



Uniform Shop Hours

Wednesdays
11:00 am - 11:30am
3:00pm - 4:00pm

2025 Dates to Remember

Mon 26 May - Fri 6 June

L2 Art Exhibition at Hastings
Community Art Centre

Tuesday 27 May

NZ Careers Expo - Year 12

Wednesday 28 May

Victoria Uni Visit to Year 13

Friday 30 May

Coro Notabile Music Workshop

Monday 2 June

King's Birthday - no school

Tuesday 3 June

Chamber Music Contest

Wed 4 June - Wed 11 June

Year 10 Self Defence Course

Wednesday 4 June

Futureopoloy

Thursday 5 June 1:30pm finish

Senior Parent Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 10 June

Matarika Wananga
DVC Hastings CBD Tour

Friday 13 June

Nga Manu Kōrero

Friday 13 June

Japan Trivia

Windsor Avenue
Hastings 4122
New Zealand
Postal address
PO Box 346, Hastings 4156
Phone +64 6 878 7139
admin@karamu.school.nz
www.karamu.school.nz

CABARET

Hollywood Glamour

The Year 13 Cabaret is one of the most anticipated events on our school calendar. This special evening gives Year 13 students the opportunity to take the lead, - organising and enjoying a formal celebration with their peers. Held on Thursday 15 May, at the prestigious Cheval Rooms at Hastings Racecourse, the event was truly spectacular.

Embracing the theme of 'Hollywood Glamour' students and their guests indulged in a delicious three-course meal before dancing the night away, capturing memories through photos, and sharing many moments of joy and laughter. As the clock struck midnight, buses arrived to transport the tired yet happy attendees home.

We extend our deepest appreciation to Mr England, whose leadership of the dedicated head student team and tireless efforts in organising this event made the evening possible.

We hope you enjoy this collection of photos that beautifully capture the magic of the night, later in the newsletter.



PRINCIPAL

Tēnā koutou tēnā koutou tēnā koutou katoa,

Our 'WELCOME' values are the core values on which Karamū High School bases its day-to-day operations.

Whanaungatanga - Positive relationships, Collaboration, Respect, and School Pride

Excellence - Fulfilling potential, Personal excellence, 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

Each week in assembly I try to link these values to our events, the student leaders' roles and our day-to-day mahi. Assemblies are my opportunity to teach the school what is at the heart of being Proudly Karamū.

On a Monday after school recently, I went for a wander around the school. I was in awe of what I discovered. It reflected the diversity of our school and the adage most people can 'find their tribe' at Karamū. For example:

- In the gym was our Senior A girls volleyball team training hard with our external coach;
- On one side of the field was golf lessons with Year 9 to 13 students practicing side by side;
- On the other side of the field was Boys Football training;
- At Te Poho o Rongokako was Te Rau Karamū (kapa haka) practice, well actually outside the whare, because there were too many students for it to be held inside; and
- In the library was Dungeon and Dragons – the quirkiest board/digital online game with the coolest dice!

My wairua was certainly filled as I walked around (and joined in where I could!)

As we know this year the Year 13 student leaders have chosen the following quote in which they want to aspire to and champion for the year:

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step

I always urge each student to engage in something outside the classroom and that's what's exciting about a new term, a new season. It gives an opportunity to start fresh. Set new goals. Whether they be in the classroom or outside of the classroom in co-curricular. With the diverse range of co-curricular activities available, everyone just needs to make a start. Start today, start this week, this month - the most important part of any endeavor is taking the initial step, because small steps lead to results. Embrace the diversity on offer and you will be on the way to embracing what it means to embrace being Proudly Karamū.

(NB: the best way to check out what co-curricular activities are on offer is to check the notices daily on the SchoolApp).

PRINCIPAL

I am looking forward to getting out and seeing as much of the winter sport as possible in the second half of the term as in Term 3 I will be off on a Ministry of Education awarded sabbatical. In my absence Mr England will be Acting Principal and Mr Fleming Acting Deputy Principal-Pastoral. I look forward to sharing some of my journey with you on my return.

Ngā mihi nui

Mrs Dionne Thomas
Tumuaki/Principal



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - STUDENT MANAGEMENT

Kia ora e te whānau,



Term 2 is now well underway, and it's been fantastic to see so many students immersing themselves in the wide range of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities on offer at school. If your child is yet to experience one of the many extra opportunities provided by the school, I would fully encourage them to do so. These opportunities provide rich experiences that are not always offered inside a classroom.

On Thursday 15 May the annual cabaret was held in the Cheval Rooms at the Hastings Racecourse. It was wonderful to see the Year 13s dressed up to the nines and enjoy the special occasion together in their final year of high school. I am truly grateful for all the staff and students who helped plan and prepare the evening. Your time and effort made this a night to remember.

