

# KARORI NORMAL SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Donald Street, Karori



Newsletter No. 38 – Term 4  
18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Week 10

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### 2019 Term Dates

Term 4 Monday 14 Oct – Thursday 19 Dec  
**School ends at 12:30pm**

### 2020 Term Dates

Term 1 Tuesday 4 Feb – Thursday 9 Apr

Term 2 Tuesday 28 Apr – Friday 3 Jul

Term 3 Monday 20 Jul – Friday 25 Sept

Term 4 Monday 12 Oct – Wednesday 16 Dec

### 2019 TEAMS

**Kowhai – Y1** (Team Leader Lisa Hadfield)  
Rooms 1, 4, 5, 8 & 9

**Pohutukawa – Y2/3** (Team Leader Phil McIntosh)  
Rooms 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 & 15

**Akakura – Y4** (Team Leader Treena Tiller/Wilhelmina Wooff)  
Rooms 18, 19, 20 & 21

**Kahikatea – Y5/6** (Team Leader David Wong)  
Rooms 16, 17, 22, 23, 26, 28 & 29

**Totara – Y7/8** (Team Leader Trish Blacktop)  
Rooms 23A, 24, 25, 33, 34 & 35

### Important Dates

18 Dec BOT Meeting 6.30pm

19 Dec Last Day of School 12.30pm

## From the Principal

Kia Ora Koutou

We have one more day left in the 2019 school year. We finish tomorrow Thursday 19 December, with a poroporoaki for our Year 8 leavers, at 11.45am in the area outside the Senior Block. After the poroporoaki, the children will return to their classrooms and be dismissed at 12.30pm.

If the weather is wet and we cannot meet outside we will farewell our Year 8 leavers in the hall, commencing at 11.45am. Given the size of the hall we will only be able to accommodate our Year 5 to Year 8 students and teachers, not the whole school.

2019 has been another very positive year at KNS. There have been a huge number of highlights for me throughout the year however, these are some of the things that have consistently brought a smile to my face.

- Seeing children enjoying their learning, working hard and interacting positively with their teachers and classmates. The warm, supportive relationships our staff have with the children is a real feature of our KNS culture.
- Our older children taking on leadership roles and demonstrating that they understand that leadership is not about personal rewards, but service to others. This has been particularly apparent in the way that our Year 7 & 8s support and build positive relationships with our younger children. Their role-modelling is another cornerstone of our positive, caring school culture.
- Children taking advantage of the wide range of opportunities on offer in the arts, sport and culture, experiencing a rich and broad curriculum and sharing what they've learnt confidently when presenting for others. It's great to see children trying new things and continuing to try hard even if they don't meet with initial success.

A huge thank you to the following groups for their contribution to our school's successes this year:

- Andrea Peetz and James Appleton, our Deputy Principals, Lisa Hadfield, Kath Walrond, Phil McIntosh, Sam Cockerton, Wilhelmina Wooff, Treena Tiller, Dave Wong, Anne-Marie Richardson, Fiona Campbell and Trish Blacktop, our Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders, who have led many initiatives both at team and whole school level. We are very fortunate to have such a committed, knowledgeable and capable leadership team at our school.
- Our teaching staff team who have worked tremendously hard to ensure that our children enjoy high quality learning experiences. Our teachers are 'lifelong learners' themselves and this has developed a great inclusive, learning focussed culture in classrooms.
- Our Teacher Aide, Office, Sports Coordination and Caretaking, support staff team who are always prepared to 'go the extra mile' so that teachers can focus on the job of teaching.
- Our Board of Trustees who provide real vision and strategic direction in their governance role. The board has clearly demonstrated strong and effective leadership in dealing with the challenges the school has faced this year.
- Our PTA who continue to do great work in the areas of community building and fundraising for much needed resources.

- Our parent/caregiver community for the support you give us. Without a positive parent/school partnership, education cannot be effective for our children. Many of the opportunities we are able to provide for the children would not be possible without your direct and indirect support and assistance.
- Finally our children for making each day at Karori Normal School rewarding and meaningful. They are our 'clients' and we need to ensure that they remain at the centre of our decision-making.

