



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



**KENAKENA**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Exciting. Motivating. Positive

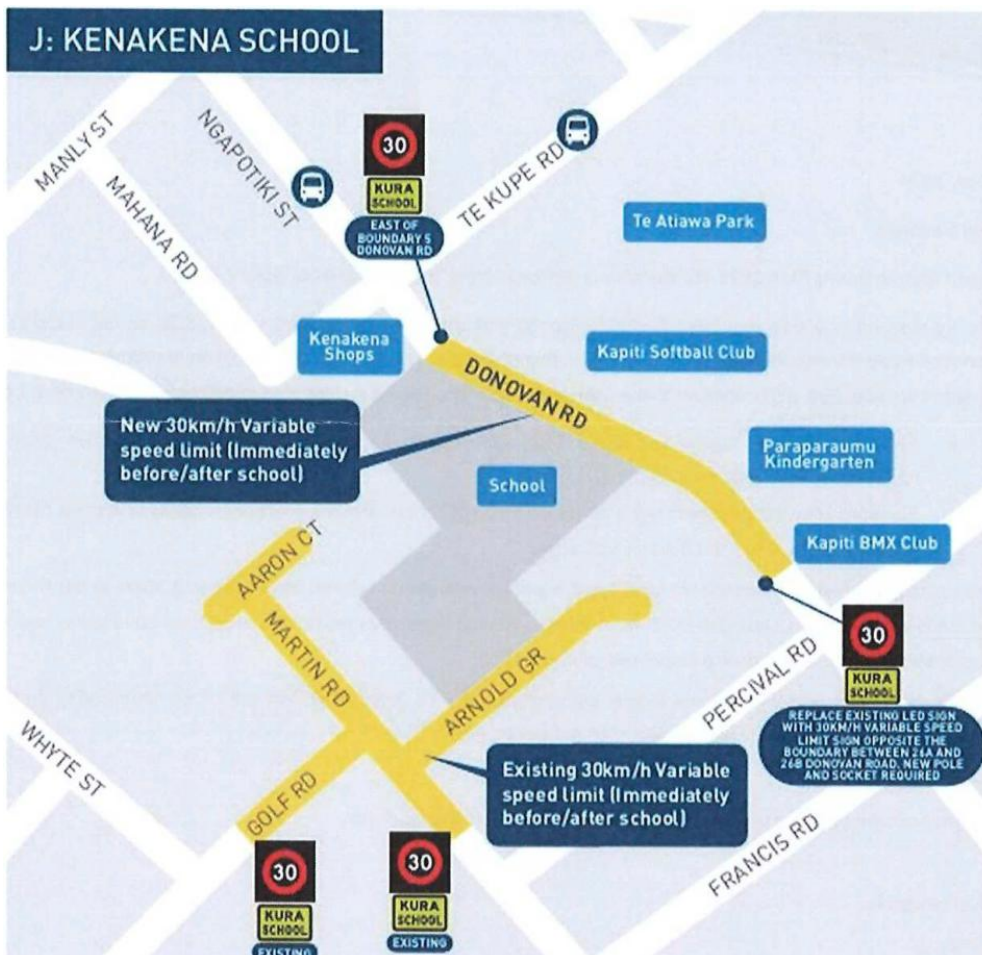
He mihi nui ki a koutou nga matua, me nga kaitiaki o a tamariki. Tena koutou katoa.

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

Getting to and from school is going to get safer for your children, with 30km/h variable speed limit digital signage soon to be erected on Donovan Road.

The Kenakena School Board and Leadership have been working with Kāpiti Coast District Council's Transport Safety Team over the past two years to plan safe passage to school by children using our local roads and streets.

The following information has been sent from Kāpiti Coast District Council.