Also, a reminder that school starts at 8:35am every morning apart from Wednesday's (9:00am). Being on time demonstrates good punctuality and enables students to maximise their opportunities presented to them on a daily basis. Those late to school in the morning will spend time with their year-level dean reflecting on how to improve the key competency of managing self. If your child has a valid reason for being late in the morning, please contact the school.

Finally, as the weather starts to get cooler, please ensure that your child has access to a school jersey or jacket. We have several jerseys and jackets available for student use, so if purchasing one is going to be an issue, please direct your child to the main office.

If you have concerns or questions about your child's welfare, please do not hesitate to contact me or their dean.

Mr Troy England
Deputy Principal - Student Management

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - STAFF

Kia ora e te whānau,



Mahi Workshops Preparing Seniors for Life Beyond School

Our senior students have been gaining valuable life skills and insights into their futures through our Mahi workshops.

This dedicated "25th hour" of their weekly schedule is designed to support their growth beyond the classroom, equipping them with practical knowledge and tools to help them navigate life after school.

Year 13 students have recently completed a series of five-week modules focusing on key areas such as the realities of flatting, including budgeting and household responsibilities, as well as managing finances and relationships as they prepare for life after school.

Year 12 students are halfway through their courses, which include an automotive unit that introduces them to practical skills and industry pathways.

A strong focus is also placed on gaining their restricted driver's licence, along with workshops exploring personal wellbeing, employment rights, and career exploration.

Year 11 students are beginning to explore part-time work opportunities, learning about financial literacy, study skills, online safety, and how to set and achieve personal goals. In early Term 3, they'll also begin preparing for their learner's licence.

All senior students participate in a study skills workshop as part of the Mahi programme and will have dedicated study time in the lead-up to benchmark exams later in Term 3, and the NCEA examinations beginning on 4 November.

These workshops are an important part of helping our rangatahi build confidence, independence, and a strong sense of direction as they look ahead to life beyond school.

Ngā mihi

Mr Damien Hollands
Deputy Principal - Staff



Students with Mr Hollands during one of the Mahi workshops

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - CURRICULUM

Kia ora e te whānau,



Term 2 is a busy term for our senior students with a strong focus on gaining credits from their internal assessments. Students are encouraged to strive high, as Merit and Excellence credits are looked upon favorably by both employers and tertiary institutions. Students and parents are encouraged to track success through the KAMAR Portal.

A key factor in gaining success in NCEA is maintaining a very high attendance level. In addition students need to be doing regular homework which not only means completing assessment tasks but also processing their class notes into summaries, flash card notes and mind maps. This will also make future assessments seem not so 'foreign'.

While we have put in place a number of systems to help students gain success, including the Homework Club and teacher led tutorials, it is important students maintain a balanced sense of wellbeing or hauora.

Wellbeing comes from physical, mental and emotional health. It's about having positive emotions, taking part in different activities, having good relationships and social connections, finding meaning in life and feeling that you're doing well. Check out the 'Parents Info' for tips on Boosting Teenage Wellbeing. <https://raisingchildren.net.au/teens/mental-health-physical-health/about-mental-health/happy-teens> - link

All our students are teenagers, navigating a challenging pathway through adolescence, in which we know their decisions and actions need guidance and support – that is the privileged role we as teachers and parents get to play. We look forward to sharing your child's progress so far with Term 2 reports for seniors out in Week 6 and juniors Week 9.

Ms Sarah Gunn
Deputy Principal - Curriculum



KARAMŪ HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN EVENING

6.30pm Thursday 31 July

Proudly Karamū | Proudly Hastings | Proudly Learning

BOOSTING TEENAGE WELLBEING

Here are some ideas for fostering different aspects of teenage wellbeing:

Physical Health

When your child takes care of themselves physically, it's good for their wellbeing. For example, being active, having a break from technology, getting outside and getting enough sleep can help your child's mood and improve their physical fitness.

Mental and Emotional Health

Good mental and emotional health is important for teenage wellbeing. For example, teenagers with good mental and emotional health can develop resilience to cope better with difficult situations. If your child develops resilience, they can 'bounce back' when things go wrong, which will help them get through life's ups and downs and boost their wellbeing.

Positive Emotions

If your child can focus on the good things, take a positive approach to life's challenges and know what they are feeling good about or what's going well for them, it can help them focus on positive emotions.

Different Activities

Trying new things and getting involved in different activities keeps your child's options open. This can also help your child find things that they're good at.

Relationships and Social Connections

Relationships and social connections are vital for teenage wellbeing. Your child needs close and supportive family and friends. And good parent-child relationships tend to lead to good teenage friendships.

