

Karamea Area School

Waverley Street
P O Box 48
Karamea 7864
Website:

Telephone/Facsimile: (03) 7826717
email: kgrey@karamea.school.nz
Principal: ddonnelly@karamea.school.nz
www.karameaschool.com



School Newsletter

23rd August 2019

Principal's Message:

Last week I attended the Area Schools Conference in Wellington. There were representatives from Area Schools across the country both at Board of Trustees level and staff/principal. It was delightful to have ex-students of Area Schools sharing their journeys and where they are now. A strong theme from these young people was around the resilience they had developed while at their schools. How living in remote areas helped them to be self-motivated, to study through a range of platforms – face to face and online and to appreciate their environment.

Nicola Toki was one such student. Her brother was also recently named the Australian Teacher of the year (Tony Vallance). Nicola's experience at an Area School was full of opportunities where, as a young person, she valued her family lifestyle and how the learning was always relevant.

(<https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/threatened-species-ambassador/meet-nicola-toki/>). Her passion for the outdoors was summarised in this David Attenborough reflection:



No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced.

An ex-student from Taipa Area School **Ezekiel Raui** shared his journey of experiences through family, friends and school. He contributes his success to everything and everyone he has connected with. His achievements are incredible and his humbleness is overwhelming. He shared that his education through an Area School was an education for life – learnings that could have only happened in the environment where he was so well supported.

It was also an absolute pleasure to meet up with an ex-teacher of Karamea Area School, Karen Corporal. I wasn't too sure who **Karen Henderson** was when she presented and shared the following slide:

It was delightful to hear how her time teaching at KAS had provided her with experiences to go on to make a difference in student lives through a different learning organisation; Te Whare Wānanga o Awaniārangi. I caught up with Karen and she sends a sincere "hi to you all!" to those who would remember her at KAS. She was also thrilled to hear our new gym will have a high roof as she recalled the hilarious moments trying to teach volleyball in the hall!



Student News and Information

I have been impressed with the attitude of students towards their work this term. Senior students are right in the thick of some serious study as the exams start on the 8th November. Our senior programmes are a mix of internally assessed and externally assessed assignments. Students are tracking well but need to ensure they commit to using time outside of school for their studies.

Our Trades students are representing KAS extremely well and tutors have high praise for their behaviour, attitude, politeness and dedication. It is a huge commitment to travel to Greymouth every week, or to undertake block courses – but it is also a fantastic opportunity and we value being able to provide these experiences for our students.

Student Wellbeing Survey

We recently completed a survey with our students around their experiences at school. The survey is part of the Wellbeing at School programme that is run by the New Zealand Council of Educational Research. Due to the age requirement the survey is set up for students from Year 5.

A brief overview of the results show that:

Year 5-6 students are positive about the way:

- They are taught which behaviours are okay and that behaviours such as hitting and bullying are not okay.
- It is okay to be different
- The school embraces different cultures



Year 7-8 students are positive about the way:

- Teachers praise students for helping each other
- They are taught which behaviours are okay
- Behaviours such as hitting and bullying are not okay.



Year 9-13

- Teachers often praise students

Across the school we have identified the following areas from the student survey responses to explore further:

- Making learning interesting
- Teaching students how to communicate in a positive way
- Students having a say and an increase in their sense of belonging

Student Awards:

Nikau:

Hunter	for being so knowledgeable
Elenore	for a tremendous effort with her writing

Rata:

Ella	for excellence in reading
Diva	for perseverance in writing

Kōwhai:

Trevor	for working hard in maths
Teilo	for settling in well into his new class
Jen	for working hard and being a kind person



Tōtara:

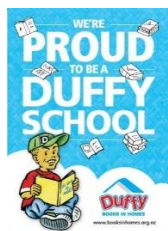
River	for significant improvement with self management and effort to be better organised
Pipi	for effectively modelling a leadership role, with advertising the production

Kahikatea:

Billy	for effort and positive enthusiasm in all his classwork
Rebecca	for effort and positive enthusiasm in all her classwork
Kotuku	for effort and positive enthusiasm in all his classwork

Canopy:

Jimmy for his assistance and support with IT issues and helping our relievers
Tim Galway for making great connections across the texts and an enthusiastic approach to film study.
Zana for an enthusiastic and well structured response to film essay.
Vika for focused effort in every English class and steadily harvesting the credits.



