

# EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Preparing today's child for tomorrow's world - Whakakaha ngā tamariki mo apopo

Phone: 375 8191 or 022 368 1830 Email: office@eketahuna.school.nz Website www.eketahuna.school.nz

## COMING UP:

Friday 17 May: Year 4 - 8 Cross Country Walk Around  
 Friday 17 May: Celebration Assembly @ 2:15pm - Nireaha  
 Friday 17 May: Whole School Wheels Day

Friday 17 May: Year 4 - 8 Cross Country Walk Around  
 Monday 20 May: Whole School Cross Country @ Golf Course  
 Tuesday 21 May: Eketāhuna Home & School Meeting @ 7pm  
 Wednesday 22 May: Technology for Yr 7 & 8 @ Pahiatua  
 Friday 24 May: Yr 7 & 8 Police Competition @ Pahiatua

## SCHOOL CLOSURE THIS TERM - PLEASE NOTE EXTRA DATE

This term we will be closing the school for instruction on Tuesday 4th June for the Tararua Teacher Only Day & again on Friday 28th June for Matariki



Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura Ekētahuna, We've had another fantastic week here at school with lots of quality teaching & learning. We're continuing with daily cross country training and look forward to seeing you on Monday 20th at the Golf Club!

### STRIKE PERCUSSION VISITS SCHOOL

On Monday students were enthralled by the live show delivered by Strike Percussion. An energetic performance using a variety of percussion instruments in our school hall! The audience participation was a hit too!

### YEAR 8 TO NYLD// 2024

On Wednesday our Year 8's travelled over to Palmerston North for the 'National Young Leaders Day' conference. It was an exciting opportunity for our senior students to engage with other students across our region as well as hearing from keynote speakers in Leadership. The message of the day develops, as students are challenged not only to reach their own personal goals but the goals of those they are leading. Students enjoyed hearing from Brooke Neal, Te Kahukura Boynton, William Pike and Nate Wilbourne. A big thank you goes to Natasha Harrison for transporting students over to the event.



## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

It is lovely to see everyone in school on Fridays, at the school assembly in the hall. It's a great opportunity to share the successes children have had throughout the week. Tomorrow's assembly starts at 2:15pm and will be hosted by students from Nireaha. See you all there!



### Week2, Term 2 = Class Awards - Star Student:

For great work done in class and related to learning throughout the week:

Hukanui: Indy Miller  
 Hāmua: Maia Cremen  
 Rongomai: Maddie Giddens  
 Nireaha: Lleucu Anderson  
 Pūtara: Hunter Rankin

### Week 2, Term 2 = Caught Being Good Award - Duffy Book:

Outstanding behaviour that exemplifies our school values and expectations:

Hukanui: Izzy Lawrence  
 Hāmua: Ayva Hudson  
 Rongomai: Macaulay Keenan  
 Nireaha: Rhianna Jones  
 Pūtara: Evan Governor

Principal's Awards: Charlotte Smith for being kind & caring - showing real RESPONSIBILITY

# CLASS UPDATES

## HUKANUI NEWS:

Kia Ora,  
 We had a great start to the week listening to Strike Percussion as they played drums and other percussion instruments. The children really enjoyed this and have been showing their musical talent on the xylophones that we have had in the classroom. In Maths we have been looking at volume and how many cubes does it take to fill something. Yesterday we started writing simple similes....the children did amazing describing what was as loud as the drum or quiet as a mouse. Fantastic work with the bee bots with Hamua last Friday. The children really enjoy this Tuakana Teina time as they work with older buddies. Any queries please do not hesitate to contact me [mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz](mailto:mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz)  
 Thanks, Marilyn.

**HAMUA NEWS:** Kia Ora whanau, Unfortunately Hāmua have had Holly away this week unwell. We kicked off the week with the Strike Percussion Performance on Monday and Jess is keeping them busy making Box Puppets, practising with boom whackers and writing about adjectives. The most disgusting and the most delicious burgers! Your tamariki are very descriptive and are loving their learning. Thanks to Whaea Peta & Jess for covering.