## Speed Management Plan 2023-33: Kenakena School - New 30km/h Variable Speed Limit

We are pleased to advise that 30km/h variable speed limit signs will be installed in May 2026 on the section of Donovan Road fronting Kenakena School. This is part of a package covering ten schools on the Kāpiti Coast. The extent of the area that will be subject to the 30km/h variable speed limit is illustrated in yellow in Attachment 1, i.e:

- Electronic Variable speed limit signs (VSL) will operate immediately before and after school facing motorists as they enter the 30km/h VSL zone.
- Standard 50km/h speed limit signs which will be installed opposite the Electronic / Static VSL signs facing motorists as they exit the 30km/h VSL zone.

Once installed, the electronic variable speed limit signs will operate on school days between 8.30am and 9.15am, and 2.45pm and 3.30pm. During these times, motorists should travel at or below 30km/h, unless conditions require a lower speed, for example during heavy rain or congestion.

The 30km/h speed limit will become legally enforceable from 15 June 2026. We will be communicating these changes to update the wider community.

**The streets and roads around our school are busy at school drop-off and pick-up times, so this additional measure is a welcome outcome.**

## **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>

Our first Curriculum Day was Math's-based and was held on March 20.

**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.

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.

## **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.

## **MITEY 'GO GREEN' DAY**

2026 is Kenakena School's third year in the MITEY Mental Health Programme. Last Friday we held our first *Go Green For Mitey Day* to raise funds for the mental health education programme founded by the John Kirwan foundation. Photos taken by Jan Reynolds capture the positive mental health vibe from our tamariki on the day. See our Kenakena Facebook Page for more photos. Thank you to all who donated to this great cause, where we raised \$450.





See <https://www.mitey.org.nz/> for information on MITEY.

#### **EDUCATIONAL MISCONCEPTION FROM MICHAEL JOHNSON**

Occasionally I see statements made in our media about education that are wrong. This week in a RNZ article on education sector criticism of the changes to curriculum that were highlighted in the consultation process, <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/education/594345/education-minister-erica-stanford-responds-to-criticism-of-curriculum-rewrite>, New Zealand Initiative researcher and Curriculum Coherence Group member Michael Johnson is quoted as saying:

*“One of things that we really need is to show teachers how they can integrate teaching across the different learning areas, that they don’t have to teach it all separately,” he said.*

Either this is a deliberate attempt to paint teachers as having no idea how to integrate two or more curriculum areas together, or he has no idea how primary teachers operate.

Primary pedagogy (the art and science of teaching) in New Zealand schools leans heavily into curriculum integration to enable our students to see and experience the connection between learning areas. This has been one of the strengths of the New Zealand Curriculum. Teachers, education leaders, professional education groups and subject area specialists have been heavily critical of most of the draft curricula up for consultation due to the lack of coherence which actually reduces the opportunity for meaningful integration.

As Kenakena School’s professional leader, I feel it is essential that I point this out.

## INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION – RETIREMENT OF MY MENTOR



**Mr Steve Burt (Centre), previously Director of International Education at Kāpiti College has retired. With me in this photo at Steve’s retirement function yesterday are Fiona Wilkin (Academic Director – International at Kāpiti College), Rose Hu (Long-time facilitator and fixer for our China marketing work) and Paul Western (Current Director of International Education – Kāpiti College). Co-marketing has been a team effort, for which Steve has been integral.**

**Steve was my mentor when I first got under way with face-to-face marketing in our overseas markets. My first overseas marketing trip was to Korea with Steve in 2010. It was an honour to be with Steve on his final marketing trip to Thailand in 2024. Steve’s professional role-modelling, advice and guidance were essential to the building of my skills in this area. Kenakena School has co-marketed with Kāpiti College since 2010 and formalized the arrangement in 2016. I acknowledge Steve for his work, his generosity and I wish him a long and happy retirement.**

**Nga mihi**

**Bruce McDonald**

**PRINCIPAL**

## School News

### PINK SHIRT DAY

Pink Shirt Day 2026 will take place on Friday 15 May.

It is about reducing bullying by celebrating diversity in all its forms and supporting schools, workplaces, and communities to be safe, supportive, welcoming, and inclusive.

Wear pink to join the Pink Shirt Day movement to Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!



