# KARAMU NEWSLETTER

(nowledge is Strength | He Mana to te Mataurango

Issue 1

February 2018

#### **Uniform Shop Hours**

Wednesdays

1:20 to 2:00pm

and

3:00 - 4:00pm

#### **Dates to Remember**

Tuesday 20 February
Student ID Photos

Wednesday
21 February
Year 13 Breakfast

Wednesday 14 March Year 9 Parent Evening

> Tuesday 6 March Athletics Sports

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# POWHIRI

On Thursday 1 February the school year was officially opened with a powhiri to welcome our new students and staff to Karamu High School. The powhiri was once again held outdoors under the shelter of Te Tira O Karamu, our sculpture.

Jacob Kershaw-Horua led the school in the school haka as the students and staff were welcomed onto the school site.

Mr Leitch then welcomed everyone to Karamu and placed a wero (challenge) to both the new and existing students to continue to ensure that Karamu is better than before. He spoke of the opportunities available and the importance of living our school values to ensure that 2018 is another outstanding year for everyone in the school.

Following on from the powhiri, Mr Leitch announced the head students for the year; Cameron Young (Head Boy), Amy Saunders (Head Girl), Nick Palmer (Deputy Head Boy) and Jaime Mossman (Deputy Head Girl). The ceremony was completed with the raising of the school flag by the head students to officially begin the 2018 academic year.















"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out"

Robert Collier Author

#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is with great pleasure that I write to you for the first time in 2018. I hope you have all had a fantastic break over the festive season and are acclimatising to the regular routines the new year brings.

I would like to begin by extending a warm welcome to all of our new students, whanau and teaching staff that have joined the Karamu community in 2018.

This year we welcome 224 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 906 students and the school's zoning policy needing to be implemented to once again off-set the pressure of demand from within the Hastings District. I have been very impressed with the new students who have joined us this year, and I look forward to meeting you all as the term progresses.

Every year we take this opportunity to report the academic success of our students to our parents and the wider community. The 2017 NCEA results were released in mid-January and I am pleased to report that Karamu High School has once again performed above, and in most cases well above, the national and decile 4 -7 schools averages.

As well as NCEA results, a number of our top academic Year 13 students sit additional New Zealand Scholarship Examinations. A special congratulations goes to Bethany Cox (Geography – Outstanding), Phoebe Hinton (Physical Education), Toby Hunter (Media Studies), Tayah-Daisy Coleman (English) Tate Gorton (Drama), Niko Slade (Media Studies, Geography) and Oliver Chamberlain (English, Geography) for these outstanding achievements.









It is important to note that these results are <u>roll based data</u>, not <u>participation based data</u> which includes all students on the roll as at 1 July 2017. We have a number of students who leave to tertiary providers, employment or other schools prior to them completing their course, which has an impact on the overall results.

Analysis of these results is ongoing and we are constantly looking athow we can be more effective in raising the achievement of all students. I would like to congratulate our senior students who achieved NCEA at their respective levels and encourage our current students to use these results as motivation to raise the bar even higher in 2018.

In addition to these results in 2018 we again had an outstanding number of students achieve various level endorsements. On Friday 23 February we are holding a special NCEA assembly to acknowledge the 156 students to date with course endorsements.



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. 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.

Regards Michael Leitch

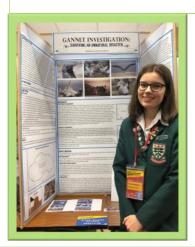
### TAIWAN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

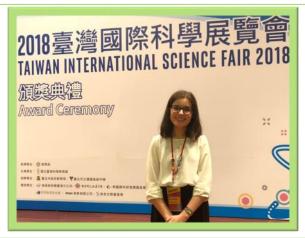
From 28 January until 3 February, Bethany Cox was given the opportunity to go on a fully-funded trip to Taiwan to represent New Zealand and compete in the Taiwan International Science Fair.

Approximately 260 other students from 23 countries were present. The main events of the week consisted of an opening ceremony, judging day - where various judges gave the students intense interviews about their projects, and the awards ceremony - which was attended by the President of Taiwan. However, the students also participated in several other events to immerse themselves in Taiwanese culture, such as, a 'welcome dinner' to introduce the students to Taiwanese cuisine, a lot of sightseeing and even a pottery class.