Caught Being Good – Duffy Awards

Eli Leckey	Working hard in all areas of the curriculum
Maria Luckman	Role model in writing
Yeva	Working hard in all areas
Poppy	Attitude and hard work
Archie	For being flexible and adaptable, while demonstrating a range of practical skill in his role in production.

Staff Good-book Awards: The following staff had their names drawn for the weekly staff celebrations:

Week 4:	Brett Mawson:	For his production organisation.
Week 5:	Pene Berry:	For doing some amazing maths.
Week 6:	Kate Grey:	For patience with staff around using the electronic attendance registers

Staff Professional Development

The staff are currently working hard on upskilling themselves around the digital technologies curriculum. Here we are doing our learning around some of the concepts that we will be sharing with students. There are no devices at this level!



This was a training day where Niki, Hannah and I attended 2 days of training in the holidays. We were joined by other staff from our Kāhui Ako members schools. (Community of Learning). In the picture we also have Peter King (Principal from Maruia Primary), Carolyn (Reefton Area School) and Kirsten (Murchison Area School)

Student Achievement Reporting



The staff recently shared student achievement reports with the Board of Trustees. Brett Mawson is seen in this photo presenting data on primary maths. The overview of our maths data shows that students in their first 2 years of schooling have a range of skills and abilities. By the end of Year 4 these skills are well consolidated with 92% of the Year 3 and Year 4 cohort working at or above the expected standard. Students who require additional support are identified and we are fortunate with our teacher/student ratio to be able to

provide individualised programmes for these students. The Year 5/6 cohort have 84% students achieving extremely well along with 100% of the Year 7/8 students.

The Board's Vision is to: **Provide student-centred holistic education by developing the highest levels of literacy, numeracy and social skills to prepare students for the future they choose.** The Board were impressed with the levels of student achievement and engagement, the hard work the staff are putting into their programmes and the ongoing work to provide all students with the very best learning opportunities.

PB4L Meeting: Two of our PB4L team members, Hannah and Michelle analysing data.

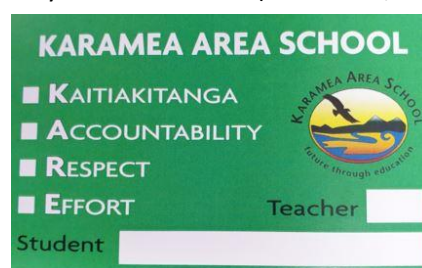


The PB4L team (Positive Behaviour for Learning) meet every fortnight to discuss student behaviour data – positive and sometimes not so positive. As you can appreciate, with the winter weather, sometimes students just can't get outside and run around as much, so tolerance and kindness is a challenge. We are fortunate that our students have such great behaviour that any misdemeanour is noticed so although we have the odd hiccup – it is certainly not the "norm" and relationships can be quickly restored. Our students are recognised through our values of:

KARE: Kaitiakitanga; Accountability; Respect and Effort. Special awards are given out weekly with the main winners receiving a special Principal's Award that is sponsored by The Last Resort (Milkshake/Icecream)

Recent Principal Award Winners:

Zana
Oliver
Lily
Ella
Elenore



Our students use the online digital platforms for learning and as staff we also do the same. Here we have Michelle, Warren (Professional Learning Coach – Digital Technology) and myself, linked up to a meeting. Our connectivity has greatly improved in the past few years and it is fantastic to be able to use the tools that are available.



Things to discourage from bringing to school:

We know that students love to bring items to school that are important to them. Having things that make you happy is important – they may be great fun to play with, to show your friends or to add to the games you play at break times. However, we would like to suggest that the following items are discouraged and used at home under adult supervision:

- Toy guns and weapons. We certainly do not want to be the fun police, and we know games with these sorts of items have been played for decades, but one small plastic gun is then outdone by a larger one, and then another one and before we know it we have all sorts of items. It would be helpful to keep these items at home.
- Expensive items. We cannot be held responsible for any breakages or damage to items when they are the responsibility of students. To that end, it is best that expensive items are kept at home.

Cellphones:

We have been delighted with the students who are showing responsible behaviours towards their duty to uphold the rules of the school. There have been a few instances when students have not handed in their phones and then made calls to their parents. This then breaks our school rules and parents are also supporting inappropriate student behaviour. We ask that you support us with the cellphone policy and if you receive a message from your child, do not answer, and ring the school immediately so that we can follow up (health and safety will always be our first response).

