



# Karaka School

EMBRACING LEARNING. BUILDING RESILIENCE. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE.

"Ka whangaia, ka tupu, ka puawai."

No. 1

31st January 2024

## Newsletter

## Principal's Note

Week 1, Term 1 2024

*Kia ora and welcome to this fortnight's newsletter.*

### CELEBRATING LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

Kia ora koutou - and welcome back to school for 2024. What an awesome start to the week we have had so far. I trust you all enjoyed the holiday period, especially the sunshine. I have had lots of chats in classrooms and in the playground about the fun things the kids have done over the holidays, from exciting holidays abroad or in holiday spots around NZ, to those that have enjoyed some down time relaxing at home. I enjoyed the long weekend back up in our holiday spot in Mangawhai - I think the kids will all be pleased to know that even Principals enjoy a good water slide with their friends from time to time.....



Now we're officially back down to business here at school, I have a few things to update you on, as well as some important dates for your calendars.

Firstly, we are having a **Pōwhiri next Wednesday (7th Feb)** to welcome all our new staff, students and families. We also realise this fell away somewhat in 2023, and if you are a family who missed this special welcome last year we would love for you to come and be a part of our Pōwhiri next Wednesday as well. We ask new families to meet Mrs Glover at the flagpole at 10:30am, ready for a 10:40am start. This will be followed by a shared Morning Tea in the Hall for all adults as well.

Next on the list, we have three Teacher Only Days set for this year:

- Friday 31st May (Friday before King's Birthday) - Curriculum focus
- Monday 1st July - Rosehill Pathways Kāhui Ako Mega-Conference (all 13 schools in our Community of Learning together)
- Friday 25th October (Friday before Labour Weekend)

Also, we have our first set of Learner Led Conferences coming up in Week 6 of this term (Wednesday 6th of March). While the name remains the same, the purpose and structure has changed in response to the feedback we received through our community consultation process late last year. We will be going back to booking single slots where the student, teacher and whānau can all meet together to focus on setting learning goals together (without other families in classrooms at the same time). More information will come out closer to the time but for now, book in the date as it will be an early finish to school that day to accommodate all families getting their time slot.

Another important change for 2024, is that our school policy around birthday treats being brought to school has been updated. From the start of this year, we are asking that no treats of any kind (be they food/cake related or otherwise), be brought to school for a child's birthday. Many schools have adopted this policy and we feel it makes sense to do the same at Karaka. We will of course celebrate birthdays with our Birthday Board, being sung to in class (only if the student would like that of course - not all students do), and making it as special as we can. However, bringing sugary treats to share doesn't really fit with a 'healthy eating' philosophy, nor does it promote inclusion when someone brings something that is not enough for everyone in the class. We feel it is much more sensible to move away from material/edible treats altogether.

Please help support this new policy - you will find that if you do send something to school, that it ends up being returned home again at the end of the day.



Last on the update list is the school pool... which I'm afraid is almost up and running but I haven't been able to sign it off just yet. We have had a hiccup with the application of the paint around two of the four edges of the pool; this is being rectified later this week. Once this paint has had time to cure, we can then go ahead and fill the pool. We hope to have it up and running for the start of Week 3, so bare with us.

In the meantime, we are planning some water slide fun at lunchtimes for each team next week to escape the heat so check for this info on HERO (and now you'll see the link to my photo above!).

Have a great rest of the week,

**Ngā mihi nui, Anna Powrie**  
**principal@karaka.school.nz**

## Welcome to Karaka School







Welcome to:

Alyssa L	Jens C
Brooke F	Steven-Judah K
Carolyn M	Marley W
Halima D	James W
Emily P	Fletcher G
Olivia A	Jose L
Jeremy M	Nora B
Noorya D	Bohdi P
Gabriella B	Evie C
Nathanael C	Ben C
Blake A	
Hunter F	
Rara L	



Below are some reminders that will help us ensure you are set up for success too!

Reminders	What we will do	What you can do to help
<p>The cornerstones of the Karaka School culture are our school values. We believe that our values are not only important values for our school but also important for life.</p>  <p>The poster is titled 'Kia Ora, Welcome to Karaka School' and lists five learning values:          <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>LEARNING AKORANGA</b>: We take pride in being open to learning new things.</li> <li><b>EXCELLENCE HIRANGA</b>: We always strive to do our very best.</li> <li><b>ADAPTABILITY URUTAU</b>: We understand and care about diversity.</li> <li><b>RESPECT WHAKAUTE</b>: We show respect for others, ourselves and the environment at all times. We follow safety and game rules. We demonstrate fair play.</li> <li><b>NURTURE POIPOI</b>: We show nurturing for one another through kind actions and words. We help and encourage each other.</li> </ul>         At the bottom, it says 'We like to have FUN PAREKAREKA.' The word 'LEARN' is written vertically in large green letters.</p>	<p>At our place of learning we actively live and celebrate these on a day to day basis. They are our expectations of each other and we deliberately teach the skills and dispositions associated with each. The poster is displayed in every classroom, our office area and also as you enter our school. This year we will continue with our Karaka Kereru awards representing each of the values.</p>	<p>Talk to your child about our school values and what these look like in action. You can support the development of these by using the language of, and celebrating our values at home too.</p> <p>Encourage them each day to find opportunities to show each of the values.</p> <p>We are happy to send you a copy of our poster for you to have at home too.</p>
<p>Communication is important to us here at Karaka School and we particularly enjoy sharing the learning that is happening.</p>  <p>The image shows the Hero app logo and a QR code for downloading the app.</p>	<p>We will post information relating to the learning that is planned and the learning that has happened. We will also let you know of upcoming events and post reminders. You will find our newsletter on this app and you can post absences.</p> <p>Your child's goals, progress and achievement as well as their mid and end of year general comments (report) are posted on the app too so that you can see in real time what is happening in the classroom.</p>	<p><b>Please download the APP now.</b></p> <p>Simply scan the QR code on the left or go to your App store or Google Play.</p> <p><b>This is now how we will communicate with you.</b></p> <p><b>Please let us know if you have any email changes as this affects the link to Hero</b></p>