Meaning in Life

Meaning in life can come from doing good things for others. Your child could look for everyday ways to help family or friends - for example, giving someone their seat on the bus, or helping someone pick up papers they've dropped in the street. Or they could get involved in a community activity. This type of 'giving' lights up the reward centre in the brain, which makes your child feel good.

Feeling connected to something bigger can also help to give your child's life a sense of purpose. Meaning might come from spirituality, life philosophy, or a commitment to a cause like the environment. People with meaning have less stress and get more out of what they do.

Goals and Achievement

If your child has goals that fit with their values, are fun and attainable, and let them use their strengths, it can give them a sense of purpose and achievement.

Sourced from: http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/happy_teenagers.html

POLICY REVIEWS

In Term 2 we are continuing to review topics in the Health, Safety, and Welfare Policy. These include: Planning and Preparing for Emergencies, Disasters, and Crises; Communication During an Emergency, Disaster, or Crisis; School Closure; Emergency Management; Disaster Management; and Crisis Management.

These include: Safety Management Systems; Risk Management; Worker Engagement, Participation and Representation; Healthcare and Recording and Reporting Accidents, Injuries and Illnesses.



Who reviews our policies and procedures?

Reviews are open to board, staff, and the school community (parents/caregivers/whānau). Anyone can review any policy/procedure that has a red, review flag.

To start reviewing:

1. Visit the website <https://karamu.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
2. Enter the username (karamu) and password (knowledge).
3. Click on the **Reviews** to take you to the policies being reviewed.
4. To start reviewing, click on the name of each **Term 1 review topic**.
5. Read the policy.
6. Then click the **Start your review** button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
7. Select the reviewer type (Parent).
8. Enter your name (optional).
9. **Add your ratings and comments.**

REMINDER

Please name your child's uniform!
With the weather turning colder, if your child loses their jersey or jacket, every effort is made to return it to them if it is named!
Thanks

TONGARIRO TRIP

The Level 2 and Level 3 geography classes recently visited Mount Ruapehu to collect data and information for both their internal and external assessments.

The day began with wet conditions but gradually cleared into a beautiful day. Students completed a 6km walk along with several shorter circuits, allowing them to take in the stunning scenery, including locations where The Lord of the Rings was filmed.



YEAR 9 SCHOLARSHIPS

It was our great pleasure to announce the recipients of the 2025 Year 9 Scholarships in Week 2 of this term.

We were delighted to receive a large number of outstanding applications at the end of Term 1, making the selection process especially difficult.

Congratulations to the following exceptional students:

Academic

Hoang Nguyen
Emma Packer
Lily Ray
Linda Yang

Sports

Maddie D'Ath
Te Arahia Katipa-Heremaia
Taimana Ehu-Thompson
Nate Cuthbert

Cultural and Performing Arts

Hayley Boston
Emerson Hokianga



Back Row: Taimana Ehu-Thompson, Hoang Nguyen, Emma Packer, Emerson Hokianga, Nate Cuthbert

Front Row: Maddie D'Ath, Hayley Boston, Linda Yang, Lily Ray, Te Arahia Katipa-Heremaia

YEAR 13 TOURISM TRIP TO ROTORUA

On Sunday 11 May, the Year 13 Tourism class headed to Rotorua to experience some of the activities that are on offer for tourists visiting the area.

We stopped in Taupō on the way to have lunch by the lake, then we travelled through to Rotorua. The first tourist hotspot we visited was the Skyline Luge, where, after a scenic gondola ride to the top, we raced each other down the tracks of Mount Ngongotahā.

Monday saw us racing across Lake Rotorua on the Katoa Jetboat ride, reaching speeds of up to 80km p/hour and 360 degree spins. Although it was not all high speed thrills, as we also had a commentary from our guide about the volcanic landscape and Māori narratives of the area.

Finally we went to Velocity Valley, Rotorua's ultimate adrenaline park. Students chose from the Agrojet, a high speed jetboat ride at speeds of up to 100km p/ hour, the Shweeb, a competitive pedal powered monorail capsule, and the Swoop, a giant swing that releases you from a crane 40 metres up.

This trip offered students the opportunity to explore one of New Zealand's most popular tourist spots, as well as giving them a deeper understanding of the geothermal features and Māori heritage in the area. It's definitely a trip to do again next year.



TRIP TO RANUI FARM

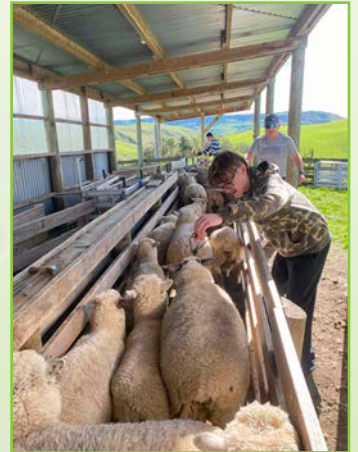
The KETE Programme (Karamū transition to Employment or further Training and Education) provides an opportunity to explore career pathway ideas and provide essential skills for entry, workplace, or further studies beyond Karamū High School.

