



# KAHUTARA SCHOOL

Opening the gates to our future.  
Huakina nga kuaha ma a tatou ao ake tonu.

Manaakitanga

Connectedness

Confidence

Critical Thinking

## NEWSLETTER

29 February 2024

Kia ora koutou,

We have had a busy two weeks here at Kahutara School! I am so pleased that the weather has been lovely this term, and our students have been swimming most days. I've enjoyed being able to meet lots of parents and caregivers over the past few weeks, at school events and in the mornings and afternoons. You are always welcome to contact me if there is anything you would like to discuss, or come in and see me when you are visiting school.

Thank you to those families who were able to come to our picnic dinner/meet and greet on the 15th February. It was a nice way to start the year together and to be able to connect. I would also like to thank the families who came to our mihi whakatau on the 21st February. Toi Walker and Victoria Shaw spoke on behalf of Kahutara School and welcomed me, our new staff, our new students and their whānau to our school. I was very proud of our kaikaranga; Ayon and Tiana who had been learning the karanga to prepare for this event, and to Boaz and Keanu who had been learning to lead the haka powhiri. Unfortunately Boaz was unwell so couldn't attend, but Keanu did a great job and stepped up to lead by himself. The mihi whakatau was a special way to bring different groups of people together, to make connections with each other and where we are from, and to celebrate new beginnings.

At one of our staff only days at the start of the year, the staff spoke about wanting to offer more school-wide activities and events for our students. We were excited to kick this off with our school swimming sports and house sports day on the 23rd February. Becky McGuinness is our Sports Coordinator this year and she did a great job organising relays and fun games for students in our pool, and then our teachers ran a range of games and challenges for each house group in the afternoon. Again, I'd like to acknowledge and thank the families who were able to pop down to support their child during the day. There were lots of happy faces around our school and it was a great way to end the week. Well done to Rata House for winning the swimming sports for 2024!

On the 27th February we took our top swimmers to the Featherston Cluster swimming event and we had a great day competing against the schools in our area. Congratulations to

 **A Warm Kahutara Welcome to Annabel and the Gillespie family who are brand new to the area** 

Say hi if you see them in the parking lot or around school

*Congratulations to our swimmers moving on to the Cluster Swimming Championships – Well Done!*



*Congrats also to our Values Certificate receivers!  
Rawiri, Hector, Mairangi, Louisa, Eden, Noah T, Noah W,  
Annabel, Tiana, Colton and Lyra*

### Muffi Day - Thursday 7th March

We are having a muffi day next Thursday to support the fundraising efforts for the refurbishment of the Carterton Indoor Pool. From March 7th - 10th they are aiming to swim a million metres to raise a million dollars. We know that this has been an important pool for many of our families, so we also wanted to support the cause. Students can bring a gold coin donation and Juicies will be for sale at lunch time too for \$1.



### KPC Meeting

Monday 4th March @ 6pm in the staffroom.

Our small and friendly group welcome new members to come along!

the following students, who will go through to the South Wairarapa Swimming Sports on Friday 8th March; Flynn Boyle, Ben Jaspers, Kate Polaschek, Tiana Phillips, Wilson Sparks, Hunter Duckett, Jane Marson, Ben Jaspers, Jesse Honeysett, Rory Clark, Louisa Wilkie, Bonnie Beyer, Brooke Davies, Samantha Morgan, Toby Bennett, Georgia Sparks, Olivia Davies and Maggie Alexander. Well done to you all and to all of our students who represented our school at the Featherston Swimming Event!

Our Board of Trustees is currently developing our strategic and annual implementation plan and we would like to gather feedback from our families and students as part of this process. I have attached a link to an electronic survey below, which you can click to complete. It is a short survey and your feedback will be very useful to help us to plan what we want to achieve over the next 2 years.

#### [Kahutara School - Family/Whānau Feedback 2024](#)

If you would prefer to complete a paper copy of the survey, please contact Liz in our office and we will send one home with your child. Thank you for your support with this.

Finally, I would like to share an exciting project that Room 3 is part of this year called; Te Reo o te Wai/Voices of the Water. Rod and Jane Riddiford are working with this class to support our students to be positive ambassadors for the Ruamāhanga river, the surrounding wetland and riparian areas. Rod and Jane have donated a number of sunflowers from their farm, which Room 3 has been selling to support some of the work they will be doing as part of this project. We are aiming to showcase our learning as part of the GWRC's Fish Passage Day in May and then as part of Conservation Week in September. On the 26th Feb Room 3 was able to visit Rod and Jane's farm to learn about the sunflowers and cut some of their own. It was a great learning experience and we are very excited to be part of this project. I would like to acknowledge Green Jersey Cycles from Martinborough, who are sponsoring this work by providing their 16 seater bus (and driver!) to help transport our students to the farm this year. This is a huge support for the school and we are very appreciative of their help and willingness to support schools in our area and the important work our students will do..



Ngā manaakitanga,

Ariana Te Whetu

#### **UPCOMING DATES:**

**1 March** - Hub 1 and Hub 2 trip to Golden Shears

**6 March** - Year 7 Vaccinations

**7 March** - Mufti Day (Fundraiser for Carterton Indoor Pool)

**8 March** - South Wairarapa Swimming Event (Masterton)

#### **Hub 1 Tech - Term 1**

- 12 March
- 19 March
- 26 March
- 9 April

**25 March** - Board Meeting (5pm in the staffroom)

**29 March, 1st and 2nd April** - Easter Holiday

**12 April** - Last day of Term 1

#### **Correspondence**



**Our very talented Ryan and Evan Chen will be performing in the two fundraising events below - please support them if you can!**



**The Wairarapa Youth Orchestra will be at the Martinborough Fair this Saturday!**

We are performing our movie themes program twice: at 11am and 1pm, in the Waihinga Centre.

**Kahutara School**

Find us at <https://kahutara.school.nz/>

Follow us on [Facebook](#) & [Skool Loop](#)

Or email [office@kahutara.school.nz](mailto:office@kahutara.school.nz)

Or call 06 3088427