

Kia Ora! Guten Tag! Welcome! ***How I love teaching at Arches Academy.***

Each morning when I'm feeding Henny Penny, Brownie, Cow, Toast, and Fluffy (our chooks), I take a few minutes to watch the sunrise over the Wasatch Range and feel so lucky to live in such a beautiful state. Next comes an hour working in the garden while listening to news events, podcasts and new thoughts. Cocoa wags her tail in anticipation for a walk around the neighborhood. Upon our return, my husband Mike heads to work for the day and I read a book over a breakfast which includes fresh berries from the garden. During the day our kids (all grown) Austin, Noelle, and Casey check in about plans for their day, and in the evening I call or text two more kids - Mitchell and Autumn, who live in New Zealand, to see how tomorrow is going for them (they are a day ahead of us!).



Born a dual citizen in San Fransisco to a Canadian-raised American father and a world-travelling Kiwi mother, I spent my childhood in both Alaska and New Zealand. I am named after Kerikeri, Bay of Islands, my mother's hometown. Growing up on a farm on the beach I loved rugby, sailing, swimming with the dolphins, fishing, tramping up and over volcanoes, and had a favorite chore of milking cows. As the second oldest of nine children (four brothers, four sisters, and two foster sisters, I discovered that I loved teaching!

At age seventeen, I attended BYU-Provo, where I earned a B.S. in Elementary Education. Shortly thereafter, Mike and I married and lived in Germany for ten years before returning to Utah. I have taught school in Arizona, Germany, and Utah. The best part of teaching, besides laughing, learning, and having fun, is getting to know you students! It is amazing to me the amount of potential, creativity and caring young people have. Our classroom is a safe environment where sharing and respect abound. I really enjoy doing fun, crazy things! This year we are going to continue traditions and set new ones. We will camp together, reenact military battles, create fun projects, debate and discuss, write, memorize, perform, and do much, much more. I am so excited to meet you all! ***Get ready for the Best School Year Ever!!!***



Keri Wahl