



Keep your child safe: if absent, please contact the office before 9:15am



KENAKENA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Exciting. Motivating. Positive

He mihi nui ki a koutou nga matua, me nga kaitiaki o a tamariki. Tena koutou katoa.

To the Parents and Caregivers of our Children. Greetings to you all.

Welcome to Term 2 at Kenakena School.

I extend a warm welcome to families and whanau new to Kenakena this term. Nau mai, mihi mai, haere mai.

The powhiri held this week gave us the opportunity to welcome new students, whanau and new staff to our school.

Welcome to **Ms Dianne Khan**, who is covering for Ms Susan Campbell's sabbatical leave and **Ms Fiona Lazic**, who is our new homestay coordinator for our international education programme.

Last term I covered the changes and challenges relating to implementing, assessing and reporting in relation to the reformed New Zealand School Curriculum.

Having certainty regarding assessment and reporting timeframes I shared with you the documentation we created to guide our assessment and reporting schedule. I have attached an update alongside this newsletter: *2026 Reporting to Parents and Caregivers – Term 2 Update*.

Although Kenakena's teachers are becoming clearer on how they will assess student learning in relation to the changes, the format we use to report to you is still being developed. Reporting will be done through HERO. We are awaiting HERO to create reporting format options, the establishment of which, is under way. In non-reporting terms (Terms 1 and 3) we will continue to use *Learning Snapshots* as we have done over the last few years.

TEACHER ONLY DAY – TERM 3 MONDAY 31 AUGUST 2026

As you have been informed, the Ministry of Education has approved all schools to hold two teacher only days (Curriculum Days) in 2026. <https://tahurangi.education.govt.nz/curriculumdays>

I do appreciate that this can be disruptive for families and thank you for working with us to fulfil our obligations to the Ministry of Education.

On March 20 we hosted Marie Hirst of *Special Addition Maths* (<https://www.specialaddition.co.nz/home>) to run a full-day workshop on aligning teaching and assessment to the new Mathematics Curriculum and the formulation of clear next steps for Kenakena School. This workshop was organised by Kenakena math's leads Louise Stack and Janine McDonald to help Kenakena teachers to move forward clearly during a time of rapid change.

This was a very important workshop for all our teaching staff. Last year we spent time getting to know the maths curriculum through two changes, which were then followed by a third change near the end of the year. This workshop helped solidify our knowledge of the final version, be certain in our teaching of it, and be confident in our approach to assessment.



Our Kaiako at the March 20 Teacher Only Day - Maths Workshop

The second of our two “Teacher Only Days” is scheduled for Term 3 on Monday, August 31.

We tag “Teacher Only Days” onto weekends to make it easier for families to exercise the option to arrange annual leave for long weekends at a time when the rest of the country is not also on the road.

Our usual out-of-school-care providers will be contacted and asked to provide a service for whānau who need it. If required, please get in touch with these care providers directly to make a booking.

ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

As you will be aware, school attendance has been a key focus area by the current government. All schools are required to have an Attendance Management Plan in place. The plan is to be communicated to and be accessible to view by the wider school community. Please be advised that the Kenakena School Attendance Management Plan is available on our school website and also on the SCHOOLDOC – school policy portal.

Or click the following direct links -

- [SCHOOLDOCS -Kenakena School Attendance Management Plan](#)
- [kenakena.school.nz -Kenakena-Attendance-Management-Plan-March-2026.pdf](https://www.schooldocs.co.nz/kenakena-attendance-management-plan-march-2026.pdf)

At Kenakena, our school policies are provided by SchoolDocs. SchoolDocs is an independent service that provides core policies that meet legislative and regulatory requirements and good practice, incorporating relevant school-specific information.

All our policies and procedures can be viewed at <https://www.schooldocs.co.nz/Home/SchoolLogin>

Username: kenakena

Password: tiaki

WINTER SPORTS SEASON

This is the term where winter sports are in full swing. If you're a spectator parent, please set a good example. Fun is by far the most prevalent reason given for children's participation in sport.

"Be a Sport. Show your Support"

- Encourage your child, and other people's children, in their efforts in sport
- Insist that your child plays within the rules and plays fairly
- Respect your child's efforts the same regardless of whether s/he has won or lost
- Display self-control on the side line. Always be positive. Do not ridicule players or shout at them in a negative fashion.
- Watch your child play and let him/her enjoy the game



Action from last year's Senior Winter Tournament

KENAKENA CROSS-COUNTRY DATES

The students have started training in earnest and are setting goals to improve their fitness. Please encourage your child to take part as we put an emphasis on health. We also support those who wish to be competitive.

