



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



KENAKENA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Exciting. Motivating. Positive

Kia ora koutou katoa

We have a magnificent fundraising event coming up to raise money to support students with special education needs whose external funding from the Ministry of Education is insufficient to meet their needs. The Ministry of Education allocates defined numbers of teacher aide hours to students for essential support. The problem is that the hourly wage rate of funding for those hours is far less than the actual wage rate of the teacher aides with whom they work. This is a challenge faced by most schools. The outcome is that our school and many others cannot afford to top-up the funding to match the actual pay rate of our teacher aides. The outcome for some of our students is that they cannot attend school full-time. For others it means they are not sufficiently supported with their learning. This has been an issue for many years. While wages have risen, the funding rate has remained the same. It is an impossible situation for schools, who should not have to depend on raised funds to support our highest needs students.



The above posters are attached with this Newsletter and are also on our Kenakena Facebook page.

Please consider buying a ticket. Perhaps get a group together and come along to enjoy a terrific evening of good food and entertainment, as well as hearing high-quality speakers. This event is being facilitated by Kenakena Parents Lisa and Dan Fairbairn.

SATURDAY NETBALL TREAT

I was privileged to see our 'A' netball team, Kenakena Kauri play over the last two weekends as they earned a place in the A-Grade Final next weekend. Two weekends in a row they played Raumati Beach School's 'A' Team, a team that had beaten them twice before during the season and beat them two weeks in a row to earn their finals place. I am impressed with their team spirit and competitiveness and wish them well for their finals game next weekend.



MAKING ICE CREAM – FOOD SCIENCE IN ACTION!

The Kahikatea (Years 5&6) Team have been involved in practical food science learning on *Cold Plate Creations*, where making ice cream was the end product, while testing how air makes ice cream scoopable. What an exciting way to apply science!



Wonder Project Ice Cream Challenge

Activity 3.2: Cold plate creations

Test how air makes ice cream scoopable!
While it may be invisible, air has a big impact on ice cream's scoopability. Explore for yourself by making two ice creams on a cold plate!

Experiment
Make it fair! To make this a fair test, only 1 thing can change. We call this a **variable**.

Variable (thing that will change):

- ✓ Air

Controlled conditions (things that stay the same):

- ✓ Sugar type and amount
- ✓ Method
- ✓ Freezing time

Ask
What questions/pātai do you have about air and how it impacts scoopability?

Predict
What do you think will happen?

We think test 1 will be:

We think test 2 will be:

Use these words to help: soft, hard, light, dense, crumbly, smooth, scoopable.

Why do you think this?

Wonder Project Ice Cream Challenge: Activity 3.2: Cold plate creations

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Nga mihi

Bruce McDonald

PRINCIPAL

School News

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.

TEACHER AND PARENT INTERVIEWS – TERM 3

The purpose of the meeting is to provide a ten-minute opportunity to meet the teacher and talk with them about your child and their progress.

These meetings will be held on:

- Wed 09 September 2026 Day 1 - 3pm -7pm Parent / Teacher Interviews
- Thu 10 September 2026 Day 2 - 2pm – 5pm * Parent / Teacher Interviews

***PLEASE NOTE:**

SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT **2PM** ON THE **THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER ONLY** DUE TO TEACHER PARENT INTERVIEWS.

PLEASE ARRANGE FOR EARLY COLLECTION OF YOUR CHILDREN ON THIS ONE DAY.

BOOKINGS:

School Interview Bookings will be scheduled & booked via HERO – Student Management System.

On Monday 31th August 2026 - Information and a booking link will be sent to parents & caregivers via HERO.

Please book promptly to secure the day and time/s that suits you best. Appointments are strictly 10 minutes each.

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.

Also we are running short in our emergency supply of clothing, so please wash & return any items that your child may have borrowed from the school.

MESSAGES TO STUDENTS & AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

Our office staff are absolutely critical to the day-to-day operation of our school. They have a large variety of tasks to complete each day.

To support them, we ask parents to please be well organised each morning with your child's lunchbox, chrome book, change of clothes, and everything they need for the school day.

Please discuss with your child in the morning, any after school pick-up arrangements.

The office staff are not able to facilitate or organise after school playdates etc.

With a school role of 558 children, it is not viable for our office staff to be running non-urgent messages or errands for children during the school day.

For appointments during the school day, please allow enough time for the adult to come to the school office to sign out and then go to collect your child from their classroom.

SETTING OUR STUDENTS UP FOR SUCCESS: THE IMPORTANCE OF A GREAT START

Kia ora whānau, we know that mornings in any busy household can be a rush, and occasionally, running late is unavoidable. However, we have noticed an increasing number of students arriving at school after the morning bell. **This week we saw 147 Students or 27% of our school arrive late.**

Getting to school on time is about much more than simply following the rules—it is one of the most effective ways to set our tamariki up for a successful, confident, and positive day of learning.