## RONGOMAI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,  
 I have really enjoyed getting out and about, outside of the classroom, to see our tamariki playing winter sports. There is some serious talent in Rongomai! I'll be keeping an eye out on progress throughout the term. In the classroom we are currently trying our hand at writing poetry. We are rhyming with words to create our very own original piece for publishing. We are also honing in on our acting skills in reading, through plays. I can see confidence growing and enjoyment as the students use expression whilst they read. Great stuff Rongomai! All the best for our cross country next week! Nga mihi, Miss Mac 😊



## CROSS COUNTRY WALK AROUND

### FRIDAY 17TH MAY - YR 4-8

Tomorrow our years 4-8 will be walking to the Eketāhuna Golf course for a walk around and to familiarise ourselves with our cross country course. Please come prepared wearing sensible shoes and comfortable clothing.



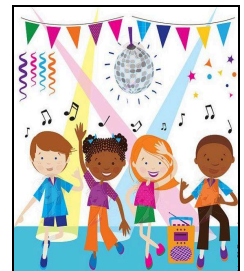
## SCHOOL DISCO - SAVE THE DATE

**WE ARE HAVING A THEMED DANCE**

### THURSDAY 6TH JUNE

**YEAR 1 - 4 LUNCHTIME DISCO  
 YEAR 5 - 8 EVENING DISCO @ 5.30 - 7PM**

**MORE INFORMATION TO COME**



## SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

In preparation for our school cross country, students are training daily at school to improve their physical conditioning and build up stamina for the upcoming event. School cross country will be at the Eketāhuna Golf Course on Monday 20th May, with the postponement date Wednesday 29th May. Look for more information to come.

The inter school Cross Country event is on Wednesday 7th June at Alfredton School, with a postponement date of Tuesday 11th June.

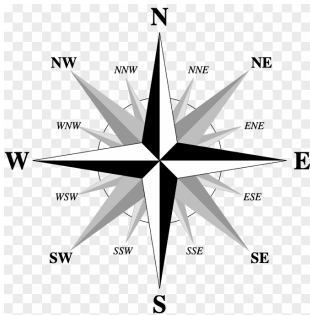
We will need parent helpers on these days - if you are available please contact the school office or email our Sports Coordinator Dean via [dparsons@eketahuna.school.nz](mailto:dparsons@eketahuna.school.nz)



**NIREAHA NEWS:**

Kia ora,  
 The week started with an amazing 'Strike!' percussion performance. The children were captivated by the sounds the drummers were able to create with various drums... and even fire! The children all agreed the woman playing the violin was impressive too! The cooler, wet weather has arrived, please ensure that your children have their raincoats as they head out the door. We are walking the cross country course tomorrow, and running it Monday (weather permitting). So please ensure the children are well prepared for this. Perhaps bring a spare pair of socks to put on when we get back - cold feet for the rest of the day would not be much fun!  
 Nireaha Homework Club. A reminder that homework is given each Monday, and due back on Friday. Caregivers, please remember to check this is done, and sign it to show you have seen it. Thanks again for your support with this.  
 Good luck for Monday's Cross Country run kids! Give it all you've got!

**PUTARA NEWS:**



Hi all  
 It's been quite a busy week. In maths we have learned a little about cardinal and intercardinal directions / points on a compass. This, in turn, deals with clockwise and anti-clockwise direction, degrees / angles and rotation. Yesterday, the Year 8 children attended the National Young Leaders Day at the Regent theatre in Palmerston North. This was extremely inspiring, and those children who attended benefited enormously. Well done, Year 8 tamariki!  
 Lastly, feel free to take your children to the park for some running practise over the weekend. Come Monday, there will be plenty of puffing and panting as the Eketāhuna children run the school cross-country!! (Don't lose your way on the course, kids!) Dean

STUDENTS 'OFF' BUSES

A GENERAL REMINDER FOR NEXT TERM TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF BUS STUDENTS TO PLEASE RING IN BEFORE 2:30PM TO LET THE OFFICE KNOW THEIR CHILDREN ARE TO BE TAKEN OFF THE AFTERNOON BUS LISTS. IT MAKES THE JOB SO MUCH EASIER AND SAFER.