Please can students wear appropriate shoes to school for our weekly training runs. (eg. not Croc's or gumboots) Thank you for your support.

Kenakena Cross Country will be held this term in week 6 on Thursday 28th May. – Date Correction

The event will take place at Te Atiawa Park in the afternoon.

1.00 - 1.30pm Juniors - Years 0 - 2
1.30 - 2.30pm Seniors - Years 3 - 8

Parents and Whanau are welcome to attend to cheer on the kids!

Please note dogs are not permitted at Te Atiawa Park.



The race start for our Year 8 Girls in 2024

The great thing about the cross-country event is that it involves our whole school. Your children train together, get fit together, support and encourage each other and then come together on this day for the big event. They know they can't all win, but it's great when they give it a go. Those are the positives!

Last year's participation was significantly higher than in 2024, when we experienced a very unsubtle drop in school attendance on the day of the event. With many sudden injury notes from the parents of children who were running around freely during the lunch break prior to the event. **It is disappointing when children are supported by whanau to opt out.** Our physical education and fitness programme is an important aspect of health and well-being, and for building physical and mental resilience.

I am expecting to see high attendance again on the day of the event this year.

MATARIKI

Matariki is celebrated every year in late June or early July to celebrate the first rising of the Pleiades star cluster.

- The 2026 date for the Matariki Public Holiday is Friday July 10.
- **The date set for our School Matariki Hangi is Thursday, July 2.**

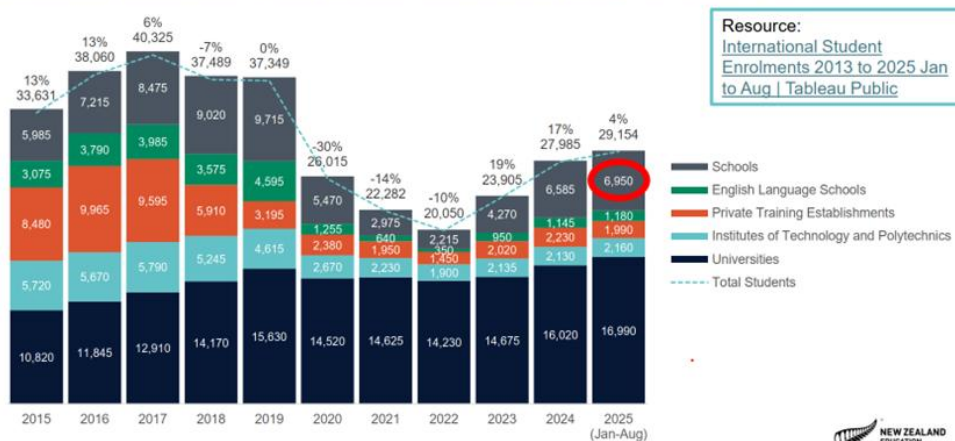
More information will be provided and a call for volunteer helpers will be made soon.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION - CHINA

I recently returned from a two-week international education marketing trip to China as part of a co-marketing arrangement with Kāpiti College. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, China was Kenakena School's most successful market for international fee-paying students.

The China market has been slow to come back for schools in New Zealand generally as displayed in this graph from Education New Zealand:

International student enrolments from China



By marketing strongly in China with the assistance of Education New Zealand and successful New Zealand-based Chinese agents, I am confident we can ride the wave of increasing numbers of Chinese students looking to study short-term or long-term in New Zealand.

International education income is important to our school and supports our specialist programmes. The students who bring that income usually have a terrific experience in school, on excursions and activities, and with their homestay families. Their presence in our school enhances our school culture.



My visit to Guangzhou No.3 Middle School in Guangzhou.

Our immediate goal is to gain enrolments for our Premium Activities Programme at the beginning of next term.

Nga mihi

Bruce McDonald

[PRINCIPAL](#)

School News

GO GREEN FOR MITEY – FRIDAY 01 MAY 2026

Next Friday, May 1st we are having a "Go Green for Mitey" day where the students are invited to dress up in Green items and bring a gold coin donation to raise funds for the Mitey Programme and Mental Health Youth Support.

