



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



KENAKENA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Exciting. Motivating. Positive



Mānawatia a Matariki!

Happy Matariki!



5am Thursday morning

Our National Holiday to celebrate Matariki, the Māori New Year is this week. We celebrated Matariki at Kenakena School last week with a whole school hāngi. We are grateful for the koha of vegetables and gold coin given to enable us to prepare over 600 meals. Thank you, to our whānau who came and helped with food preparation and to staff who came in early in the morning to help prepare the pit, pack the kai and serve hot milo.

Thank you, to Maxine West and Dee Ashby for coordinating the food preparation, coordination and distribution over the busy two days.

A special thanks to the West/Styles Whānau – Maxine, Wogs, Ashley, Mark, Michelle and Kahu for being our hangī masters. Your early starts and whānaungātanga are essential to our Kenakena celebration. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou.

Thank you to Kenakena's Cultural Lead Kate Gallagher and her organizing team for coordinating the event and critical communication.

Thank you, to Kenakena staff for getting behind the spirit of Matariki and organizing school-based learning and activities.

Thanks to our librarian Esther Kieft for creating the very visual and exciting Matariki photo trail in our library, which was a hit with our kids.

Matariki is a time for remembrance, celebrating the present and looking to the future. Celebrating as a school community with our hangi is a special occasion.

The following article gives a very informative overview of Matariki.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/360722467/matariki-101-what-it-why-does-it-matter>

And here is the link to the official Matariki site.

<https://www.matariki.com/>



Early morning whānau gathering.

STAFF FAREWELL

Last week we said farewell to Esther Middleton and Dianne Khan.

Esther began working in our Kenakena Dyslexia Programme in Term 2 last year, harnessing her early childhood education teaching experience to her tutoring role. Esther's calm and assuring approach quickly got her on side with our students, building trusting relations and helping them learn with confidence. The children in the programme gave Esther a terrific farewell morning tea last week. Esther has been on a fixed-term contract, which we have been unable to renew for funding reasons. Thank you, for your valued contribution to the success of our neurodiverse learners.

Dianne joined our Kenakena teaching staff this term as cover for Susan Campbell, who was on sabbatical. It's not an easy task to take over another teacher's class and carry on seamlessly. Dianne has done a terrific job to achieve this, bringing her teaching experience and enthusiasm to the role, and fitting in well with the Kahikatea Teaching Team. Thank you, Dianne.

FIRST ATTEMPT AT THE NEW REPORTING SYSTEM

Kenakena teachers have reported mostly positive feedback from parents and caregivers following our reporting using the new assessment and reporting progressions designed by the Ministry of Education. Some of you have approached teachers for clarification, which is expected given the change in curriculum benchmarking from the previous curriculum to the new.

NEW ZEALAND PUB CHARITY GRANT

Kenakena School's grants coordination Catriona Grant was successful in her application to NZ Pub Charity for \$25000 towards our swimming pool fibreglass resurfacing project. This supplements grants already committed by the Kenakena School PTA (\$20000) and Kapiti Lions Trust (\$20000). Terrific news!

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

Kenakena School staff have been dealing with the fallout of children experiencing online harm outside of the school environment, which then has an impact on their learning and relationships at school. It is getting to the stage where my staff are spending hours of their time sorting out issues, which are not of the school's making.

All the social media platforms children are using are not age-appropriate, nor are many of the online games children are playing. For this reason, Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram, Meta and other platforms have an age requirement of 13 years+. Therefore, if you are allowing your child to have access to these platforms, it is your decision but also your responsibility.

Some of our boys are spending many hours playing online games at home. Challenges also arise when young people play games designed for older audiences, as younger players might not be ready for violence or challenging themes within that game.

There are five categories of risk to understand related to gaming.

They are:

1. Excessive use
2. Unwanted contact
3. Excessive purchasing within a game
4. Inappropriate contact
5. Online bullying

To learn more about other challenges, visit netsafe.org.nz/understand.

