

# NEWSLETTER



Geometric name tags in Kea class.

## Week 1, Term 1, 2013.

Kia ora koutou,

What a great start to the school year we have had!

The sun is shining, the students are motivated and ready to learn and the swimming pool is getting a great workout during the day and at lunchtime!

I have really enjoyed catching up with students and hearing about their holidays and adventures over the summer break. The staff too are refreshed and ready for the year ahead. We have scheduled a Meet the Teacher evening on February 14 where you can find out more about class routines, learning and expectations for the year.

This year also starts with a new focus and direction for the school. Changes made to the school Charter have been drafted and are ready for your feedback.

Please go to <http://goo.gl/EZZA6> to view a summary of the changes or to download the full document. The Board welcomes your comments!

Another significant happening for the year is taking place in March with a visit from the Education Review Office. This is a great opportunity for us to get some external feedback to improve our school further and better meet the needs of your children.

Busy but really exciting times ahead!

Ngā mihi nui, Nick.

### School Calendar

#### February 1

Kea Class Optimist Yachting

#### February 6

Waitangi Day

#### February 12

KHS BOT Meeting

#### February 14

Meet the Teacher Evening

#### February 20

KHS Triathlon

#### February 23

AgriKids Regional Finals,  
Woodville

#### February 26

BUSH Schools Triathlon

#### March 1

Small School Swimming

#### March 8

BUSH Swimming

A full school calendar is available online at:

<http://kumeroa.school.nz>

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## SCHOOL NOTICES

### End of Year Report Feedback

Last year a feedback form was included with the end of year reports. If you would like to provide us with any comments, please return this to school as soon as possible. If you need a new form please let Nick know.

Thank you to those who have returned the feedback form already.

### School Camp Consultation

We are seeking your input into the future make-up of school camps at Kumeroa-Hopelands School.

Please complete the online questionnaire at the web address below. If Internet access is an issue, feel free to use any of the school computers or contact the office for a hard copy.

The questionnaire is for parents of all students at KHS.

Please point your mouse at:

<http://goo.gl/FV4Ez>

### Contact, Emergency Contact and Medical Details

Over the summer break we have updated the school's student database and have noticed a number of missing details regarding your child/ren.

Please find attached to today's newsletter a print out of each student's contact details, emergency contacts and any medical conditions.

Please:

- Ignore the Year and Room details
- Check the contact details listed are correct. Change any that need updating.
- If there is no email address listed please provide one.
- Check the emergency contact details listed are correct and include their full name and relationship to child. Change any that need updating.
- If there is no emergency contact listed, please provide their name(s), phone number(s) and relationship to the child.
- Check that the medical details listed are correct. Update any that need correcting or include any that are missing.

Once checked and/or updated, please send the sheet back to the school office - even if all details are correct.

Thank you for your cooperation!

### Changes to Bus System

The changes made to the running of the school buses in 2012 have been under constant review. The BOT strive to make these services work for everyone while also being a financially sustainable part of school operation.

One of the major positives of the bus runs last year is that they paid for themselves with the additional bonus of money being put aside for bus replacement. With new sponsorship deals being established, the bus service is in a strong position for 2013.

However, after much discussion, the decision has been made to extend two of the runs closer to Woodville. This would comprise of the first morning run pick-up and the last afternoon run drop-off being

closer to Woodville. As the bus is already making this drive each day, there is no additional cost to the school.

The drop-off and pick-up point will be at the T intersection of Grant St, Range Rd and Nelson St.

These changes will only effect students on either of Sue's Bluff or Hopelands Road runs who live in or close to Woodville. The changes will **not** disadvantage in any way students who live on or near those roads who would have normally been picked up on route to school. Your bus pick-up and drop-off will be unchanged.

A separate form is attached for those students who live in or close to Woodville and are currently on the bus. Please complete and return to school asap so that these changes can be implemented. If you have any questions, please contact Nick or Ben.

### **BOT Meeting**

The next BOT meeting is taking place on Tuesday February 12 @ 6:30pm in the school library - all welcome!

### **Emergency Supplies**

Please send sufficient food to school (named) that we are able to store, to feed your children for a day in the case of an emergency. Thanks.

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

### **Egg Cartons? 1.5l Bottles?**

I am after egg cartons (12's) and 1.5l plastic bottles for 5 new playgroup workshops. If you have any, please send them to school and give to Braeden. Thanks, Rebecca Blatchford.

### **House for Rent in Kumeroa**

4 bedroom house, next door to school & college bus at gate, single garage, pets ok, \$130pw. Playground and swimming pool on your doorstep! Phone Ian 376 5559 or Zena 376 5292.

### **Bush Harrier Club - Hansells 5km Series Run & Walk**

Wednesday nights at Stadium Pahiatua - February 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, March 6th & 13th. Walkers start at 6pm, runners start at 6.10pm. \$2 entry fee, \$5 for families. Some great spot prizes!

### **Wharite Aquatics**

Swimming Lessons for all ages on Mondays & Wednesday's at the Woodville School Swimming Pool (entrance off Ross St). Bring togs, goggles, towels for Registration on Monday 4th February 2013 from 5pm - 6pm. Lessons start Monday 11th & Wednesday 13th Feb and lesson times are 25 minutes. You will be allocated a lesson time starting from 5pm. Parent/Caregiver to be able to get in pool with young child. Total cost is \$10 for lessons (approx 10 lessons if you come twice a week). Please contact Sue Fryer after 5pm on 376 5641 if you have any queries.

### **Newsletter Checklist. I have...**

✓ Returned my checked and updated contact details

✓ Completed the questionnaire regarding school camps

## Peer Mediation Initiative

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

At the end of last year the staff at Kumeroa-Hopelands investigated the 'Conflict/Resolution – Peer Mediation Programme'. This is an initiative that we wish to develop within our school. With the support of the Peace Foundation, through their 'Cool School' programme; we will work to educate all students on the mediation process and to train student leaders as peer mediators.

The Aim of this programme is to:

- Help individuals develop life long conflict management skills
- Create win/win situations for students, teachers, parents and caregivers
- Provide life skills for school, home and the workplace
- Provide a better learning environment
- Be proactive – helping to prevent bullying and violence in the school, home and community
- Encourage students to develop the value of service leadership
- Help students develop the respect for diversity and to value difference

All students will be taught the mediation process as part of the Health Curriculum in their classrooms this Term. Students will then be selected to be peer mediators, they will receive additional training later this term. These skills will serve individuals well in their class, the school playground and also in life.

We believe participants will develop many skills; dealing successfully with conflict, active listening, and effectively questioning.

As we select our first set of peer mediators, we are looking for students who are good role models, responsible, reliable, and respectful. It is important that mediators selected live our Kumeroa-Hopelands School Values and are committed to this leadership role. We have a great number of students who consistently show these qualities. We know we are fortunate to have these students at our school, making it a difficult choice to select our starting group.

If you have any questions or queries feel free to contact us.

Kind regards

Erica Leggett, School Co-ordinator