



Rocking: KISS tribute band Pash members Tane Young, of Ngaio, left, and Ryan Crilly, Lower Hutt.

Kimi Ora School give their best on stage

From a rousing orchestra performance, to the drama of *The Gingerbread Man*, to a rocking KISS rendition, Kimi Ora School students did their teachers and families proud in their end-of-year concert at the school this month.

Parents and friends filled the multipurpose room at the 10-month-old \$6 million school in Naenae, with rousing applause, cheers and laughter for the series of performances.

The school orchestra, led by music teacher Andreas Lepper and featuring a first-time performance from principal Don Stevens on tuba, kickstarted the concert in fine style.

Called KORM, Kimi Ora Rhythm Machine, the 15-strong orchestra is a mixed-ability band, made up of students and staff from Kimi Ora

School and students from Evans Bay Intermediate.

Its performance included a piece thought up by Room 3 student Blake Forbes-Gentle about a boy who lost his ability to play music and his quest to find it again.

The orchestra was followed by a solo performance, *Computer Says No*, by Jake Olds, then the Wiggles-inspired *Hot Potatoes* from Room 3 at Evans Bays Intermediate.

Kimi Ora's Class 1 students, aged 5 to 7, performed a Rugby World Cup-themed take on the children's classic, *The Gingerbread Man*, with the audience waving New Zealand flags. They were followed by the Spice Girls and Dem Bones, before the concert turned hardcore with KISS tribute band Pash, complete

with face-painted, guitar-toting rockers and songs given a cheeky twist by staff.

The Room 2 rappers, aka The Crazy Frog Crew, also stole the show with outrageous costumes and lyrics.

There was a finale by the senior students, performing the Environmental Music Orchestra, a sensory group running through the year, focusing on the seasons.

Mr Stevens said it was the first end-of-year concert the school had produced, and all 40 students performed.

"We decided to, that we'd put on a concert in our new building."

The school is for students with significant physical disability, aged 5 to 21. Students come from Waikanae to Wellington.