This term the KETE classes visited Ranui Farm in Waipukurau.

The students learnt about various aspects of the agriculture industry such as drafting, putting up electric fences and changing blades for shearing.

The highlight of the trip for many of the students was going for a ride around the farm on the ATV and a range of other farming activities.

Thank you very much Russell and Trevor Ennor.



**THE HAWKES BAY
YEAR 12
ART
EXHIBITION
2025**

**arts
inc.**
HERETAUNGA

HCAG
HASTINGS CITY ART GALLERY

**Life & Arts
UMANITY**
SPECIALISTS IN GIVE ARTS EDUCATION

Gordon Harris
THE ART & GRAPHIC STORE

OPENING NIGHT
Monday 26th May at 5.30pm
Artwork by Kennedy Lee, Karamū High School

Monday 26th May - Friday 6th June
Hastings Community Arts Centre, 106 Russell Street South, St Leonards, Hastings
Established in 2001, the exhibition is open to all Year 12 Visual Arts students in Hawkes Bay, and their teachers.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Karamū High School champions kindness with Pink Shirt Day

Colour, music and kindness were on full display at Karamū High School as students marked Pink Shirt Day with a celebration that reinforced the school's commitment to standing up to bullying.

Held on Friday (May 9), a week ahead of the national date, the event featured a pink-themed free dress day, a popular bake sale, music in the school courtyard, and library displays focused on anti-bullying. It was organised by Year 13 community leaders Kylah-Jay Garrett-Naera (Ngāti Kahungunu), Bella Bridson and Taylor Bevan.

This year, Pink Shirt Day in Aotearoa carries the theme "Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Stand Together", a reminder that stopping bullying requires collective action and a shared commitment to inclusivity and wellbeing.

"Pink Shirt Day is definitely a fundraising day that is important to Karamū," Kylah-Jay said. "We're here to raise awareness and let people know we're there for them."

Students contributed a wide range of treats for the bake sale, including cupcakes, rice krispie slices, cookies, lolly bags and crocheted flowers. Music played during lunch, and the library offered colouring pages and themed reading displays.

"A lot of what we do embraces whanaungatanga. Our school really supports those welcoming values," Taylor Bevan said. He added that the bake sale was a great example, combining fundraising with something enjoyable for students.

Bella, who wore the official Pink Shirt Day T-shirt, said the campaign's message resonated with her. "It's about committing to kindness and creating a better Aotearoa. I really like that."

For Kylah-Jay, the message of inclusion goes hand in hand with the diversity of the school community. "We're a very diverse school, so it's important that everyone feels included. No one's the same, and making sure people feel heard and understood really matters."

Staff also played a key role behind the scenes, supporting the student organisers and helping the day run smoothly. "They've been helping us, making sure we have everything we need," Kylah-Jay said.

Mrs Thomas said the community leaders have once again led the school in such a positive way.

"They built on the success of Relay for Life by demonstrating manaakitanga and used Pink Shirt Day as a powerful movement to spread aroha and kindness. May these values continue to guide and empower their actions in the future." The official Pink Shirt Day was held nationwide on Friday, May 17.



Karamū High School Community Leaders Kylah-Jay Garrett-Naera (Ngāti Kahungunu), Bella Bridson and Taylor Bevan at the bake sale they held for Pink Shirt Day.

KARAMŪ DUO CAPTAINS NATIONAL CANOE POLO TEAMS

Karamū High School duo captains national canoe polo teams

A current and a former Karamū High School student are making waves internationally after being appointed captains of their respective New Zealand canoe polo teams.

Year 13 student Elise Teddy will captain the New Zealand Under 18A team, while former student Hayley Austin is leading the New Zealand women's team.

The two athletes briefly played together at Karamū when Elise joined the senior girls' team as a Year 9 student, mentored at the time by Hayley.

It is an experience Elise credits as pivotal in her development.

"I was the only junior girl when I started, so I was put straight into the senior team," Elise said. "Hayley was Year 13 at the time and really took me under her wing. She taught me so much - she's honestly my idol."

Elise, who began playing canoe polo in Year 5, nearly gave up the sport in intermediate school but rediscovered her passion at Karamū, becoming captain of the school team and now the national side.

Hayley, who graduated from Karamū in 2022 and is currently studying a Bachelor of Business at Massey University, describes her selection as captain of the senior women's team as "the pinnacle" of her sporting career.