Here is why arriving before the bell makes such a big difference:

- **A Calm and Positive Start:** Arriving 10 to 15 minutes before the bell gives students the chance to unpack their bags, say hello to their friends, and settle into the classroom environment. This smooth transition reduces morning anxiety and prevents them from starting their day feeling rushed or flustered.
- **Catching the Daily Game Plan:** The first few minutes of the day are crucial. This is when teachers take the roll, share the daily notices, and outline the timetable and learning goals for the day. Students who miss this often feel "one step behind" and spend the rest of the morning trying to catch up.
- **Minimizing Classroom Disruption:** When a student arrives late, it naturally interrupts the flow of the lesson, drawing the teacher's attention away from the class and breaking the concentration of other students who have already begun their work.
- **Building Lifelong Habits:** Establishing a routine of punctuality teaches children the value of time management, independence, and respect for others' time—skills that will benefit them well beyond their school years.

We greatly appreciate your support in helping us make every minute of learning count. By working together to ensure your child arrives with time to spare, we can give them the best possible start to their day!

Marie Mead, Tumuaki Tuarua | Assistant Principal Kenakena School

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>

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, 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 Lunch Orders – Herve Sitterle)
- kkgala@kk.school.nz (Festival of Fun Gala Committee)

KENAKENA SCHOOL FESTIVAL OF FUN

 **Calling all business owners in the Kenakena community!** 

Want to put your company in front of thousands of local families while supporting an amazing community event?

The Kenakena School Festival of Fun returns on **Saturday 14 November**, and we're looking for **10 Major Sponsors (\$500+)**

- ☀️ Our first 10 Major Sponsors receive maximum exposure, including:
- 📧 Features in school newsletters
- 📺 Promotion across our social media channels
- 🎤 Live shout-outs from the stage throughout the day
- 🖨️ Professionally designed event signage
- 📰 Inclusion in newspaper advertising
- 🚩 Public signage displayed around Kāpiti for 30 days leading up to the event
- 📺 Feature on our digital billboard

With 3,000+ people expected to attend and many thousands more seeing our advertising campaign, it's a fantastic opportunity to support the school while raising your business profile.

We also welcome donations of products, vouchers, services and experiences for our raffles, auctions and prizes. Every contribution helps us raise funds for valuable school programmes and resources.

⌚ Only 10 Major Sponsor opportunities are available.
Interested? Send us a message or email kkgala@kk.school.nz and we'll send you our sponsorship package.

💙 Support Kenakena. Be seen. Make a difference

Ngā mihi,

The Kenakena School Parent Teacher Association

Important Dates

Sat 29 August 2026

Tournament of Minds (TOM)
at Victoria University.

Mon 31 Aug 2026

Teacher Only Day -School Closed

Wed 09 Sep 3-7pm

Parent/Teacher Interviews Day 1

Thu 10 Sep 2-5pm -Early Finish

Parent/Teacher Interviews Day 2

Fri 11 Sep 2026

New Entrant Hearing & Vision
St Johns Onesie Day

Wed 16 Sep 2026

Kapa Haka Cultural Exchange
9am – 2pm Whakarongotai Marae

Thu 17 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

TEACHER ONLY DAY BOOKINGS – Mon 31 August 2026

Fun Zone Ltd. can provide childcare session for Teachers Only Day with a minimum of 5 people booked in.

So if childcare is required on this day please go to

<https://www.funzone.co.nz/teacher-only-days>

to register and make a booking.

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE BASED AT KENAKENA



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 four children (three girls and one boy) running happily on a dirt path outdoors. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the poster.

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)

SKIDS

Skids 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


KENAKENA SCHOOL
presents

an
EVENING
for every **MIND**



Fund Raiser

LIVE MUSIC **GUEST SPEAKERS**

THURSDAY
September **3**, 2026
7pm - 10:30pm
Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION
Creating brighter futures
for neurodiverse children at Kenakena School

1 x  = **3** hrs 
for every ticket sold worth of individual support

 To find out more and book tickets, scan here



VENUE

P.B.G.C.
— 1949 —

BIG MAC CREATIVE CENTRE
CELEBRATING

 **COFFEE CART**  **FOOD TRUCKS**

10

10 YEARS OLD!

GIVEAWAYS & PRIZES!  **CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT**  **SAUSAGE SIZZLE!**

   **Artist Demonstrations**

Sat 12th & Sun 13th September
10am - 4pm
289 Mazengarb Road, Paraparaumu

Should I keep my child home from school or childcare?

Going to school and childcare supports your child's learning, confidence and wellbeing. But when they're not feeling well or their usual self, it can be hard to tell if they should attend. Use this guide to help you make the right decision.

Should my child stay home today?

Usually ok to attend:

- ✓ Mild cough
- ✓ Running nose
- ✓ Mild headache
- ✓ No fever
- ✓ Eating and drinking normally

If mild symptoms become worse or more frequent, keep your child at home and seek health advice.

Keep them home if they have:

- × A fever
- × Vomiting or diarrhoea
- × A sore throat that requires pain relief
- × Wheezing, coughing a lot or difficulty breathing
- × School sores (impetigo)
- × Untreated scabies
- × Tested positive for COVID-19
- × Been asked to stay home by a healthcare provider or your local public health service

Seeking health advice

Trust your instinct, if you are worried about your child's health contact your doctor or usual healthcare provider. You can also call **Healthline** for free anytime on **0800 611 116**.

In an emergency, call **111**.

For more information scan the QR code or visit healthnz.govt.nz and search **school guidance**.



Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

NPHS0080 | JUN 2026

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.

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