There will also be some fun Mitey activities in the classroom on that day.

If you would like to know more, this [link](#) will take you directly to Mitey's homepage.



BEE HEALTHY DENTAL SERVICE



FREE Dental Checks!

Kenakena School

The Bee Healthy Dental Mobile will be parked at your school from term 2 from 8 June to 29 July 2026. We want all children to have a positive experience when they have a dental check.

Please call us on 0800 825 583 to discuss any special considerations about your child that we need to be aware of. Special considerations may include ASD, sensory issues, developmental delay, anxiety or ADHD.

We would also like to know if you child has a medical condition or is taking medication we may not be aware of.

Our privacy policy can be found on our website: <https://www.beehealthy.org.nz/contact-us/privacy-policy/>

If your child is **not** enrolled in the service please check their bag for an enrolment form. This is to be completed and returned to the school office so that we can see you child for their free annual checkup.

To update your contact details, please call **0800 TALK TEETH (825 583)**

Private Bag 31907 Lower Hutt
www.beehealthy.org.nz | 0800 TALK TEETH (825 583)

2026 COHORT ENTRY FOR FIVE-YEAR OLD NEW ENTRANTS

Along with many Kapiti primary schools, Kenakena School has implemented Cohort Entry for five-year-old new entrants since 2024.

<https://www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/schools-year-0-13/starting-school/cohort-or-group-entry-children-starting-school#cohort-entry-start-dates-1>

If you, friends or relatives are intending to enrol a five-year-old New Entrant in 2026, it would be good for us to know now as it will help us plan for how we will structure our Year 1 classes.

2026 Cohort Entry Dates

Term	Start of term date	Mid-term start date	End of term date
1	Between 26 January and 9 February 2026	9 March 2026	2 April 2026
2	20 April 2026	2 June 2026	3 July 2026
3	20 July 2026	24 August 2026	25 September 2026
4	12 October 2026	16 November 2026	No later than 18 December 2026

Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association News

"Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association (or KSPTA)".

Kenakena School PTA are planning a Roller Disco on Friday 1st May) from 3.15 - 4.30/5pm!! (Postponement Date 8th May) More information will follow soon.

To keep up to date with the exciting events organised by the KSPTA, keep an eye on the HERO - Community Feed, the Kenakena School and KSPTA Facebook pages.

<https://www.facebook.com/KenakenaSchoolPTA>

KENAKENA SCHOOL PTA MEETINGS

New or Prospective Members are always welcome to join and attend meetings which are held in the evenings in staffroom at Kenakena School.

Monday, March 30th	7.30pm-9pm
Monday, April 20th	7.30pm-9pm – Location Library
Monday, June 29th	7.30pm-9pm
Monday, July 20th	7.30pm-9pm
Monday, November 30th	7.30pm-9pm

To contact us by email, see the addresses below:

- kspta@kk.school.nz (General Enquiries – Cat Grant)
- treasurer.kspta@kk.school.nz (Finance – Meg Price)
- lunches@kk.school.nz (Friday Lunches - Hervé Sitterlé)

