead.

Reception Holiday Hours

School Reception will be closed from Monday 16 December 2024 and will reopen on Monday 20 January 2025 for all your queries and enrolments. For new enrolments we ask you apply online at [Kerikeri High School](#). If you would like to make an appointment to meet the Year Level Dean, please book online to our [New Enrolments Day](#).

Please note, no school phone support will be available for Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 December due to a technical upgrade.

Aerospace Academy

Year 13 students **Ezekiel Going** and **Isabella Sheldon**, accompanied by **Mrs Eileen Crawford**, attended the Aerospace Academy – Mission to Space Camp in Christchurch last month. The programme was aimed at exposing Māori and Pasifika students to opportunities in space and air travel. They learnt about the science of the Māori navigators, aerodynamics, robotics, rocketry and had site visits to Air New Zealand, Project Tāwhāki, and the Pratt and Whitney Aerospace Company.





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Students, 15 years and older are invited to take part in the Experiencing Marine Reserves: Marine Mahi for Rangatahi programme this summer holidays. For more details, please contact Ray Downing ray@mountainstosea.org.nz



Senior SAVE Group

A group of Year 10 and Senior SAVE students on a snorkelling field trip, observed the effect of a rahui that has been in place at Maitai Bay. It was good to see the beginnings of kina barrens being restored back into the original kelp forests. The group would like to thank Ray Downing from Experiencing Marine Reserves for making this opportunity available.

Year 10 Music Class

Last week the Year 10 Music class visited the Oakridge Retirement Village to sing songs with the residents. The students had investigated tastes and genre over time to find a set of songs that the residents might be familiar with and then worked on learning them prior to the visit, including Dreams by Fleetwood Mac, My Girl by the Temptations, Isn't she Lovely by Stevie Wonder, Put Your Head on my Shoulder by Paul Anka and Yesterday by the Beatles. Students sang and played piano, drums and guitars. Both residents and students are keen to do it again next year.



Junior SAVE Group

Over 20 students from the Junior SAVE group worked with teachers **Mrs Davis**, **Miss Crawford** and **Mr Jarman**, to design and paint a mural for the Kerikeri Retirement Village.



2024 School Magazine

The 2024 School Magazine is full of school events and student achievements from throughout the year. It includes every Form Class photo and is again in full colour. Hard copies can be purchased for \$11 from Reception in the new year. It is available for viewing on the Kerikeri High School website under the "About Us" tab.

The Uniform Shoppe Waipapa, Holiday Hours

The Uniform Shoppe will be open Saturday 14 December 9.00am – 12.00pm and Monday 16 December 12.00 – 4.00pm.

It will be closed between 18 December 2024 to 8 January 2025.

Upcoming Dates

First day for Year 7 and Year 13 - 3 February
First day for Year 8 and Year 12 - 4 February
First day for Years 9, 10 and 11 - 5 February

Next Board of Trustees Meeting

Our next Board of Trustees meeting will be at 5.30pm on Wednesday 26 February 2025, in the Boardroom.

School Stationery Lists

Year level stationery lists are available on our website - [Kerikeri High School Stationery Lists](#)

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