"It makes all the early-morning and winter trainings worth it. To be captain in my first year on the senior team is an honour, and something I'm really proud of."

Hayley credits the support she received at Karamū, highlighting the school's historical strength in canoe polo during her time.

"The school was incredibly supportive. Everyone knew what canoe polo was, and we were always recognised at assemblies. That support meant a lot."

Canoe polo has long been a successful code at Karamū High School, with a proud history of producing regional and national-level athletes.

Both captains will lead their teams at the Oceania Championships on the Gold Coast, Australia, this April. Success there would secure qualification for next year's World Championships in Germany, where Hayley aims to help defend New Zealand's current title.

Karamū High School principal Dionne Thomas says the achievement of both Elise and Hayley is a source of pride for the entire school community.

"Elise and Hayley's success speaks volumes about their dedication and reflects the supportive sporting environment at Karamū. To see two of our students leading at this level is extraordinary, and we'll be cheering them on all the way."



Photo: Former Karamū High School student Hayley Austin has been selected to captain the New Zealand Women's Canoe Polo team.

KARAMŪ WELCOMES A NEW DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ERA

Karamū High School's digital technologies department has entered a new era, with the retirement of its longest-serving teacher, Neil Moir, and the arrival of Sri Lankan educator Shehara Rodrigo.

Mr Moir retired at the end of last year after an impressive 46 year tenure. Having first arrived at Karamū in 1976 as a mathematics and science teacher, he later transitioned into digital technology where he played a pivotal role in shaping the school's approach to computing education. He briefly left Karamū in 1986 but returned two years later and remained a cornerstone of the school's faculty until his retirement.



From the days of floppy disks to the rise of artificial intelligence, Mr Moir shaped digital education at Karamū High School, witnessing and adapting to rapid technological changes. His commitment to students and passion for evolving technology left a lasting legacy. Reflecting on his career, Mr Moir acknowledged the changing nature of education but highlighted that his greatest satisfaction came from seeing students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

"When I started, computers were a niche subject. Now, they are everywhere. In the early days, everything was new—you could build your own computers if you had the money. Now, everything just comes pre-packaged. But the challenge has always been the same: helping students keep up with the rapid changes in technology and develop the skills they need for the future."

Over the decades, he has taught multiple generations of students, often within the same families. "I've had students whose parents and even grandparents I taught," he says. "It's been rewarding to see that continuity and to know I played a role in shaping their understanding of technology."

Mr Moir also credited his colleagues for creating a supportive and welcoming environment, a big reason as to why he stayed for so long. The staff, particularly in the last seven or eight years, contributed so much to the positive atmosphere of the school," he said.

His departure marks the end of an era, but Karamū has found a worthy successor in Shehara Rodrigo, who has 20 years of teaching experience at international schools in Sri Lanka and two master's degrees. Mrs Rodrigo's early career saw her teaching in international schools in Sri Lanka, gaining experience with Cambridge and Edexcel curriculums. After a few years in the workforce, she pursued a master's degree in technology.

When COVID-19 struck, Mrs Rodrigo played a pivotal role in transitioning her school to online learning. "Many teachers didn't even know how to use PowerPoint, let alone teach online," she recalls. "I had to set up the entire system, which was a huge transition for both staff and students." Her leadership in this area earned her a promotion to headmistress.

Now well into her role at Karamū, Mrs Rodrigo has been impressed by the warmth and support of the school community. "Everyone has been incredibly welcoming. It's not just about work; there's a real sense of belonging here." Looking ahead, Mrs Rodrigo is eager to build on the strong foundation left by Moir while bringing her own approach to digital education.

"Technology is always evolving, and I want to ensure students don't just consume it but also learn how to innovate with it," she says. "I'm excited to bring fresh ideas and new learning experiences that will prepare them for the future."

Photo: Karamū High School's new digital technologies teacher Shehara Rodrigo with students Javarn Ray (left) and James Paton.

ANZAC

On Monday 28 April we held a special ANZAC assembly to remember the group of people who helped shape the kind of life we get to live today.

The Anzac story started on April 25th, 1915, when over 20,000 soldiers from Australia and New Zealand - most of them not much older than our students, landed on the beaches of Gallipoli in Turkey. It was chaotic, terrifying, and dangerous. And yet, they went anyway.

That's where the word ANZAC comes from: **Australian and New Zealand Army Corps**. It's not just a name, it's a symbol of courage, sacrifice, and mateship.



Each year on 25 April, we mark Anzac Day. Since we weren't together on that day, we commemorated when the students returned.

Since the very first services in 1916, we've kept the tradition alive. And even though Anzac Day is a public holiday now, with shops closed until the afternoon, it's about more than just a sleep-in or a break. It's about taking time to reflect. To appreciate. To remember. We take a moment. Think about the people who stood up when it mattered most. Think about the kind of bravery and loyalty that still inspires us now.