Ngā mihi,

The Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association

Important Dates

Fri 01 May 2026

Go Green -Mitey Day
Roller Disco 3-5pm

Tue 05 May 2026

Parent Evening Y7 & Y8 -Camp

Mon 18 May 2026

Mana Wahine Trip

Tue 19 May 2026

Y7 – Vision Testing

Tue 26 May 2026

School Photo Day

Thu 28 May 2026-Date Correction

School Cross Country 1-2.30pm

Fri 05 Jun 2026

New Entrant Hearing & Vision

Mon 08 Jun 2026

Paraparaumu College – Open Day

Thu 11 Jun 2026 – Date Change

Boostrix & Gardasil
Year 7 immunisations

Wed 17 Jun 2026

Kapiti College – Open Day

Thu 02 Jul 2026

Matariki Hangi Day

Fri 10 Jul 2026

Matariki Day

Tue 21 Jul 2026

Pōwhiri - Term 3 11am

Mon 31 Aug 2026

Teacher Only Day -**School Closed**

Tue 22 Sep 2026

Kapiti College – Option Day

Tue 13 Oct 2026

Pōwhiri - Term 4 11am

Kauri Y 7&8 – Makahika Camp 2026

Mon 2 Nov – Wed 4 Nov - **Camp 1**

Wed 4 Nov – Fri 6 Nov - **Camp 2**

Sat 14 Nov 2026

Festival of Fun – Gala

Tue 8 Dec 2026

Gardasil – Dose 2
Year 7 immunisations

Term Dates 2026

Term 1 –Wed 04 Feb - Thu 02 Apr 2026

Term 2 - Mon 20 Apr- Fri 03 Jul 2026

Term 3 - Mon 20 Jul - Fri 25 Sep 2026

Term 4 - Mon 12 Oct - Thu 17 Dec 2026 –

On 17 Dec school finishes at 12 noon

Before / After School Care & School Holiday Programmes

FUNZONE

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE BASED AT KENAKENA SCHOOL



FUN ZONE
Convenient, Reliable,
And Caring.

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Based @ Kenakena School

WE SUPPORT
SCHOOLS BASED IN PARAPARAUMU

AFTER SCHOOL CARE
We Pick Up Your Child From Their School And Bring Them To Our Kenakena School Programme.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE.
Drop Off Your Child And We will Get Them Ready And Safely Transport Them To School.

ENROL NOW

FOR MORE INFORMATION
WWW.FUNZONE.CO.NZ

TO CONTACT OUR TEAM
INFO@FUNZONE.CO.NZ

The poster features a photograph of a man and two children walking along a path. The man is wearing a blue shirt and the children are wearing orange and red shirts.

We provide Before & After School Care for all families in the Paraparaumu region.

Our services include breakfast options and homework assistance during our Breakfast Club, along with a complimentary drop-off service to your child's school.

In the After School program, we collect children from their schools and bring them to our facility at Kenakena School. Here, we offer afternoon tea and a variety of engaging activities for kids to select from.

All our programmes are accredited by the Ministry of Social Development, and we also offer Childcare Subsidies.

www.FunZone.co.nz / [0800 FUN ZONE \(386 9663\)](tel:0800FUNZONE)

Skids

We offer Before-School Care, After-School Care and Holiday Programmes.

We provide afternoon tea, help them with their home work, let them play then do a fun activity with them so you can rest assured that they are safe, secure and having the time of their life.

SKIDS Enquires: sonia@skids.co.nz / Sonia: 027 739 1986

Community Notices

Make your home and family fire safe

Fire and Emergency New Zealand offers **free home fire safety visits** to support people to make their homes fire safe for them and their families.



During a visit we:

- Provide information on fire safety
- Install and test smoke alarms
- Provide a free smoke alarm to those eligible



For more information or to book a free visit, scan the QR code, call 0800 693473 or visit www.fireandemergency.nz/hfsv



Rhino by Carpet Court JUNIOR TOUGH GUY AND GAL CHALLENGE EXTREME OFF ROAD RUNNING EVENT

WELLINGTON 4, 7 & 8 MAY 2026



ENTER NOW

www.eventpromotions.co.nz

Ph: (07) 348 3301

Email: info@eventpromotions.co.nz

Get Kids
Active
Charitable Trust



ST PATRICK'S
COLLEGE
SILVERSTREAM



YEAR 9 2027

Open Day Thursday 21 May 2026
9am - 10:30am or 1pm - 2:30pm

See website: <https://www.stream.school.nz>



- For Year 8 boys & their caregivers/parents
- No Registration required
- Meeting point: School Chapel

2027 Enrolments open: 22 May 2026

2027 Enrolments close: 26 June 2026

207 Fergusson Drive +64 4 939 4224
Silverstream, Upper Hutt, enrolments@stream.school.nz
Wellington, 5018 <https://www.stream.school.nz>

[ĀHURU MŌWAI TRUST](#)

The [Āhuru Mōwai Trust](#), creates safe spaces for families who have children with extra and special needs.

Āhuru Mōwai Trust, they run weekly low-sensory sessions at the Rebound Trampoline Park.

Sensory Sessions are held weekly at Rebound, Playland and Trampoline Park, in Paraparaumu.

Session Details:

When: Mondays (Yes, even in the school holidays!)

Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm

Cost: \$10 per family (immediate, not extended)

Who: School aged children with extra and special needs and their parents, guardians, family members, carers, siblings.

As this is a school community newsletter, please let the school office know of any successes that your child/children may have had outside the school. We are only too happy to share their achievements.

The Board of Trustees in no way validates or endorses services/products advertised.

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