For assistance in managing your children's access to online environments, visit <https://netsafe.org.nz/online-safety-for-parents/>.

Let's work together to keep our children safe.

Enjoy the company of your children over the next week as we refresh and then prepare for next term.

Nga mihi

Bruce McDonald

PRINCIPAL

School News

MONDAY 20 JULY - TERM 3

We are very excited and preparing to welcome our visiting International Students and the next co-hort of five year olds and other new students, who will join Kenakena School.

All our new arrivals and their Whanau are welcome to attend the schoolwide Powhiri on Tuesday 21 July 2026.

TERM 3 Pōwhiri



WET WEATHER - PLEASE SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WITH SPARE CLOTHES.

The wet weather has arrived and it can be very tempting for the students to play outside in the rain or to splash in the puddles. Sitting in wet clothes can be very uncomfortable and hinder their learning.

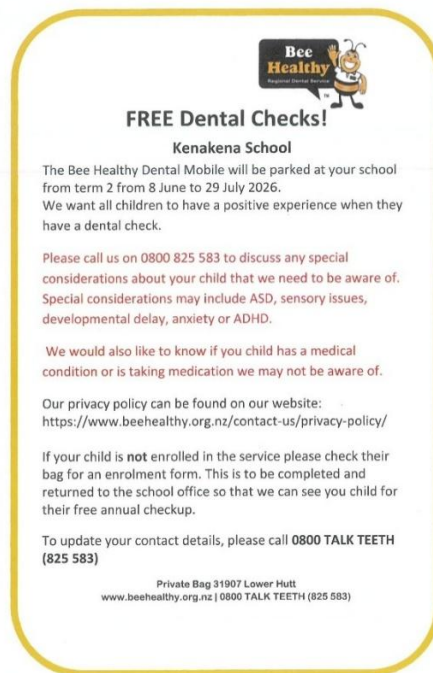
Please send a spare set of clothes to school in your child's bag, particularly the junior year levels. Pants, undies and socks are the critical items.

KENAKENA SCHOOL PHOTOS

The photo packs will be delivered to school in Term 3. Once they arrive, we will distributed the packs to the student to take home. On that day, we will send out a notice to advise parents via HERO to check their children's school bag.

BEE HEALTHY DENTAL SERVICE

The Bee Healthy Dental Service will be at Kenakena School from 20 July to 29 July 2026. See below for more details:



TEACHER ONLY DAY – 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>

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

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.

We 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.

Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association News

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

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>

The Kenakena School PTA Pie Fundraiser — proper family pies from Rosebowl Bakery was a huge success !

Thank you for all who supported this fundraiser.

We hope you have been enjoying these yummy pies during the holiday time.

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, 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)

🏀 ✨ SUPPORT KENAKENA SCHOOL & SEE THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS! ✨ 🏀

The NBL has partnered with Kenakena School PTA for an exciting fundraising opportunity

When you [purchase tickets](#) to the Harlem Globetrotters' 100 Year Tour using our special codeword **GLOBETROTTERS94** a portion of your ticket sale will go directly towards supporting Kenakena School

📍 TSB Arena, Wellington
📅 16 July 2026



🚫 **IMPORTANT:** To make sure Kenakena School receives the fundraising credit, you must:

- ✓ Use the direct ticket

link <https://www.ticketmaster.co.nz/event/24006384D72F3A32?did=specialoffer>

- ✓ Enter the codeword: **GLOBETROTTERS94**

This is going to be an unforgettable family event full of basketball skills, entertainment, and laughs — definitely not one to miss!

KENAKENA SCHOOL FESTIVAL OF FUN

Bring the fun! ✨
Join the Festival of Fun Committee!

- We still need 5 people to join our happy crew and bring some passion!
- Job descriptions & lists provided
- New ideas & skills are SO appreciated
- No experience required...
- If you're keen, you're qualified!
- We make \$18-25k a year for the school!