On the actual ANZAC Day, we, the senior leadership team and the Year 13 leaders, represented the school at the Hastings Dawn Service, laying a wreath to represent those from our school and our community that have gone before us to serve. It is a great opportunity to be both Proudly Karamū and Proudly Hastings.

At our school assembly our Year 13 student leaders led by reciting Flanders Field poem (read by Ariel) and then the Ode of Remembrance (read by Boston and Tyrell). Taylor Bevan played the National Anthem and Shanika O'Leary introduced our guest speaker Cody Wilson, a recent ex-student, and current member of the Royal NZ Navy. Cody left in 2023 to join Te Taua Moana o Aotearoa the Royal New Zealand Navy as a cryptologic technician.

Cody shared with us her gratitude for the support she had while she was here, her appreciation of the learning of school values and what she has been up to since leaving. Her journeys have been varied from spending a week on HMNZS Canterbury, including going under the now sunk Manawanui while she was in dry dock, learning how to do fuel testing on our Replenishment at Sea Ship HMNZS Aotearoa, learning to live with 15 girls after being an only child, to being selected as armed guard at the 2024 ANZAC Warriors game. At the start of May Cody will be promoted to an able cryptologic technician and hopefully deployed on a ship later this year.

We look forward to welcoming more Tira Ora back this year to share their journeys with us.

TINY TOWN

Year 10 Design and Visual Communication students re-design Tiny Town at Splash Planet

Charles Ropitini (Principal Advisor Relationships, Responsiveness and Heritage) and Tom Page (Facilities Manager) of Heretaunga Hastings District Council invited the Karamū High School Year 10 DVC class to come up with concepts for an upgrade to Tiny Town at Splash Planet.



Students have eagerly generated imaginative concepts for new and reimagined buildings in Tiny Town, drawing inspiration from iconic Hastings architecture and landmarks.

Using both drawing and digital modelling skills, they have developed proposals for the Hastings District Council to review. Many of these creative and insightful ideas may serve as the foundation for an updated Tiny Town at Splash Planet this coming summer. Earlier in the project, the class visited Tiny Town to take measurements and observe the current layout, helping them refine their designs before presenting them to the council team.

We are looking forward to the feedback and seeing how this project evolves.

It is an amazing real-world opportunity, right on our doorstep, that students of Karamū High School, both past and present can relate to and hopefully enjoy again in the future.



OPENING OF THE MUSIC CENTRE



In the early hours of Tuesday, 20 May, a small group of staff and students gathered in the mini-van carpark at 5:45am to take part in a significant and heartfelt event: the official blessing and renaming of the newly refurbished music building.

The proceedings began at 6:00am, led with warmth and mana by Raiha O'Shaughnessy, and Kōkā Sharlena. Matua Rawiri then conducted the blessings, moving purposefully through each space, from the deck into the classroom, through the new digital suite, office, storage areas, itinerant rooms, and finally out through the front door, ensuring every corner of the space was spiritually uplifted.

A highlight of the morning was the unveiling of the building's new name. This moment marked a powerful milestone, recognising both the history and the future of the space. Mr Merv Lewis was Principal from 1986 to 1999 and enjoyed a connection to the performing arts, as did his wife Mrs Judy Lewis, in her teaching career. With other significant areas of the school being named after long serving staff - The June Clark Centre and Wayne Wooster Gym - it is honourable to look to acknowledge the service of our oldest living principal.

Following this, all staff and students joined together in a collective karakia, our school mōteatea bringing unity and wairua to the occasion.

The formalities concluded with kai and kawhe served in the staffroom, where attendees had the chance to share in conversation and reflection. The atmosphere was enriched by live music performances, adding to the sense of celebration. This event was more than just a ceremony - it was a renewal, a blessing, and a shared moment of pride for all involved. Whakamana te whare hou, whakamana te iwi.

SPORTING SUCCESSES

Taekwondo (NZ ITF)

Heidi Paulin 9DFA

Heidi competed at the Australian State Championships for Taekwondo in the April school holidays and received three medals - two bronze and a gold!

She received a bronze in individual patterns and in sparring. The sparring was the hardest event for her. As a yellow belt she was placed up against a red belt plus a black stripe person. On top of this Heidi had hurt her ankle in this but continued to push through to finish her 2 minutes.

She received a gold in Breaking Boards. Heidi was against a group of about 13 people in her level. Heidi broke her boards (which is the hardest boards Heidi has ever broken). Huge congratulations to Heidi for her determination, courage and sportsmanship at this event, representing herself, her whānau and Karamū with pride.