POLICE 105 – Attached to this newsletter is information on the recent release of the new dedicated phone line for police non-emergencies (but still important!!).

Netsafe: This was a priority area at the conference, and it seems that the resource and support available is being underused. Parents – this a fantastic avenue for assistance and support. I have attached a parent information sheet to this newsletter. I encourage you to read this and to discuss the content with your children.

We have also had an increase in digital communication from parents via texts and emails to staff that I am sure you would not say face to face with the staff member. I ask that you please respect our staff and minimise the online communication. I encourage you to meet with staff if you have a concern. We would like to model interactions with people so our students can also see the importance and value of kanohi ki te kanohi. Staff need to feel safe and enjoy their interactions with you. Thank you.

<https://www.netsafe.org.nz/advice/parenting/>

Upcoming Events:

28 th August	Year 5-6 Winter Sports Tournament	Westport
30 th August	Cancer Society Day	Items at school for purchase/donation
2 nd September	Nikau Assembly 2.15	Library
4 th September	Rock Bottom – St Canice's Production	Westport
6 th September	BOT Student nominations close 12.00pm	Current Year 9-13 students
7 th September	Wonkey Donkey Show	Westport
9 th September	Attitude visiting	KAS
9 -13 th Sept	Māori Language Week	School events
10 th September	SCHOOL PRODUCTION	Matinee 11.00am
	SCHOOL PRODUCTION	Evening performance: 6.00pm
12 th September	SCHOOL PRODUCTION	Evening performance: 6.00pm
16 – 20 Sept	Conservation Week	School events
17 th September	Shear Madness	Lena@KAS
18 th September	BOT Meeting	7.00pm Staffroom
18 th September	White Water Rafting (seniors)	Buller
20 th September	Student Election	Votes close
23-27 September	Year 9 Leadership Camp	Lake Rotoiti (with other Area Schools)
23 rd September	Assembly – Kahikatea and Tōtara	Library
27 th September	Climate Day Strike	National student strike day
27 th September	Last day of term	
29 th September	Daylight Savings	
14 th October	Term Four starts	
13 th December	Last day of school	

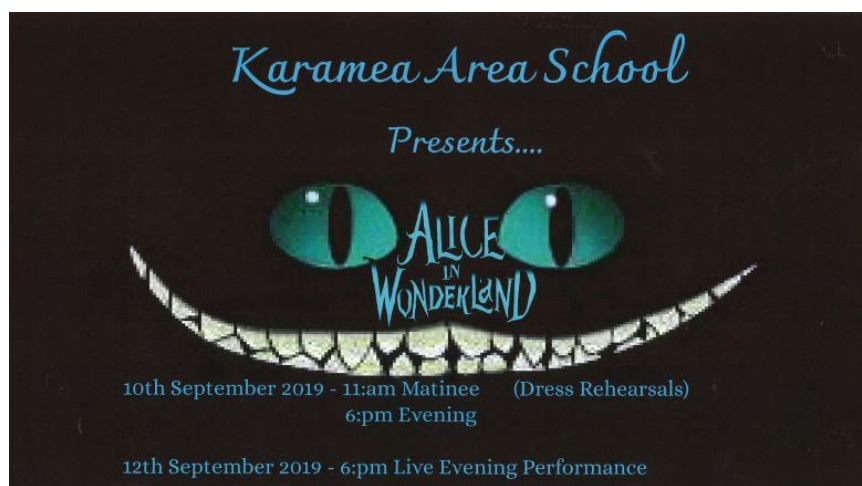


An invitation is extended to any students who would like to go to the show on Saturday 7th September. We will take the school van down. If you would like your child to experience the show please contact the school office. **NO COST.**

Please let us know by 4th September.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION
TICKETS from the Office
NO COST

Tuesday 10th September
Thursday 12th September



Southern Dash- Saturday 24th August 2019

We had a brief visit from the Southern Dash team on Saturday morning. My thanks to Toni for organising a great netball game and to the students who popped in. There was a lot of laughter and fun – and quite a lot of goodies given out. The Dash team helped the Domain Board with some planting and mulch relocation. We had bark spread on the playground, cars washed, games played, and nursery weeding done. Thanks to Karlene, Hannah and Niki who helped me out with the morning's activities.