### 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. (e.g. no Croc's or gumboots) Thank you for your support.

**Kenakena Cross Country will be held this term in week 6 on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May.**

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 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 unobvious 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.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HOST FAMILIES – NEEDED

We have had a lot of interest in our International Student Programme, following the principals marketing trip to China. We are hoping that a good number of international students want to come to New Zealand and experience what Kenakena School has to offer. If this is the case, we will be in need of many more Homestay Hosts Families.

Please get in touch with Fiona our Homestay Co-ordinator by email on [homestays@kk.school.nz](mailto:homestays@kk.school.nz), if you are interested in finding out more about hosting our international students. This is a paid cultural exchange programme.

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.

## 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 your 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 your 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](http://www.beehealthy.org.nz) | 0800 TALK TEETH (825 583)

# Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association News

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

**No Roller Disco on Friday 8 May – Unfortunately this event has been cancelled, due to the weather, it is not looking favourable for Friday afternoon.**

KENAKENA SCHOOL PTA

## WHOLE SCHOOL ROLLER DISCO

ALL AGES 1-8  
STARTS AT 4:30PM

ROLLER SKATING, HOVERBOARD, SKATEBOARD, ELECTRIC SCOOTER

BRING CASH FOR SNACKS, DRINKS AND GOLD COIN ENTRY

SEE YOU THERE!  
**FRIDAY 8 MAY**  
KENAKENA SCHOOL COURTS

JUNIOR CHILDREN MUST BE COLLECTED BY AN ADULT AFTER THE ROLLER DISCO. THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO HOME UNACCOMPANIED

A poster for a 'Whole School Roller Disco' event. The poster features the title in large, colorful, bubbly letters. Below the title, it lists activities like roller skating, hoverboards, skateboards, and electric scooters. It specifies the event is for all ages 1-8 and starts at 4:30 PM. There are two photos: one of a girl on a roller skater and one of a boy on a skateboard. A large yellow diagonal banner with the word 'CANCELLED' in black capital letters is superimposed over the center of the poster.

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

Ngā mihi,

The Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association

# Important Dates

Fri 15 May 2026

Pink Shirt Day

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

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

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](http://WWW.FUNZONE.CO.NZ)

TO CONTACT OUR TEAM  
[INFO@FUNZONE.CO.NZ](mailto:INFO@FUNZONE.CO.NZ)



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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.fireandemergency.nz/hfsv)



**KUMON**  
MATHEMATICS ENGLISH

## MAY FREE TRIAL

### Build confidence with **THE BASICS!**

Trial Kumon English or Maths over two weeks and find out how we develop a strong foundation in maths and reading.

With the basics in place, students have the confidence they need for success at school.

**What better way to discover Kumon than to try it for free? Limited availability, don't miss out.**

#### ENQUIRE NOW!

**KUMON PARAPARAUMU EDUCATION CENTRE**

Anish Madhani  
1/10 Seaview Road, Paraparaumu Beach, Paraparaumu 5032  
021 138 7944



Visit [www.kumon.co.nz](http://www.kumon.co.nz) or view T&Cs.

**KUMON IS OFFERING A FREE TRIAL THIS MAY FOR STUDENTS IN MATHS AND ENGLISH. THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO HELP STUDENTS BUILD STRONG FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS, DEVELOP INDEPENDENT LEARNING HABITS, AND GROW CONFIDENCE THROUGH INDIVIDUALISED STUDY AT THEIR OWN PACE.**

**THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO EXPERIENCE THE KUMON METHOD AT NO COST AND SEE HOW IT CAN SUPPORT THEIR LEARNING FURTHER.**



ST PATRICK'S  
COLLEGE  
SILVERSTREAM



YEAR 9 2027

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

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

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

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**2027 Enrolments open: 22 May 2026**  
**2027 Enrolments close: 26 June 2026**

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207 Fergusson Drive +64 4 939 4224  
Silverstream, Upper Hutt, [enrolments@stream.school.nz](mailto: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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