Reminders	What we will do	What you can do to help
<p>Wearing the correct school uniform is important. This is because this shows respect for, and pride in, our place of learning.</p> 	<p>We have reminded our learners about what the school uniform looks like when worn properly. This includes having the <u>correct</u> shorts/skorts, shirts, hats and polo fleece. All these items are available to purchase at the uniform shop here at school. Black shoes or sandals with black, or navy socks are also part of our uniform. For safety reasons we ask that hair of shoulder length or longer is tied back with black or navy ties. Small hair clips of the same colour can also be worn.</p>	<p>Please make sure that your child (ren) is wearing the correct uniform each day.</p> <p><b>It is important that the uniform items are named.</b> This is so we can return lost items to their correct owner.</p> <p>Please make sure the correct shoes or sandals are worn also.</p> <p>Remember to tie back hair and leave the multi coloured and/or large bows and other hair accessories for the weekends would be appreciated.</p> <p>Please let us know if you need help with uniform items. We are happy to help.</p> 

## Have you created your My Kindo Personalised account?

If you require help setting up your My Kindo Personalised account, the Kindo helpdesk is open 8am to 4pm weekdays.

**Freephone:** 0508 4 Kindo (0508 454 636)

**Email:** [hello@mykindo.co.nz](mailto:hello@mykindo.co.nz)

Very easy process...

>Visit the school website [www.karaka.school.nz](http://www.karaka.school.nz)

>Select create account



Kia Ora, Welcome to  
**Karaka School**

EMBRACING LEARNING. BUILDING RESILIENCE. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE.

*"Ka whangaia, ka tupu, ka puawai."*

**LEARNING AKORANGA**

*We take pride in being open  
to learning new things.*

**EXCELLENCE HIRANGA**

*We always strive to do our very best.*

**ADAPTABILITY URUTAU**

*We are adaptable and can think flexibly.*

**RESPECT WHAKAUTE**

*We show respect for others, ourselves  
and the environment at all times.*

*We follow safety and game rules.*

*We demonstrate fair play.*

**NURTURE POIPOI**

*We show nurturing for one another through  
kind actions and words.*

*We help and encourage each other.*

**We like to have FUN  
- PAREKAREKA.**

**LEARN**

## Start of the Year Information from the Office:



- The School Office opening times are 8.15am—3.15pm
- The newsletter will be available on our student management system Hero on Wednesday afternoon. It is also available on our website [www.karaka.school.nz](http://www.karaka.school.nz)
- **Bell Times:**

School starts	8.45am (please see information below re: arriving at school)
Block One	8.45am
	9.00am
	10.00 (Brain Break *bring a healthy snack*)
Morning Tea	11.00am
Block Two	11.20am
Lunch	12.30pm—1.20pm
Block Three	1.20pm
Bus Bell	2.35pm (Bus students)
Home Bell	2.45pm
- Our bus bell goes at 2.35pm when bus children are released to go to bus lines. Children **MUST** be signed out even if you are picking them up early on the bus bell for an appointment.
- **Arriving at School:** The first bell for the day is at 8.15am. Prior to this children are not actively supervised therefore must wait alongside the Hall under the shelter (next to the top flat). Students are expected to stay here until the first bell and then are welcome to head to their classrooms.
- **Assemblies:** Occur every fortnight. They will be held on the Friday of even weeks with the first assembly being 9th February at 1.45pm. Parents/Whanau are welcome to attend school assemblies.
- **School Accounts: You can view accounts on Kindo. Please sign up to this as soon as possible. Please see instructions in this newsletter.**
- Please note that **there is a discount of \$25.00 for school donations that are paid by the end of Term 1.** If you need to arrange a payment plan please see us in the office.
- **Out of Bounds Area:** For reasons of safety we would like all children and parents to enter and exit the school past the main office. Please do not park in the staff car park beside the sensory garden.