### **Year 8 Leavers Dinner**

On Monday night we held a leavers' function to formally farewell our Year 8s, who are moving on to college. This was a fantastic event. In my speech to our leavers, I focussed on the need to get involved and take advantage of the many opportunities on offer next year. We offer a large number of opportunities at KNS however, next year will open up even more for our leavers. It is important not to let peer pressure, self-doubt and a fear of not doing well, hold them back.

Once again, I have been extremely impressed with our Year 8s, they have shown great leadership qualities with a real willingness to take on responsibility and provide help and support, often without having to be asked. They can look forward to secondary school with confidence, knowing that they are well prepared and ready for this next step in their education.

### **Cushion Concert**

Last Thursday evening our performing arts groups took part in the annual KNS Cushion Concert. The following groups took part along with a number of soloists:

- Year 5 – 8 Extension Kapa Haka Roopu
- Year 5/6 Choir
- Year 7/8 Choir
- Chorale
- Orchestra
- Chamber Orchestra
- Three Bands
- Year 7 & 8 Dance Crew

It was great to see the children's hard work throughout the year pay off. The auditorium at Samuel Marsden School can be a daunting place to perform. The audience is very close and looks down on the performers however, the children rose to the occasion with very confident and polished performances. A feature of the evening for me was the way the children all supported and encouraged each other, they were a credit to their school and their families.

I am very grateful to all the staff who have worked with these groups, Jacqueline Ward, Kane O'Connell, David Wong, Wilhelmina Wooff, Treena Tiller, Hemi Prime, Adrienne Troughton and Fiona Campbell.

### **2020 Class Lists and Teacher Information**

On Monday afternoon, children met in their 2020 classes. At the meeting children all received a letter containing their 2020 class list and some information about their new teacher. If your child didn't bring a letter home or you have misplaced it please contact the school office [office@kns.school.nz](mailto:office@kns.school.nz) and we will send you a replacement copy.

### **2020 – He Hui Mihimihi**

- Once again we are holding He Hui Mihimihi at the start of the school year.
- For those of you who are new to KNS, He Hui Mihimihi are meetings held before the start of the school year involving children, teachers and parents/caregivers. The meetings are an opportunity to build a strong and positive relationship between the home and school, right from the start of the year.
- Information about bookings etc. was sent home with your child on Monday. If you have lost the letter or are unsure how to book a time please contact the school office [office@kns.school.nz](mailto:office@kns.school.nz) as soon as possible.

### **2020 Karori Normal School PTA Family Picnic**

On Friday 28 February 2020, with 06 March as the postponement date, the PTA is going to be hosting the Karori Normal School Family Picnic. This will be held on the school field from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. Bring your own picnic dinner or make it easy and purchase food on site. Get to know your new class mates and their families and catch up with old friends. More details will come out early in the new school year.

### **Whakataukī o te wiki**

Titiro whakamuri  
Kōkiri whakamua

Look back and reflect so you can move forward

A thought to share with your children:

**“Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.” (H. Jackson Brown Jr)**

Ngā Mihi

**Conrad Kelly**  
**Principal**

## School News

### Women's Refuge Donation

Thank you very much for the piles and piles of clothing that we donated to The Women's Refuge on your behalf today. We really appreciate your support. (Amanda and Isabelle Room 23a)

### Wellington Children's Hospital Fundraising

Recently three Year 7 students raised money for the Wellington Children's Hospital by delivering each KNS staff member a hot cup of tea on Friday afternoons. It began in Term 2 as an Inquiry project about how different cultures show Manaakitanga, or hospitality. To these students, serving tea was a way they could show care and appreciation for the adults in their school community.

On the last Friday of Term 4 they decided to take homemade cookies along on their tea run, and in turn, ask the staff for a gold coin donation.

Their mission was a huge success and they raised a whopping \$80.10 for the Children's Hospital. Miss Ellis took the students along to the hospital during the final week of Term 4 and they received a Hospi toy and a certificate for their efforts.

Well done to a kind and enterprising group of young people, we can't wait to see what awesome ideas they will come up with in 2020 that will help their local community.