Bethany's project, titled 'Gannet Investigation: Surviving an Unnatural Disaster,' which is about the nesting patterns of the Gannet Colony at Cape Kidnappers, was placed fourth in the Animal Science Category.

We are immensely proud of Bethany's achievements and wish her all the best as she heads to Auckland University to begin her tertiary studies.









"Excellence is not a skill. It is an attitude"

Ralph Marston

#### **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT**

While it may feel the Academic year has started off in a flurry it has been done with careful planning for our Year 12 and 13 students. It was a pleasure to have the students and their whanau join senior deans to reflect on their past year's results, discuss their career aspirations, set goals and confirm appropriate courses for this year. Being in appropriate courses, setting realistic but aspirational goals and knowing the pathways available to them are great stepping stones for exceptional personal success.

Research shows that students with over 90% attendance have a much greater chance of success. So if you and your son/daughter are serious about achieving the goals they have set themselves this year then the hard work needs to start now. This includes being at school, being attentive in class, being aware of assessments and completing them on time and to the best of their ability. The Karamu website will soon have an Assessment Calendar of milestone and assessment dates for each course.

Homework should also be a regular event for all high school students. Students will not succeed to their true potential unless they are actively going over their work between lessons and checking their understanding. There is no such statement as "I have no homework tonight". Homework can mean summarising key points into an exercise book or onto flash cards explaining the key points.

**Dionne Thomas** 

# **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - STUDENT MANAGEMENT**

It has been a very good start to the year for everyone. Our new Year 9 students have settled in well to high school and are a great group.

Here at Karamu we work hard to maintain our high standards, so here are a few reminders that ensure we are all on the same page:

- Students should be at school by 8:30am for a 8:35am start except for Wednesdays when school begins at 9:00am
- Our uniform must be worn correctly to and from school. The school cap is the only hat allowed to be worn
- All students biking to school must wear a bike helmet
- If your son/daughter is away for any reason please leave a message on the school attendance line 870 6143
- If your son/daughter brings a car or motor scooter to school they must have it registered with the school

I look forward to another productive and rewarding year for everyone.

Wayne Wooster



"Be positive, patient and persistent"

Anonymous

"If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn't seem so wonderful at all"

Michelangelo

#### **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

It has been a busy start to the year with the Year 9 students starting new courses and finding their way around a different and exciting environment. Some of the big changes are the increase in students bringing laptops to school and induction with all Year 9 on the responsibilities and the technicalities of using their Laptops at school. We are moving towards a school in which all students will require access to a laptop for their learning. More information on this will follow throughout the year.

We have launched our new website and students will use this as a hub to access their logins to their timetables, reports and attendance as well as other features, including our library where they can reserve, search and reissue their books online.

We have a large number of students riding to school and with the upcoming works on Grove Road and Windsor Avenue it is important that they take care and wear their helmets. They will also need to ensure that their bikes are locked while at school. Parents and caregivers picking up students please use the parking along Grove Road, this gives easy access and exit and students can cross at the courtesy crossing. If you do come down Beatson Road beside the school please turn left on exit as it is safer and less disruptive to the traffic flow.

**Damien Hollands** 

### KARAMU VALUES

Our vision, Proudly Karamu, Proudly Hastings, Proudly Learning provides a clear and concise set of outcomes for both our staff and students to aspire to.

Our vision however is underpinned by a set of values which we as a community have identified as the key to fulfilling our vision. In 2017 greater emphasis will be placed on acknowledging students who display our values both inside and outside the classroom.

Whanaungatanga - Positive Relationships, Collaboration, Respect and School Pride

Excellence – Fulfilling Potential, Acceleration of Learning

Leadership – Initiative, Self-management, Honesty, Integrity, Reliability

Creativity – Thinking Skills, Innovation, Imagination, Problem Solving, Academic Risk Taking

Overcoming Adversity – Perseverance, Resilience

Manaakitanga - Hospitality, Welcoming, Engaging

Embracing Diversity – Accepting differences, Inclusive

By acknowledging and reinforcing these values at home as well as at school, we believe that all students at Karamu High School will fulfil our vision. I encourage you to discuss these values with your sons and/or daughters. Check their understanding and ask for examples of where they have demonstrated them recently.