- **Absences:** If for any reason on a given day, your child will not be attending school, please make a phone call to the school office before 9.30am **OR** send an absence through our student management system Hero **OR** email the office. You can also send a notice via the Karaka School website so that we know your child will not be at school and is safe. Calls are made to the parent/guardian by 9.30am if there is an unexplained absence.
- **Sun Safe:** Karaka School Safe Sun Policy states that during Term 1 & 4 children are required to have a suitable hat that gives protection to the face, ears and neck. We strongly suggest that our official school hat is the most suitable for this. Hats are in stock. These are sold in the uniform shop (Open Monday 8.15-9.00am) for \$15.00.
- **School Banking:** We will be continuing with ASB School Banking. **School banking day is Thursday.** A secure box is located in the office on the outside wall of the sickbay (enter through the rear door to place in the box). All deposits are taken to the bank on Friday. To set up an account please go into your local ASB branch.
- **School Bus Travel:** Parents are reminded that the school bus service runs under strict rules and regulations for health and safety reasons. If your child travels by bus you should have already viewed and signed a bus transport contract with the school. If in doubt, please check with the office. If you are picking your child up after school and have not advised the office in advance please ensure that the teacher on bus duty is informed.
- **Bus Fees:** Bus fees (if applicable) must be received within the first two weeks of each term. There is a flat fee of \$50.00 per term per child, regardless of whether they travel one or both ways.
- **School Car Parks:** Please take care when using our school car park and our drop off/pick up bay. The most important rule is to use your common sense. Please do not leave your car in the bus bay or drop off area! Cars parked here, should have drivers in them at all times! Our buses do not always arrive at the same time. Remember, this is a “pick up and drop off area” only. Please use the central walkway if you park in the middle of the carpark. **DO NOT** walk your children through the carpark behind the parked cars.



# Getting started with Hero



## 1. To set your password and log into Hero for the first time:

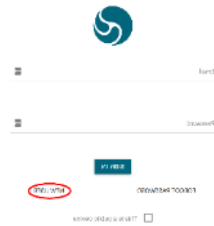
1. Download the **Hero by LINC-ED** app from the app store

Note: use the keywords Hero LINC-ED when searching for the app

Alternatively, open your browser and enter **go.linc-ed.com**

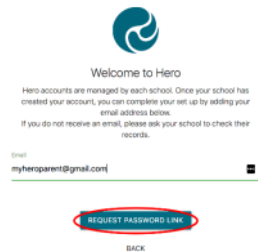


## 2. Click **NEW USER**

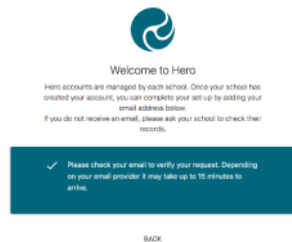


## 3. Enter the email address you have provided the school and click **REQUEST PASSWORD LINK**

If your email address is not accepted, please contact your school.



## 4. You will receive a message confirming a password email has been sent



## 5. Open your email inbox and click on the Hero Password Reset email

If you do not receive a Hero Password Reset email, check your spam folder.

## Immortalise yourself in Karaka History - Sponsor a School Flag!

To celebrate our amazing learners and families at Karaka School, we continue the new tradition of flag sponsorship in our school hall. We will do this each year at the start of Term 1 and Term 3.

The cost is \$50 to sponsor a flag. You can have your child, family name and year printed onto an existing flag or we can create a new flag for you!

E.g. **Dyer Whanau - 2024** or **John Dyer - 2024**

If you would like to sponsor a flag...

- 1) Email Mr Dyer ([johnd@karaka.school.nz](mailto:johnd@karaka.school.nz)) by Friday 9th February with the name of the country you wish to sponsor and the name(s) to be printed onto the flag.
- 2) Then pay \$50 into the Karaka School bank account (12 3031 0734641 01) including 'NAME' and 'FLAG' as reference.

We will present and share each flag in a school assembly and invite learners to come and tell us something about their country, culture and flag, if they wish. Flags will be carefully hung for all to see in our school hall and referenced during national celebration days and language weeks.

Email Mr Dyer with any questions—[johnd@karaka.school.nz](mailto:johnd@karaka.school.nz)



**ATTENTION**

Are you looking  
for a way to  
get involved with our  
amazing school in  
**2024?**

We need some more  
parents, family or friends to  
help us on the PTA! Team  
work makes the dream work  
after all :) **All are welcome!**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING, PLEASE EMAIL  
**KATEYAPOPE@GMAIL.COM**

Any questions/fundraising ideas or if you require uniform items urgently, you can email us on [karaka.pta@gmail.com](mailto:karaka.pta@gmail.com).

The Karaka School PTA account is **12-3031-0851231-00** From the PTA team

# Reminder Dates

<b>2 February</b>	Habits of Mind Rotation—wear your house colours
<b>6 February</b>	Waitangi Day
<b>7 February</b>	Powhiri 10.30am, followed by morning tea
<b>7 February</b>	Year 7 and 8 technology starts
<b>6 March</b>	Learner Led Conferences

## Community Notices



**THIS YEAR,  
LET'S SHAKE  
THINGS UP**

ZUMBA

**Karaka School Hall.  
(12 Blackbridge Road)**

**Mondays + Wednesdays 6.30pm**

**Gold coin donation** 👍



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