Want to know more? Contact Cat
kkgala@kk.school.nz

 Kenakena School PTA



Event Date: Saturday 14 November 2026

Ngā mihi,

The Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association

Important Dates

Fri 10 Jul 2026

Matariki Day

Mon 20 Jul 2026

Bee Healthy Dentist Onsite

Thu 30 Jul at 7:00 pm.

Y8 - Paraparaumu College

Wearable Arts Show

Tue 21 Jul 2026

Pōwhiri - Term 3 11.15am

Sat 29 August 2026

Tournament of Minds (TOM)
at Victoria University.

Mon 31 Aug 2026

Teacher Only Day -School Closed

Fri 11 Sep 2026

New Entrant Hearing & Vision

Wed 16 Sep 2026

WOW – Show Optional Trip

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**

Thu 5 Nov 2026

Kahikatea Epro8 Inter schools

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

Term Dates 2027

Term 1 –Wed 03 Feb - Fri 09 Apr 2027

Term 2 –Tue 27 Apr- Fri 02 Jul 2027

Term 3 - Mon 19 Jul - Fri 24 Sep 2027

Term 4 - Mon 11 Oct - Thu 17 Dec 2027 –

On 17 Dec school finishes at 12 noon

Before / After School Care & School Holiday Programmes

FUNZONE

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE BASED AT KENAKENA



Fun Zone Holiday Programme July 2026

Senior 10+ Years (6th July - 17th July 2026)

MON 6 JULY '26	TUE 7 JULY '26	WED 8 JULY '26	THU 9 JULY '26	FRI 10 JULY '26
CHILL 'N' THRILL BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - Icebreaker Games And Activities That Will Provide Heaps Of Fun All Day 	MAGIC AND TRICKS FUN Enjoy Our Obstacle Courses, Potion Relay, Magic Tricks, And Wizard Escape And So Much More	BLOCKBUSTER & SKATE PARK Catch The Latest Blockbuster At Events Cinemas & Zoom At Paraparaumu Skate Park. EVENT C I N E M A S	CELEBRATION OF KIWI CULTURE MATARIKI! Explore The Traditions, Music, And Flavours Of New Zealand's Heritage. 	CLOSED
MON 13 JULY '26	TUE 14 JULY '26	WED 15 JULY '26	THU 16 JULY '26	FRI 17 JULY '26
WINTER WONDERLAND Join A Magical Winter Adventure With Fun Activities And Exciting Games That Is Cool & Full Of Excitement 	BOUNTS OF FUN Discover Fun Amateur Boxing Skills And Drills At Our Neighbourhood Gym 	FZ INFLATABLES The Ultimate Inflatable Adventure For All Ages! Jump, Bounce, And Play Your Way To Unforgettable Fun. 	NATURE'S MARVELS Experience The Elements Of Nature From Fiery Passion, Playful Winds, Flowing Waters, And Grounded Earth. 	GROOVIN' FUN Get Ready For An Exciting Disco With Party Games And Activities To Keep The Day Lively. 

Times
SESSION 1 | 8.30am - 4.30pm
SESSION 2 | 8.00am - 6.00pm
SESSION 3 | 7.00am - 6.30pm

Discounts
 Session 1 (Booking Everyday) - 5% Discount (incl all excursions)
 Session 2 (Booking Everyday) - 8% Discount (incl all excursions)
 Session 3 (Booking Everyday) - 10% Discount (incl all excursions)

Childcare Subsidies & Various Other Discounts Available

Enrol Now at Funzone.co.nz - 0800 FUN ZONE (386 9663) - info@funzone.co.nz
Paraparaumu | Waikanae | Ōtaki



Fun Zone Holiday Programme July 2026

Juniors 5-9 Years (6th July - 17th July 2026)

