



Newsletter

Issue 1

February 2016

Uniform Shop Hours

Wednesdays

1.15 – 1.45 p.m.

and 3.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Dates to Remember

4 March

Swimming Sports

9 March

Year 9 Meet the Teachers

Evening at 5.30 p.m.

10 March

Athletic Sports

16 March

Year 11 Parents' Evening

at 7 p.m.

25-29 March

Easter Break

5-8 April

School Production

15 April

Last Day of Term

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Powhiri Welcome

The first Thursday of term began with a powhiri to welcome all new students and staff into the Karamu whanau. The powhiri was held outdoors on the turf circle under the shelter of Te Tira o Karamu, our sculpture.

Senior students took a leading role in the ceremony. Yvaan Hapuku-Lambert lead the school in the haka. Pounamu Tipiwai-Chambers lead the new students and staff. Zion Harris also accompanied them in. Matua Leon spoke on their behalf. Speaking for the school were Year 13 student Yvaan Hapuku-Lambert and Mr Leitch. Mr Leitch welcomed everyone to the Karamu whanau and spoke about the importance of making the most of the opportunities offered at school.



From the Principal

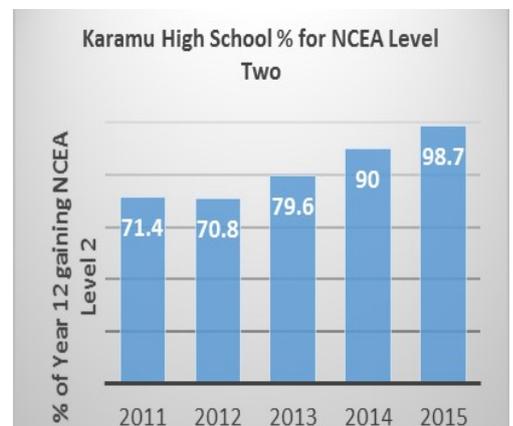
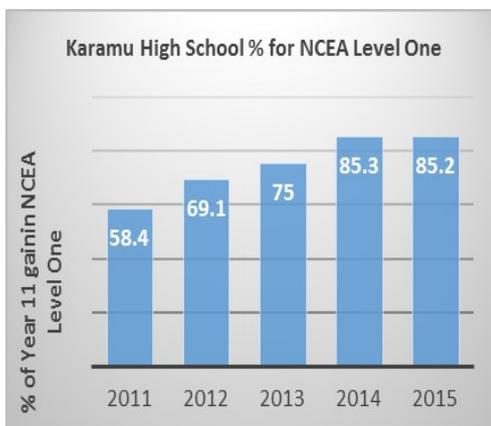


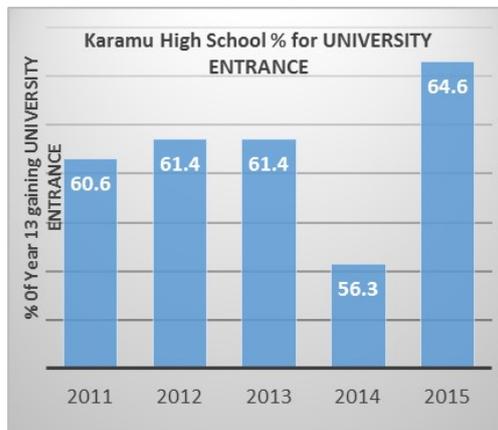
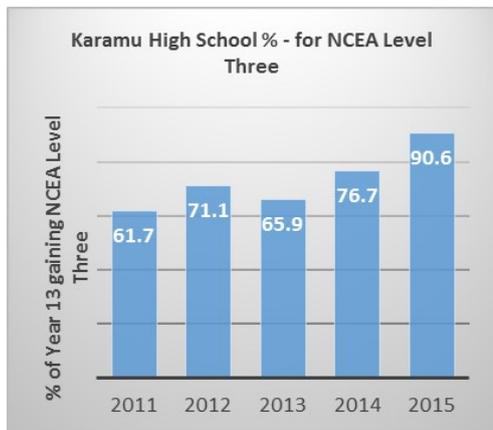
Welcome back. I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all, especially to our new staff, students and families joining us at Karamu High School.