DRESS WARM AS WINTER IS COMING

WITH COLDER WEATHER ON THE WAY, AND CHILLY MORNINGS, PLEASE MAKE SURE STUDENTS ARE COMING TO SCHOOL IN APPROPRIATE CLOTHES AND SHOES TO KEEP THEM WARM. BEFORE SCHOOL TIME OUTSIDE CAN GET CHILLY AND WE WANT TO KEEP COLDS & FLUS AWAY! THANKS EVERYONE 😊



CELL PHONES

A REMINDER THAT STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO HAVE PHONES OR DEVICES OF ANY DESCRIPTION ON THEM AT SCHOOL. IF THEY DO NEED TO BRING A DEVICE OR PHONE TO SCHOOL, THEY ARE TO BE HANDED INTO THE OFFICE BEFORE SCHOOL. THANK YOU!



**INDOOR HOCKEY DRAW - MONDAY 20th MAY**



Unfortunately we have had to withdraw our Under 11's team, Eke Thunder, due to dwindling numbers, injuries and commitments to other sports.  
 It is now up to our Under 9's, Eke Dragons, to represent. Good luck for your first game, Dragons!

**Eke Dragons (U9)**  
 vs Woodville  
 @  
 3.45pm

**EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL WHEEL DAY**



Our student suggestion box asked for more 'wheel days' and our School Leaders took it seriously! Three wheel days have been scheduled per term and the leaders will be responsible for the day's organisation. Our first school wheel day is on Friday 17th May. Our tamariki (children) are allowed to bring their scooter, bike, drift trike, skateboard, roller skates or rollerblades to kura. Please make sure that you have a helmet and appropriate safety gear!

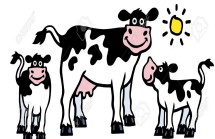
Lost Property

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT THAT COMES TO SCHOOL IS CLEARLY NAMED, TO HELP US CUT DOWN ON LOST PROPERTY! IF YOU ARE IN SCHOOL, PLEASE CHECK OUT THE BIN AS THERE IS A LOT OF CLOTHING, SHOES, SWIMMING GEAR AND CONTAINERS - ITEMS OUR STUDENTS DON'T RECOGNISE AS THEIRS. THANK YOU.



## EKETĀHUNA HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION CALF SCHEME

On behalf of the Home and School Association, and the school, a big thank you to all those in our community who are supporting the school through the calf scheme. Your generosity is most appreciated.



If you would like to join the scheme or would like more information please contact the office or Bex Howell on 0272026969. Thank you so much!

## EKETĀHUNA HOME & SCHOOL MEETING

Tuesday 21st May  
@ 7pm  
Eketāhuna School  
Staffroom



*We look forward to seeing you there!*

### ROAD SAFETY AT THE SCHOOL CAR PARK AND KEA CROSSING

We are becoming increasingly concerned with the actions of some drivers when dropping off and collecting your children each day. Please adhere to the traffic rules and STOP at the entry point onto Alfredton Road when leaving the school car park. This is not a rolling stop and have been advised to kindly remind our school community to ensure we are all safe.

We also urge you to use our Kea Crossing and role model good practice when crossing the road and not to cross in between parked cars on the grass verge at the end of the school day.

We also ask that students wait on the Albert Street corner footpath, to be escorted by the teacher on Road Patrol duty across Albert Street to walk up the south side of Alfredton Road.

A final reminder that the bus parking area is not to be used for car parks at any time.

Thank you for your support and co-operation with this - it is much appreciated.



### Eketāhuna Playgroup Update:

Kia Ora Playgroup Whanau! With the cold weather set in we've been doing lots of indoor activities. The kids have had lots of fun trying their hand at colour by numbers colouring sheets, it's been heartwarming seeing the kids help each other identify the numbers and finding the colours they needed. It's been a great challenge! The Tamariki have been working on autumn art and have had fun composing their artwork with different shapes and sizes of leaves and spray painting them all the colours of the rainbow and have been burning off some energy practising yoga poses using the yoga dice. Next week we are hosting a Mummy and Bubs morning tea on the Wednesday morning from 9-12 and would love to see some new faces. Cherry from Tararua breastfeeding support will be in attendance and there will be sensory play for the children, hope to see you there!

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### PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE DAILY

At school we have a filtered water bottle filler for students to access for fresh drinking water. Due to Covid, colds, bugs and germs we no longer have any shared drinking fountains operating so it is vital that all students come with their own water bottle. Please check that your child has their bottle, with their name on it, packed in their bag each day.





