

NEWSLETTER



Lunchtime Dance Club performance.

Week 9, Term 4, 2012.

Kia ora koutou,

It is amazing to think that this is the last newsletter of 2012 - the year has certainly flown by! Looking back there have been many highlights starting with the school triathlon and moving on to our Whizz Car race day, PrEP Market day and more recently our outstanding results at local Lamb and Calf days and iMove.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and support which contributed to our success as a school and community. This includes the Education Trust, the KHS Fundraising Group, all of our parent help and community volunteers, staff and students. Your support of the school and hard work is invaluable!

Next year sees a new aspirational Charter and strategic direction to move the school forward over the next 3 years. You had a strong voice in the make up of this foundation document for the school. Final drafts of this will be available in the New Year for your feedback. Exciting times ahead for our school!

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our prizegiving on Thursday evening. This is a great occasion recognising and celebrating achievement in our school and providing a fitting send-off for our Year 8 students.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas, New Year and summer. See you in 2013!

Ngā mihi nui, Nick.

Calendar

December 13

Prizegiving @ 7pm

December 14

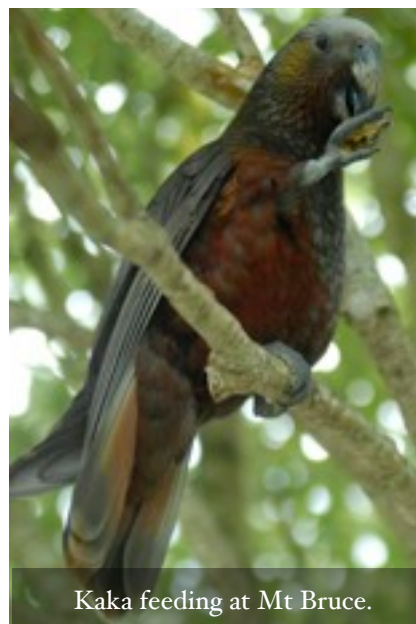
Last Day of Term 4

January 28

First Day of Term 1

A full school calendar is available online at:

<http://kumeroa.school.nz>



Kaka feeding at Mt Bruce.

SCHOOL NOTICES

2013 Classes

Planning is well underway for 2013. After much discussion and looking at every possible scenario, the make up of the classes will at this stage remain the same for next year:

- Fantails: Year 0-2
- Tui: Year 3-5
- Kea: Year 6-8

Reports

Last week written reports were sent home. We have since received a lot of positive feedback around the layout and the clarity of where your child is achieving in relation to the National Standards. However it is clear that there are areas to work on especially in the ***Contributions to School and Community*** section. As much as possible we tried to cover all areas here but forgot some completely (e.g. KHS Netball!!) and not acknowledged others. If you feel that there is a contribution not included there that you would like to see on your child's report, please send Nick an email (principal@kumeroa.school.nz) with the details and we will reprint the report.

Portfolios

Portfolio were also sent home last week. As mentioned there have been some changes to how these are compiled and their purpose. Included at the end of today's newsletter are some notes from the Teacher's Handbook to further explain these changes and in particular the focus on portfolios that ***support learning*** rather than simply an archive of what your child has done. Please note too

Do you have one of these at home?



Please return it to school asap!!

that the portfolios only contained learning from Term 4 for most students. In 2013, portfolios will come home at the ***end of each term***, so this time next year it will be full of the year's learning and reflections!

This means that your child will need to return their portfolio to school so that it can be added to next year. Reminders will be sent out early next year for all returning students.

If you have any further questions about portfolios, please do not hesitate to ask Nick or the teaching staff.

Cricket

To follow on from the successful skills training, Manawatu Cricket are organising a school based cricket competition in the new year in Pahiatua, (likely to be after school on a week day). Our school is entering a team. If your child is interested, please let Mel in the office know. More information will follow.

Library Books, Readers & Journals

Please return ***all*** outstanding library books, readers and journals to school asap, thanks!

Prizegiving

This is scheduled for 7pm tomorrow. It is expected that *all* students attend this event. Supper will follow the prize giving so please bring a plate to share.

Last Day of School

Is this Friday the 14th of December and school will finish at 1pm. Buses will operate from 1pm and complete their usual runs.

Student Council Raffle

ALL raffle sheets with money need to be returned to school **tomorrow** to Mel in the office! Please put them in your child's bag now. Don't stress if you haven't sold them all, just please return to school what you've got.

Thanks, Student Council.