This year, we welcome 197 new Year 9 students as well as a number of students joining us in the other year levels. This has resulted in another strong roll of 890 students and the school's zoning policy needed to be implemented to off-set the pressure of demand from within our community. I have been very impressed with the new students who have joined us this year, and the way they have settled in. The challenge has now been laid to all of those new to the school to make the most of the opportunities afforded to them. "If you are green you grow, if you are ripe you rot" Ray Croc.

The 2015 NCEA results were released in mid-January. We are extremely proud of the collective effort made by staff and students. A lot of hard work has been put into student learning over the past few years and the results are a just reward for these efforts. We, however, will not rest on our laurels and will continue to aspire for excellence in all areas of academic performance. "The best way to predict your future is to create it". Abraham Lincoln.

As you can see from the graphs published here, our students have again continued to improve in most of our key indicators for academic performance. There have been significant gains in students achieving NCEA Level 2 and 3. Most pleasing, perhaps, is the number of Level 3 students gaining University Entrance as this reflects the academic integrity that our courses provide. In addition to this, we again posted the highest numbers of level endorsements and 100 Club badges ever achieved. In seven years, our students have more than doubled the number of Merit and Excellence endorsements, which is simply outstanding. To gain a 100 Club badge requires a student to get straight excellences in a subject. It is a big challenge, but one that our students increasingly set as a goal and strive to achieve. The first 100 Club badges were awarded in 2009 and totalled six; last year our students earned over seven times that number with 44.





Unlike many other schools in our region, we are also committed to providing our school community with "Roll Based Data" which counts *all* students on our roll and provides the only true and honest picture of how well all our students are doing. This clearly demonstrates our commitment to all of our students in encouraging them to achieve to their own personal potential, whatever that may be. Our staff and students are thrilled with these results and they have provided the all-important motivation to better them this year.

Finally, I would also like to thank our parents for your continued support. Through your reinforcement of our high expectations around attendance, behaviour and uniform we are able to provide a fantastic environment for your sons and daughters to thrive in. We place a major emphasis on developing self-discipline and awareness and consideration towards others, in and out of the classroom. Our students do a fine job of appreciating this and have made a great start to the year in this regard.

We look forward to, what promises to be, another outstanding year for Karamu High School. Good luck.

Regards
Michael Leitch
Acting Principal

Deputy Principal - Assessment and Curriculum

It is pleasing to see the way our students have settled into their academic programmes. It is important to do regular homework whether it be work set by the teacher, assessments, or summarising their classwork into a form they can understand. Research shows that the sooner students actively go over the work done in class, the more likely they are to remember and understand it.

For our NCEA students, our website has assessment calendars under the pull down button that will soon contain information regarding assessment and milestone deadlines. Over the next few weeks, this will be completed. In a couple of weeks time, our Homework Centre will be open.

It was a pleasure for our Deans to meet with our Year 12, 13 and Accelerate Year 11 students and their parents to analyse their NCEA results, discuss career goals, set goals for this year and confirm their subjects. I would like to thank parents for making time available for this very important process.

June Clark

Deputy Principal - Student Management

It has been a busy start to the year and all the students look good in their uniforms. Here are a few reminders to help everyone be on the same playing field:

- Students must be at school by 8:30am
- All students are required to stay at school for interval and lunchtimes except for Year 13 students who may sign out as stipulated.
- Please do not park in the front car park if you are picking up your son or daughter after school.
- If you are picking up your son or daughter in Beatson Road after school, please exit left into Windsor Avenue.
- The school sandal is a black Roman sandal or students can wear regulation shoes and socks if they prefer.