### **HEAD STUDENTS 2018**



Left to Right: Jaime Mossman (Deputy Head Girl), Cameron Young (Head Boy), Amy Saunders (Head Girl), Nick Palmer (Deputy Head Boy)

### WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS



Left to right: Jackie Chamberlain, Pauline Woodmass, Wendy Wardrope, Mark Rolls, Eva Fraser, Pippa Baines, Rachelle Poirier
Absent: Anna Coleman

Mrs Jackie Chamberlain (Teacher Aide) — Having worked last year in a part time capacity Mrs Chamberlain will move to a full time role in student support. Mrs Chamberlain has worked in a number of voluntary roles in our community over the past nine years since migrating from the United Kingdom.

Mrs Pauline Woodmass (Technology/Mathematics) – Having previously taught at Karamu Mrs Woodmass returns on a one year maternity leave position for Mrs Julie Burn. Mrs Woodmass joins us from her previous position as Deputy Principal at Westshore School.

**Mrs Wendy Wardrope** (ESOL) – Mrs Wardrope will be working this year as a specialist ESOL teacher on a part time basis. Having recently returned from Thailand after 10 years she has a wealth of experience in working with students supporting their language and skill development.

**Mr Mark Rolls** (Guidance Counsellor) – Mr Rolls joins us as a full time counsellor. He is an experienced practitioner having worked for the past 11 years on the CAFS team.

**Miss Eva Fraser** (Librarian) – Following stints as both a student teacher and in long term relieving positions Miss Fraser decided to follow one of her passions in reading and books. Miss Fraser has an incredibly important role as school librarian in not only a teaching and learning capacity but also the pastoral care of our students.

Miss Pippa Baines (Teacher Aide) – Another familiar face as an ex-student of the school, Miss Baines joins us having worked in the hospitality industry. She has a real interest in working with people and is looking to move into the area of social work.

Miss Rachelle Poirier (English) – Originally from Boston, Miss Poirier has been in New Zealand for the past four years. Following the completion of her teaching training through Auckland University, she taught at Massey High School before making the decision to move to Hawke's Bay.

Mrs Anna Coleman (Speech) – Having recently moved from Auckland Mrs Coleman runs her own business as a speech and confidence coach in Westshore. Mrs Colman has previously taught drama and english at Kings School for 8 years and also Kristen School and the Diocesan School for Girls. She also has experience working in the media for the Sunday Star Times, Sunday News and the NZ Herald and joins us as our speech tutor in a part time capacity.

# YEAR 9 BIG DAY OUT

As a transition to High School, 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.



#### STUDENT ID PHOTOS

On Tuesday 20 February, student ID photos will be taken. The opportunity to purchase an ID card is optional but open to all Year levels at Karamu High School.

The ID cards will cost \$6.00. Students must have \$6.00 cash with them on Tuesday to have an ID card issued.

This is the only opportunity for a student to obtain a ID card this year.

#### YEAR 9 PARENT EVENING

The Year 9 Parent Evening is on Wednesday 14 March at 5:30pm in the June Clark Centre (School Hall).

This an opportunity for parents to meet their son/daughters teachers in an informal setting.

There will be a short meeting followed by light refreshments.

#### 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 Thomas 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 Mr Rolls 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 <b>learning problem</b> , e.g. classwork and assessment	The dean	Mrs Thomas Deputy Principal Curriculum and Assessment	
A <b>discipline problem</b> , e.g. a detention	The dean	Mr Wooster Deputy Principal Student Management	Mr Leitch Principal
A <b>pastoral issue</b> , e.g. bullying, attendance	The dean	Mr Wooster or Mr Rolls Guidance Counsellor	
A <b>financial issue</b> relating to any account or charge	Either Mrs Gray or Ms Radley 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 2018 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 10 Ms Sarah Gunn sgunn@karamu.school.nz



Year 11 Mrs Tracy Taylor ttaylor@karamu.school.nz



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



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



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



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



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



Year 12 Mr Aron Noble anoble@karamu.school.nz