School Photos

Proofs of the photos are now available for viewing in the school office. Feel free to come in and have a look! Order forms are here also, so can either be picked up or please let Mel know if you'd like them sent home. Orders are to be placed directly with Judy Edmonds, the photographer - details and prices are on the order form.

Thanks!

This week we received a payment of \$350 from the AFFCO Bobby Calf Scheme. We are not sure where the calves came

from but whoever your are - a HUGE thank you from the school!!

COMMUNITY NOTICES**School Pool**

The swimming season is now upon us and the school pool is ready to be used. For anyone interested, you are able to purchase a key for the use of the pool over summer. Keys can be obtained from the school office at a charge of \$30 with \$10 refunded when the key is returned at the end of the season.

House for Rent in Kumeroa

4 bedroom house, next door to school & college bus at gate, single garage, pets ok, \$130pw. Phone Ian 376 5559 or Zena 376 5292.

South Tararua Plunket Fundraiser

“NEW YEARS EVE PARTY”

31st December, 8pm, Pahiatua Town Hall. R18, Full Bar available – Eftpos. LIVE BAND. \$25 Tickets @ BNZ Bank
Supper provided, gold coin courtesy van.

Christmas Carol Service

A Christmas Carol service is to be held at St Andrew's Community Church, Kumeroa, on Sunday 16th December at 7.00pm.

Following the service there will be a cup of tea in the hall. Please bring a small plate and come along for some Christmas Cheer. Everyone welcome.

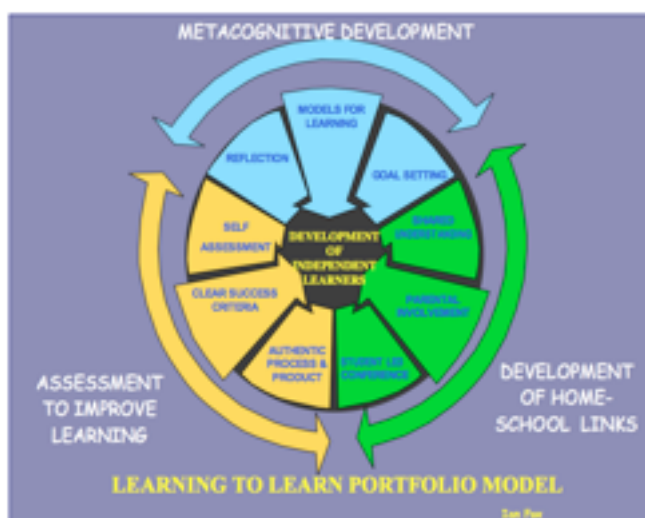
Expressions of interest in Adult Social Volleyball

Where: Stadium Pahiatua. When: Term One, 2013. Please contact: Kim Mabey on 376 6426 / 027 658 0350 or Andre Olsen on 376 6442 / 027 443 4502.

Newsletter Checklist. I have...

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|---|--|
| ✓ Returned 2013 Yr 6/7/8 Optimist Yachting form | ✓ Let Mel know if interested in playing cricket next year. |
| ✓ Returned any outstanding library books, readers and journals. | ✓ Got your pool key for a looong hot summer! |

LEARNING PORTFOLIOS



Learning portfolios serve a number of different roles at Kumeroa-Hopelands School. They are specifically designed to support students and their learning. They achieve this through an **assessment is learning** approach, characterised by:

- Giving students opportunities to self-assess and reflect on their learning
- Supporting students to set goals for future learning
- Strengthening the home-school partnership
- Encouraging student independence and ownership of learning

The **Learning to Learn Portfolio Model** pictured from Ian Fox clearly shows how these characteristics work together to support learners and their learning.

Learning portfolios also have a number of secondary purposes. These include:

- Providing a platform for effective feedback and feedforward

- Showing progress and achievement in learning over time
- Illustrating learning through authentic examples of student work

Process

Each term the learning portfolios should contain, but are not limited to, the following examples of learning:

- Maths/numeracy
- Writing
- Reading
- Theme/inquiry
- PE/Sport
- Art

In order to support an *assessment is learning* approach, examples of learning will clearly show the:

- Purpose of the learning through shared **learning intentions**
- **Success criteria** that students are working towards
- **Self-assessments** students have made of their learning against the success criteria
- Students reflecting and **setting goals**
- Effective **feedback** and **feedforward** from the teacher

Learning portfolios will be sent home at the end of **each** term to enable learning conversations to take place between the student and their family.

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If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Nick.
Thanks.