A special mention to all the Year 9s who have settled into Karamu well and as a group, have impressed me.

Wayne Wooster

Deputy Principal

It has been a fantastic start to the year for the junior school with all the Year 9 and 10 students settling into the important aspects of the culture here at Karamu High School. I have been impressed with the pride in which the students have been wearing their uniforms and the behaviour displayed both at school and on their way to and from school.

Week two was an exciting week for the Year 9 students who participated in the Year 9 Big Day Out and seeing the smiles on their faces when they arrived back at school was a clear indication of a great day of building new bonds with their peers. I would like to thank their Deans, Mrs Crawford and Mr Read, along with Mr Ross and their form teachers.

The Year 10 students are all aware of the expectations of Karamu High School and this year will be a big step up from Year 9. Some students will be involved in NCEA for the first time, others may have the opportunity to lead teams and aim for leadership roles. It is therefore important that they aim to reach their goals and work hard throughout the year.

Damien Hollands



"My philosophy is that not only are you responsible for your life, but doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment."

Oprah Winfrey



"Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."

Vince Lombardi



"Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending."

Carl Bard

Big Day Out

Each Year 9 form class has a day of activities and team building at the Pakowhai reserve. The classes go out in pairs with their form teachers, the Deans and senior students. Many of our seniors remember The Big Day Out as one of their best experiences at Karamu, as will many of the students who went out this year.



Welcome to the new staff



*Back Row: Madeleine Parker, Lucie-Jane McElwee, Justin Kite, Kate O'Malley
Front Row: Yvette Douglas, Richard McDade, Stephanie Mills, Racheal Malton
Absent: Bronwyn Butler, Janice Harlen, Ana Whitlow*

Karamu have a large number of new staff this year due to a number of retirements, staff moving to new challenges and a growing roll.

Mr Richard McDade joins us, after eleven years as Head of Physics at Avondale College in Auckland, as the new Assistant Head of the Science Faculty. He will be teaching Physics and Science. Born and bred in the United Kingdom, he taught there for a number of years before relocating to New Zealand in 2005. He is now living in Taradale with this wife and two children. He has a passion for photography and will be regularly seen around the school with his camera in his role as school photographer. He feels he made a wise choice in selecting Karamu to work at because he has been made to feel so welcome and all his classes are so hard-working and engaged.

Mrs Stephanie Mills joins us as a teacher of Geography and Social Studies. She taught last year at St Joseph's Maori Girls' College in Taradale after her return from Auckland where she taught at Auckland Girls' Grammar School and Carmel College.

Mr Justin Kite is our new Technology teacher. He taught at Napier Girls' High School and Hastings Boys' High School before spending two years at the British International School in Shanghai.

Miss Ana Whitlow will be teaching Years 9 and 11 Art as well as Year 12 Painting, Printmaking and Sculpture. After completing a Bachelor in Fine Arts at Massey, Wellington, she taught English as a second language at public schools in South Korea and China for four years before returning to New Zealand to complete her Graduate Diploma in Teaching. Miss Whitlow says that she feels very privileged to be a part of the Karamu High School whanau who have been so welcoming and supportive. She is excited about all that lies ahead this year.

Miss Kate O'Malley will be teaching Physical Education, Health and Year 9 Science for the first two terms. She has spent two years at Hukarere College as a Physical Education and Health teacher. She will be involved in boys' touch rugby and, later, netball. She says she is very fortunate to get this opportunity to teach at Karamu, and is looking forward to developing strong relationships with staff, students and whanau.

Lucie-Jane McElwee is teaching Dance. Although trained in Geography and Social Sciences, she has always had a passion for Theatre and Dance, which saw her teaching Dance at Flaxmere College in 2014.

Mrs Kerin Greville, a very experienced Art teacher and former HOD Art at Sacred Heart, is joining us again this year to help out in the art department while Mr Hollands takes on the role of Acting Deputy Principal. She enjoyed long-term relieving here last year and is especially pleased to be back teaching photography, as it is a passion of hers. She is continually impressed by Karamu as it has a great environment, awesome students and dedicated, friendly teachers.

