

**Pekerau Primary School**

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Te Awamutu

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**PEKERAU**  
**PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**Pekerau Primary School • 15 December 2016 • TERM 4 • WEEK 10•**

**Principal's message**

Whakataka te hau ki te uru

Whakataka te hau ki te tonga

Kia mākinakina ki uta

Kia mātaratara ki tai

E hī ake ana te atakura

He tio, he huka, he hau hū

Tihei mauri ora!

2016 has been a year of change at Pekerau Primary School, and with change comes opportunity. From my short time at this school I can see that change has been embraced and that every teacher has displayed a passion for providing plentiful opportunities for our students to grow and learn.

Looking through the Yearbooks I have been made aware of the wonderful pathways of learning that have been provided to our boys and girls, with so many moments that they are proud of and that they will remember for years to come.

Sporting endeavours such as cross country, athletics, have been highlights for our children this year and it has been wonderful to see the children putting their learning into action during these events.

It has been a great year for our sporting teams also. We have had a huge number of basketball teams representing Pekerau in local competitions, as well as touch rugby and netball teams.

We have also provided endless cultural opportunities for our children, our school Kapa Haka, and choir are superb examples of this, and the whole school singing that occurs each week and during assembly is truly amazing and showcases the value that we put on the Arts at Pekerau School. This is of vital importance to us and is something that we need to continue to value and grow next year. Thanks to Georgia Rewha and Jude Ericksen in particular for their endeavours in this area this year.

These opportunities allow our children to find their passions, talents and interests and this is the purpose of school. If you ask any child what their favourite part of their year was, it will be one of the main events that we offer at this school and that is a testament to the staff who work tirelessly to provide so many exciting pathways for learning.

Pekerau has been lucky enough to have dedicated staff who really care for the boys and girls at our school and maintain their focus on making a positive difference to the school. This year we are losing a number of staff who have made significant contributions to our school over a huge number of years. We thank them for time and effort they have put into our school and our children and we wish them well in the next stage of their lives.

Through change comes opportunity and we have taken this opportunity to employ a number of highly qualified teachers who will be joining our staff in 2017. We have been incredibly lucky with the quality of the applicants that we have joining our teaching staff next year.

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed connecting with the Pekerau community during my first 5 weeks here. I have met many parents, whanau, and other community members, whilst also visiting the kindergartens that contribute to Pekerau and Te Awamutu Intermediate who we contribute to.

I spoke to them about our emerging vision of "The Pekerau Way" and asked for feedback on this. It is important that we value where our children come from and where they go to after they leave our school to make the transitions between ECEs and schools as easy and seamless as possible. This means having a shared vision that is created by our entire community, not just people who are directly involved with Pekerau School. The Pekerau way has been used for years to explain the feeling that people get when they enter this school and it is what makes this school unique.

We are now at the stage of defining this into the attitudes and actions that we believe our children require to be successful in their lives. This will provide the platform for 2017 where we will unpack these with our children.

Firstly we want our boys and girls to be **aware** of these attitudes and actions, secondly to **recognise** them in others and finally to **internalise** these and use them each and everyday. If they do this then we are providing our students with the life or soft skills that will make a positive difference to our school and our community.

Your input in this emerging vision has been greatly appreciated and valued and your continued input will be required next year as we unpack this further at community consultation evenings and hui.

# An effective school empowering learners.

Belonging – Turangawaewae, Excellence – Hiranga, Unity – Kotahitanga, Pride – Mana, Integrity – Ngakau, Respect – Manaaki, Spirit – Wairua

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all of the Pekerau staff.

- The teachers for your commitment to teaching and learning and building meaningful relationships with your tamariki.
- The teacher aides and support staff for your hard work and dedication throughout the year. You make a huge difference to our school.
- To Charysse for your continued dedication towards keeping our grounds beautifully manicured.
- To the Board of Trustees who continue to work tirelessly for the good of the school and our children.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday period, full of grace and good will. I wish the Year 6s all the best at their new school and I look forward to seeing the rest of you back here in the new year for what will prove to be an extremely exciting year for Pekerau School.

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa

Te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki

O Ihu Karaiti Me te aroha o te Atua

Me te whiwhinga tahitanga

Ki te Wairua Tapu Ake ake, āmine

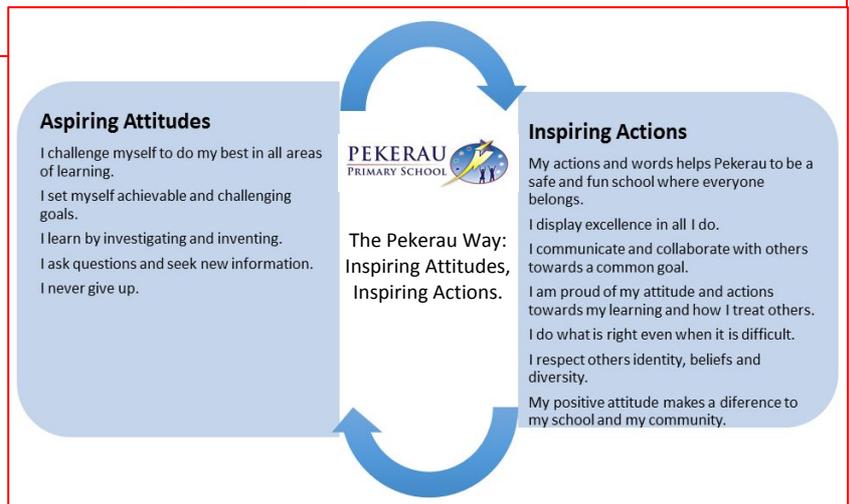
## Community Consultation Update

Here is an update on the Community Consultation that has taken place this term. Our emerging vision defines “The Pekerau Way” as Aspiring Attitudes, Inspiring Actions. This statement has been unpacked into the statements that you can see below. Any feedback on this emerging vision will be greatly received, contact Gavin via email,

[gavinc@pekerau.school.nz](mailto:gavinc@pekerau.school.nz)

Checkout out our Facebook page or website

[www.pekerau.school.nz](http://www.pekerau.school.nz)



We hope you have had a wonderful holiday and are ready to start back at school. Below is some important information for 2017.



## Information for 2017



Pekerau Primary School opens on **Tuesday, 31st January at 8.55am.**

The School office will be open for new enrolments and uniform sales on **Thursday 26th January** and **Friday 27th January** from **9am-1pm.**

If you are in our enrolment zone and would like to be shown around Pekerau Primary School, please feel free to make an appointment to be shown around our school by our Principal, Gavin Clark- email

[gavinc@pekerau.school.nz](mailto:gavinc@pekerau.school.nz) or call on **02102205576.**

You can visit our website for information [www.pekerau.school.co.nz](http://www.pekerau.school.co.nz) or find us on Facebook



## Staff Update

We are delighted to announce the appointment of James Paul as our new Year 5 / 6 teacher next year. He is an experienced teacher who will be joining us from Stanley Avenue School in Te Aroha. Here is a quick introduction from him.

My name is James Paul and I am excited to be joining the staff and students at Pekerau School in 2017. I am passionate about learning in all areas but the curriculum subject I love to teach the most is Science. I look forward to sharing some amazing science experiments and experiences with the senior students next year. I currently live in Hamilton with my wife, Odette, who works at Waikato Hospital as a nurse. Outside of school I enjoy doing crossfit, reading and collecting comic books, and watching the mighty Green Bay Packers play in the NFL. I am really looking forward to 2017 and think it will be an incredible year at Pekerau School!



# School Starts Term 1 Tuesday 31st January 2017