MON 6 JULY '26	TUE 7 JULY '26	WED 8 JULY '26	THU 9 JULY '26	FRI 10 JULY '26
CHILL 'N' THRILL BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - Icebreaker Games And Activities That Will Provide Heaps Of Fun All Day 	MARVEL DISNEY ADVENTURES Join Marvel Disney Adventure For An Exciting Journey With Heroes And Fairy Tales! 	BLOCKBUSTER & SKATE PARK Catch The Latest Blockbuster At Events Cinemas & Zoom At Paraparaumu Skate Park. EVENT C I N E M A S	CELEBRATION OF KIWI CULTURE MATARIKI! Explore The Traditions, Music, And Flavours Of New Zealand's Heritage. 	CLOSED
MON 13 JULY '26	TUE 14 JULY '26	WED 15 JULY '26	THU 16 JULY '26	FRI 17 JULY '26
WINTER WONDERLAND Join A Magical Winter Adventure With Fun Activities And Exciting Games That Is Cool & Full Of Excitement 	GROOVE FZ STYLE Let's Learn New Dances And Have Fun All Day With Lively Games From TikTok To Line Dancing! 	FZ INFLATABLES The Ultimate Inflatable Adventure For All Ages! Jump, Bounce, And Play Your Way To Unforgettable Fun. 	NATURE'S MARVELS Experience The Elements Of Nature From Fiery Passion, Playful Winds, Flowing Waters, And Grounded Earth. 	DISCO FUN! Get Ready For An Exciting Disco With Party Games And Activities To Keep The Day Lively. 

Times
SESSION 1 | 8.30am - 4.30pm
SESSION 2 | 8.00am - 6.00pm
SESSION 3 | 7.00am - 6.30pm

Discounts
 Session 1 (Booking Everyday) - 5% Discount (incl all excursions)
 Session 2 (Booking Everyday) - 8% Discount (incl all excursions)
 Session 3 (Booking Everyday) - 10% Discount (incl all excursions)

Childcare Subsidies & Various Other Discounts Available

Enrol Now at Funzone.co.nz - 0800 FUN ZONE (386 9663) - info@funzone.co.nz
Paraparaumu | Waikanae | Ōtaki

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



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Mitey is collaborating with Renew Your Mind to support parents and whānau with practical, grounded tools for navigating parenting in today's world. We know many families are looking for ways to manage the added pressures of social media, screens, big emotions, busy family life and the challenges children and young people are facing.

Renew Your Mind is offering online Mindful Parenting courses later this year, facilitated by Shirley Pastiroff, counsellor and author of *The Mindful Parent*.

There are two courses available:

- Kids Parenting Course, for parents of children aged 0–10
- Teens Parenting Course, for parents of young people aged 11+

The courses are live online via Zoom, and any missed sessions can be watched on demand.

Fees do apply.

You can find out more and sign up here:

<https://renewyourmind.co.nz/mindful-parenting>

WE'RE READY TO
PLANT!

AARON COURT RESERVE
 RESTORATION

SATURDAY
 JULY
 18TH

10AM
 START

COME AND HELP
 BRING OUR RESERVE
BACK TO LIFE!

Please bring spades, shovels,
 or anything else that can
 dig a hole!

EVERY HAND MAKES A DIFFERENCE
 THANK YOU!

KAPITI COAST PIPES AND DRUMS
 PRESENTS

**CELTIC
 REVIVAL**

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS FROM
 THE STRATHSPEY
 SCHOOL OF DANCE
 AND
 THE RATTLING BOG

SCOTS HALL, WEKA PARK
 SUNDAY 19TH JULY 2026
 AT 2:00PM
 (Doors open from 1:45pm)

WAGED \$15 UNWAGED \$5 UNDER 12s FREE

Raffles and afternoon tea will be available
 (CASH ONLY)

CONTACT:
 KAPITICOASTPIPEBAND@GMAIL.COM
 TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

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.

Copyright © 2017 Kenakena School, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).