Mrs Yvette Douglas will be taking History and Social Studies while Mrs Taylor is on leave for two terms. After teaching in the United Kingdom, she taught History and Social Studies at Wanganui Collegiate as well as being Housemaster in one of the school's boarding houses. She moved to Hawke's Bay with her family last year and relieved at Karamu. She has found the students and staff to be friendly and welcoming and is enjoying life in Hawkes Bay.

Mrs Janice Harlen will be teaching Year 10 Social Studies and Business Studies along with Year 9 Food Technology. After doing some long-term relieving here last year, she is happy to be joining on a more permanent basis as she thinks this is an outstanding school where all relationships are strong, friendly, respectful and caring. She looks forward to coming to school each day.

Whaea Racheal Malton also joins us after a stint of long-term relieving last year. She will be teaching Food Technology, Hospitality and SPEC. She will be the SPEC co-ordinator for the school. She taught at Intermediates in South Auckland and Palmerston North before moving to the Central Regional Health School - the Lower North Youth Justice Residential Centre - in Palmerston North. She is so excited to join the enthusiastic, motivated and dynamic teaching staff at Karamu High School. She is passionate about learning and teaching and appreciates the modern learning environment and resources that Karamu High School has to offer. A special area of interest for her is raising the educational achievement of Maori and Pacific Island students.

Miss Madeleine Parker is a recent graduate of Victoria University. She will take up a support staff position as Science Technician and will also be involved as a Teacher Aide.

Mrs Bronwyn Butler is joining the staff in Administration, working in Careers with responsibility for the Gateway programme. She has a great deal of experience in Administration and has previously worked as the International Student Coordinator at Palmerston North Boys' High School.

If You Have Concerns...

If you are a **student** and you have a concern...

If your concern is about...	You should first see....	If not resolved, then ...	And if still not resolved....
Your learning , e.g. classwork and assessment	Your teacher	Your Dean	Mrs Clark Deputy Principal Curriculum & Assessment
A discipline problem , e.g. a detention	The teacher who gave you the detention	Your Dean	Mr Wooster Deputy Principal Student Management
A pastoral issue , e.g. bullying, attendance	Your form teacher	Your Dean	Mr Wooster or Mrs Hart Guidance Counsellor

If you are a **parent** and you have a concern...

If your concern is about...	You should first see...	If not resolved, then ...	And if still not resolved ...
A learning problem , e.g. classwork and assessment	The Dean	Mrs Clark Deputy Principal Curriculum and Assessment	Mr Leitch Acting Principal
A discipline problem , e.g. a detention	The Dean	Mr Wooster Deputy Principal Student Management	
A pastoral issue , e.g. bullying, attendance	The Dean	Mr Wooster or Mrs Hart Guidance Counsellor	
A financial issue relating to any account or charge	Either Mrs Gray or Mrs Clarke in the Office	Mrs Hantler Principal's PA	

At Karamu High School, our year level deans play an important role in the pastoral care of your sons and daughters. Our year level deans for 2016 are listed below for your information. Please email your son or daughter's dean or phone 878 7139 and leave a message, if you wish to contact them.



Year 9
Mrs Tash Crawford
tcrawford@karamu.school.nz



Year 9
Mr Jon Read
jread@karamu.school.nz



Year 10
Ms Jo Veen
jveen@karamu.school.nz



Year 10
Mr Byron Crawford
bcrawford@karamu.school.nz



Year 11
Mrs Kirsty van Rijk
kvanrijck@karamu.school.nz



Year 11
Mr Dave Taylor
dtaylor@karamu.school.nz



Year 12
Mrs Emma Wiggins
ewiggins@karamu.school.nz



Year 13
Mrs Karen Beaumont
karenbeaumont@karamu.school.nz