Canoe Polo

Over the holiday period Karamū was well represented at the Oceania Canoe Polo Championships in Australia by both current students and recent Tira Ora. Congratulations to all players:

U18A Women: Gold - Lucy Bristow-Smith and Elise Teddy (Captain)

Women's Paddle Ferns: Gold - Millie Hannam and Hayley Austin (Captain)

U21 Men: Gold - Tobey Hughes, Blaise Coulbeck and Ollie Arcus

U18B Men: Silver - Max Arcus

Dance

Over the holidays we had some great dance achievements. Including at the HipHop internationals in Auckland, our students Zevida Hendricks, Kirat Rai, Maia William, Tuihana Ropiha, Lorena Milliaccio in the troop 'Respect' gained second place qualifying them to go to America in July.

At the Easter NPAC Competition/Festival a further group competed which included the following success:

Jorja Mayo (Y11) gaining a 1st in tap group, and 1st in musical theatre with Born to Move

Lily Eldred (Y10) 1st in tap group, 1st musical theatre solo with Born to Move

Zoe-Ella West (Y10) 1st in tap group with Born to Move

Amelia Cooper (Y12) 1st in tap group

Equestrian

Shavaughn Zampese (Y13) has been selected for the under 18's Worlds Mounted Games (high speed and agility riding, mounting on and off a pony with games equipment) team, competing in Belgium and then travelling to France to compete in a pair's competition in August this year. This is an amazing accomplishment for Shavaughn and one in which will take considerable fund raising to get her there. Keep an eye on our social media platforms for ways in which to support her.

SPORTING SUCCESSES

Volleyball

We have had several students selected for Hawke's Bay Volleyball age group representative teams.

U17 Men's - William Wellwood

U19 Men's - Brodie Russell; Joseph Bassett

U19 Women's - Rhivair Parkes

U17 Women's - Ignite Te Aroha Mohi Sharon Mathew; Aster Shore; Kiki Treacher

U17 Women's - Elevate Julia Nielo; Ceana Comendador - non travelling reserve

Netball

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected for Hawke's Bay representative teams.

U18

Raiha O'Shaughnessy

U16 White

Faith Neethling

Hockey

In April, Hawke's Bay Hockey announced the U18 Women's Team for 2025. Congratulations to Sofia Norfolk who will head up to North Harbour for the national tournament at the end of June.



SENIOR DANCE

Our senior dance students recently enjoyed a choreography-focused workshop with some professional dancers from Footnote New Zealand Dance Company. Thanks to external funding, we were able to host this experience on-site, giving students a chance to learn directly from industry professionals.

The workshop centered on choreographic tools and creative processes - an area where students are always keen to grow - and directly links to their choreography internal standards for NCEA dance.

Footnote's tutors encouraged experimentation, improvisation, and confident decision-making, helping students to refine their movement ideas and explore new ways of creating dance.

We're incredibly grateful for the support that made this opportunity possible, and for the continued connection it provides between our students and the professional dance world.



WEARABLE ART



We had three entries this year into the TOI Wearable Art Competition:

- Emma Nguyen and Isabella Pollard created 'Alice in Wonderland', modelled by Caitlyn Frost.
- Olivea Ward created and modelled 'Lost in the Depths'.
- Jaimee Smith and Hayley Boston made 'One man's trash another man's treasure', modelled by Hayley.

Jaimee and Hayley secured a prize for 'Innovative use of materials', with recognition of their clever use of newspapers to create their garment.

Everyone had a great day and we are excited about next year already!

If anyone is interested in participating in 2026, there is an open Teams group to join 'TOI Wearable Art' where news and ideas will be shared all year long. All welcome, nau mai haere mai.



CABARET



TIRA ORA 1996

Head Boy: Guy Thompson

Head Girl: Louisa Coxon

Dux: Chloe Kerr

General Excellence: Louisa Coxon

Sportsman of the Year: Casey Rangi

MacLeod Service Cup: Anthony Russell

Deputy Head Boy: Jeremy Hepi

Deputy Head Girl: Odette Godber

Proxime Accessit: Fiona Berry

Te Taonga Trophy for Maoritanga: Howard McGuire

Sportswoman of the Year: Megan Clark

School, Buildings & Grounds:

- Music suite opened in Term One by MP Rick Barker - Partly funded by Board - MOE funding was not available in the near future. (Includes 4 practice rooms, sound studio control room, sound – proof band/recording room adjusting existing music room)
- Work Days provided painting & money toward recording equipment
- Staff did a lot of painting & decorating in their own time

Students:

- Trialling of Unit Standards in some subjects
- Students sit Pitman typing exams but in transition from using type-writers to using computers
- Large Dark Room added to Art Department

Culture:

- Karamu has Orchestra, String Orchestra and Concert Band
- Bi annual House Drama continues
- Annual Cushion Concert continues
- Music Tour to Taupo & Auckland
- FootNote Dance Workshop
- For the last 7 years Karamu has held Dance title for Hawke's Bay in the Junior section and for 5 in the Senior section



Footnote Dance 1996

Sports:

- AJ Vester – Rowing Boat (Fours) finally arrives after several years of fund-raising
- Karamu Under 17 Rowing Fours placed second at Nationals
- Canoe Polo – launched as a sport at Karamu High School in Term 2
- Girl's Cricket – near top of their grade
- Karamu First XV Rugby Tour to South Island

HASTINGS

- Population: 60,200
- Hawke's Bay Polytechnic changes to EIT (Eastern Institute of Technology) - Visual Art & Design Degree courses offered
- Milk Plant closed - loss of 40 jobs
- Growers Canneries taken over by McKains
- Watties had 500 applications for 35 jobs
- Roadair closed when contract with Watties was only partly fulfilled – extra trucks could not be utilised

NEW ZEALAND

- NZ Population: 3,705,400, NZ Government: National, NZ Prime Minister: Jim Bolger, First MMP Election
- TAB allowed to introduce betting on Sports, Punters bet on Rugby for the first time
- Imported fruit flies detected in NZ
- Kahurangi in NW of South Island becomes National Park
- Settlement of Taranaki iwi – Treaty of Waitangi land claims

WORLD EVENTS

- USA President: Bill Clinton, UK Prime Minister: John Major
- Dolly the sheep cloned, Taliban control of Afghanistan, Win NT 4.0 released

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 is still not resolved
Your learning , eg. classwork and assessment	Your teacher	Your dean	Ms Gunn, Deputy Principal Curriculum
A discipline problem , eg. a detention	The teacher who gave you the detention	Your dean	Mr England Deputy Principal Student Management
A pastoral issue , eg. bullying, attendance	Your mentor teacher	Your dean	Mr England or Mr Rolls/Ms Jensen the Guidance Counsellors

If you are a parent and you have a concern

If your concern is about	You should first see	If not resolved, then	And is still not resolved
A learning problem , eg. classwork and assessment	The dean	Ms Gunn Deputy Principal Curriculum & Assessment	Mrs Thomas Principal
A discipline problem , eg. a detention	The dean	Mr England Deputy Principal Student Management	
A pastoral issue , eg. bullying, attendance	The dean	Mr England or Mr Rolls/ Ms Jensen the Guidance Counsellors	
A financial issue relating to any account or charge	Either Mrs Gray or Ms Brown in the office	Mrs Meiring Principal's EA	

YEAR LEVEL DEANS 2025

At Karamū High School, our year level deans play an important role in the pastoral care of your child. Our year level deans for 2024 are listed below for your information. Please email your child's dean or phone 878 7139 and leave a message, if you wish to contact them.

Year 9 Deans



Tash Crawford
tcrawford@karamu.school.nz

Year 10 Deans



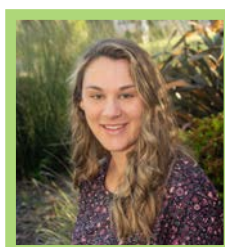
Jade Starck
jstarck@karamu.school.nz

Year 11 Deans



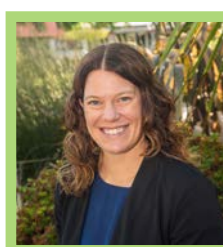
Jasmine Black
jprimmer@karamu.school.nz

Year 12 Deans



Jess Callow
jcallow@karamu.school.nz

Year 13 Deans



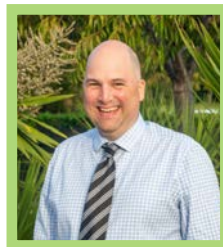
Amber Walter
awalter@karamu.school.nz



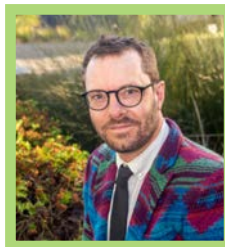
Mike Fleming
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Byron Crawford
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Josh Parker-Bevin
jparker-bevin@karamu.school.nz



Tom Willis
twillis@karamu.school.nz



Dave Murdoch
dmurdoch@karamu.school.nz

NGĀ POU KAIĀRAHI

Year 9



Holly Bruce
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Year 10



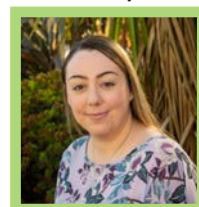
Ashley Blake
ablake@karamu.school.nz

Year 11



Tom Blake
tblake@karamu.school.nz

Year 12/13



Rebecca Love
rlove@karamu.school.nz