

KIMBOLTON SCHOOL

t5



December 4, 2024

The school year is well and truly coming to an end and this will be the last newsletter of the year. Let me start by saying thank you to our school community for their support of Kimbolton School in a variety of ways over the past year. It has certainly been great to welcome a few new families and to have the privilege of having such focused families and learners join us here.

Below is most of my prize giving speech. I will summarise this on the night, but prefer that prizegiving is about recognising achievements from the students and celebrating their year of learning, as opposed to listening to me talk for too long.



Kia Ora Koutou and welcome to the end of year prizegiving.

Four years have flown by, and it is hard to believe that it has been that long that I have had the privilege of being Principal of a school with a proactive board, supportive community, skilled educators and magnificent, interesting, motivated, sometimes funny students.

I'm hesitant to talk too much about the Wests Tigers this year, after their third consecutive wooden spoon, however I live in hope that 2025 will be better.

Similar to the Wests Tigers, we as a school continue to strive for excellence, with a core set of values and we look to set high expectations around everything we do. We just have more success along the way than the mighty tigers.

Academically, we continue to have positive success in all learning areas. Our Mathematics data has nearly a third of our students achieving above the expected standard and over 70% achieving at or above the expected standard. In Reading nearly 40% of students are achieving above the expected standard and over 80% are at or above the expected standard. In Written Language we have over 60% at or above the expected standard. I attribute supportive families, our core values, quality teaching programmes and delivery, high expectations and in some cases natural ability for the positive data that we produce.

Our good friends from the Education Review Office visited this year and left pleased, which in turn pleased me. I was not actually worried about their review as I was and am confident in our systems and teaching and it was good that they were able to confirm many things I felt I already knew around what was happening here at Kimbolton School. My two favourite comments in our final report were that....

Learners express a positive sense of belonging and pride in their school that supports their wellbeing and engagement with learning.

School leaders ensure expectations for high quality teaching and learning practices are clear, well implemented and responsive, to support all learners.

I would like to thank the board for their contributions to the smooth running of the school. A lot of the work they do is behind the scenes and they hold myself to account for ensuring that decisions are made in the best interests of student learning and wellbeing.

I am not someone who gives too much public praise, and prefer talking to people one on one to show how much I appreciate what they do. This being said I do want to single out Stu Morton and Naomi Clifton for their contributions to the school. Both Stu and Naomi were actually on the board when I was appointed and so we have spent four years working together.

Stu was the Presiding Member when I was appointed and together we were able to learn and navigate our way through the transition from the previous principal. He was willing to help, not only around governance but also in other areas, including maintenance and general advice. Stu's trust and support of some of our new initiatives allowed us as a school to grow and benefit students learning. Stu also ensured a smooth transition from him being Presiding Member to Wayne Jenkins taking over. I am sure the board would agree the switch has been seamless and this is in part thanks to Stu's professionalism and support.

Amongst other things, Naomi has overseen many changes within our bus runs and has been a strong advocate for student safety on the buses. She was always easy to work with, kept her suggestions to a minimum, but every contribution she made was thoughtful and beneficial. She leaves the board knowing that bus runs are safer, buses are safer and as a result our students are safer.

The KSSC are a valuable part of our school and I also thank them for their support. Of course the leadership team within the KSSC do a great job but I am sure they'd agree that it is the parents that support the fundraisers that ensure the ultimate success of the group. This year we are especially appreciative of the contribution to ensure the school pool building improvements are able to be done quickly, and the work will begin on those changes in March.

The staff require thanks, but I will do that in a less public forum. I will say that when we put students' learning and wellbeing at the forefront of our thinking and decision making, then success follows. This also requires skilled teachers and support staff and the students are lucky to have skilled educators working with and for them.

Last year we confirmed our strategic direction as a school and as we move into our second year of working through this I remain focused on our strategic goals including our first strategic goal which is...

"Teaching and Learning is at the heart of all we do at Kimbolton School. Our expectation is that all students will strive towards their own personal excellence, through the support of highly trained staff and programmes."

We want to ensure that here at Kimbolton School we are catering for students at all levels and this goal means a lot to me. As always, I remind you if you ever want to come and have a chat about things you're loving that we do, or areas where you think we could even more strongly benefit student learning and well-being, I would love to hear from you.

Right, that is more than enough from me. Have a good xmas, an enjoyable holiday and we look forward to seeing you all late January where we will continue to work hard to, "Unleash the Potential of all."

Greg

Oroua Cluster Athletics

Well done to all students who attended athletics this year. It was great to see the cluster getting together and showcasing their athletic ability.

Results from different age groups saw the following students place in the Top 3.

Inka - First

Jensen - First

Alex - First

Quinn - First

Naish - Second

Evie - Third

Everlyn - Third

Allazay - Third

Grace - Third

Solomon - Third



KIMBOLTON SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEE

We have great news to finish the year off: the recent stock drive brought in just over \$2,000 of profit! We got lucky with the schedule lifting at the right time. Thank you to everyone who donated ewes for this.

Thanks also to everyone who has helped with any fundraising event this year. The entire school community benefits from your joint efforts, whether it be subsidies on camps or a new roof on the pool, there are many ways the money is used to benefit us all.

We are keen to get more people involved with the KSSC. You don't need to be on the committee, just attend meetings where you can, read the meeting notes that get circulated and be involved so you know what's happening with all these great fundraisers and fund allocations.

Wishing you all a great summer break, from the KSSC Committee: Janelle Gillum, Heidi Morton, Sara Martin, Olivia Manley, Georgia Jenkins, Naomi Clifton, Emma Brennan, Nat Masters, Gemma McDougall & Kirsty Early

Congratulations Amanda

At assembly last week we acknowledged Amanda for 20 years of service to Kimbolton School.

Amanda has given a solid 20 years service to Kimbolton School, in a variety of areas. Her most impressive attribute is her ability to work one on one with learners around literacy and numeracy. Her understanding of structured literacy is similar to that of a fully qualified teacher and we are very lucky to have that level of skill within our school

2025

We can confirm that the first day of school, for students in 2025, is Wednesday, January 29, next year. The last day will be Monday, December 9.

Upcoming Dates

December 9: Prizegiving

December 13: Last day of school. Ends at 12.05pm

February 21: Cluster Triathlon

March 7: Cluster Swimming Sports

March 27 / 28: Year 7 and 8 Camp - Sixtus Lodge

Friday 17th Oct: Pet Day 2025.

Time to do some App Deletion

School Apps and Class Dojo will not be used at all in 2025. To make it easier for families all communication will be done via the Hero App

If you still do not have that App, it is strongly recommended that you download it. We try to communicate as clearly as possible but do require families to have the appropriate tools to get messages. A lot of what we currently also send out via paper will not happen next year.

A reminder that the App will still be used until December 13, 2024.

Rangiwahia Trip

We hope that students, staff and parents enjoyed their trip to Rangiwahia yesterday and we give thanks to everyone who helped make the day a success.

Calling all Kimbolton Residents

Let's Celebrate Christmas... **Most creative & decorated Mailbox will win a prize**

Competition opens
December and closes
December 2024



from Tuesday 10th
Friday 20th

decorated

Email photo of
mailbox, along with your name & address and contact phone number to
info@kimboltoncc.nz to enter

One Prize for most decorated and creative mailbox. Judge's decision will be final

Prize Giving 2024

Monday, December 9



KIMBOLTON
SCHOOL

We would like to extend a warm welcome to those attending our prize giving picnic.

Arrive anytime from 4.30

- Pool will be open.
- Kids can play on the field, or playgrounds.
- Chance for adults to relax.
- This is not a shared meal event, but bring picnic food for your families or group.
- Eat when you're hungry.
- Be seated at 6pm, ready for the formal aspect of the evening.
- There will be tea and coffee available in the staffroom.

FORMAL ASPECT

This will ideally be outside.

- 6.10 Greg to welcome families and students.
- Karakia
- National Anthem
- Wayne to speak on behalf of the board.
- Song
- Student reflections
- Greg's Speech
- Presentation of Academic Awards. Class teachers to present.
- Janelle to speak on behalf of KSSC.
- Presentation of Class WAKA Awards. Class teachers to present.
- Year 8 Speeches
- Environment Award. Heidi to present.
- Song
- Trophy presentations. Wayne to present.
- Final words from Greg and presentation of the Linda Campbell WAKA Award.





COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

PICNIC LUNCH &
CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2024

FOWLERS RESERVE

Bring your picnic lunch and
seating

12:30pm lunch 1:00pm Carol service

You are all welcome
