

EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

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COMING UP:

Thursday 27 June: Tararua Cultural Festival Year 4 - 8
 Friday 28 June: Matariki - Public Holiday - **School Closed**

Thursday 4 July: Home & School Pies Delivered
 Thursday 4 July: PJ & Onesie Day with Popcorn & Movies!
 Thursday 4 July: Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser for St. Cuthberts
 Friday 5 July: Celebration Assembly@ 2:15pm House Leaders & Deputies

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura Ekētahuna,
 We hope you all have a wonderful long weekend celebrating Matariki on Friday, with family and friends. Matariki is a special occasion in the country's calendar which marks the start of the Māori New Year. Signified by the Matariki cluster of stars reappearing in our night sky, this is a time to reflect on the past year, celebrate the present, and plan for the year ahead. Best wishes to you all & we look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday!



NEW TEACHER FOR PŪTARA

We are thrilled to announce that Jess Wilkinson will be back with us as a classroom teacher and has accepted the teaching position available in Pūtara for Term 3 and Term 4. Having been the almost 'one day a week' release teacher in Pūtara this year, she knows the class inside out and already has great connections with the students which will help with transition and learning consistency. Exciting new activities and learning opportunities are in store for our senior students under her guidance. We are confident that Jess's experience, enthusiasm and expertise will greatly enrich our school community and we can't wait to see all the amazing things she has planned for our Year 7 & 8! Welcome back, Jess!

FIRE SERVICE VIST US

We were lucky to have members from the Eketāhuna Fire Service visit school yesterday in their truck. They came to talk about how we can all stay safe around fire and had a really timely message around checking all fire alarms in our homes. If you need advice, or help with installing / checking a fire alarm for home-get in touch with them-they're happy to help!



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. Next week's assembly will be hosted by our House Team Leaders and Deputies, who look forward to seeing you! Our Celebration Assembly starts at 2:15pm.



Week 11 Class Awards - Star Student:

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

- Hukanui: Lukah Hoera-Bengston
- Hāmua: Nikora Van der Wiel
- Rongomai: Litarah Tairaoa
- Nireaha: Mikey Hammond
- Pūtara: Lucy White

Week 11 Caught Being Good Award - Duffy Book:

Outstanding behaviour that exemplifies our school values and expectations:

- Hukanui: Indy Miller
- Hāmua: Heath Dennison
- Rongomai: Neive Davis
- Nireaha: Savannah Hammond
- Pūtara: Kerrin Atkinson

Principal's Awards: Hunter Rankin for demonstrating amazing RESILIENCE while dealing with an injury

CLASS UPDATES

HUKANUI NEWS: Kia Ora Whanau. We had a lot of fun last Friday doing our play for assembly. As always the practises are better than when the children get stage fright. It is good for them to perform in public though and they certainly enjoyed it! For STEM we have been using money and wrote shopping lists, purchased pretend food and had to pay for thing with play money. Lots of fun was had by all. We had our netball session with Rebecca from Manawatu Netball which all children participated in with enthusiasm. For P.E. we have been learning to skip ready for Mondays Jump off! Have a relaxing Friday and enjoy your weekends.
Thanks, Marilyn

HAMUA NEWS: Kia ora whanau,
On Friday in our STEM block we looked for money. We played shops and added up how much money does the shopping list cost then students had to find that amount to pay the shop keeper. Doing this student practising real life situations and identifying the different money that we use. On Tuesday we had our last netball section with Rebeca students who enjoyed the 3 netball lessons.
Just a reminder next week we have our jumping june event so please ensure that students are bringing correct shoes to be jumping in and a water bottle.
Nga Mihi Holly

RONGOMAI NEWS: Kia ora whanau,
This week we have been working on 'Chain Stories' for writing. They have been a good challenge for our class with some added refining to do. On Tuesday we began playing a netball game with Rebecca from Netball Manawatu. We are lucky to receive her experience and expertise. Rongomai are displaying some excellent skills on the court. We are in the final stages of preparation for the Tararua Cultural Festival. This is a first time experience for our year 4's. They have been absolute stars! Just a reminder for your child to bring warm clothes and a jacket for these bleak school days.
Nga mihi, Miss Mac 😊



SCHOOL FUNDRAISER FOR ST CUTHBERTS WINDOW FUND

SAUSAGE SIZZLE THURSDAY 4 JULY

THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL LUNCHES THIS DAY AND WE ARE ASKING THAT STUDENTS BUY THEIR SAUSAGE (OR TWO!) IN BREAD (\$2 EACH) IN AN EFFORT TO RAISE MUCH NEEDED FUNDS FOR THE ST CUTHBERTS CHURCH WINDOWS THAT HAVE BEEN VANDALISED



Remember to get online and register - ready for our Skipping Event on Monday 1st July.

To those who have already registered and started fundraising a big thank you!

Already raised by Eketāhuna Tamariki is \$1,094.00!!

KEEP UNWELL CHILDREN AT HOME

WE STILL WANT TO ENSURE EVERYONE IS WELL & HEALTHY, SO IF YOUR CHILD FEELS UNWELL PLEASE KEEP THEM AT HOME. ALSO REMEMBER IF YOUR CHILD HAS A TUMMY BUG, VOMITING OR DIARRHOEA THEY CANNOT RETURN TO SCHOOL FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS AFTER THEY WERE LAST SICK OR HAD A LOOSE MOTION. DON'T FORGET TO KEEP WASHING YOUR HANDS TOO! THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

LATE STUDENTS

OUR SCHOOL DAY STARTS AT 9AM AND WE SEEM TO HAVE A NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO ARE LATE TO SCHOOL. IT IS VITAL THAT OUR STUDENTS ARE AT SCHOOL BEFORE THE START OF 9AM SO THEY HAVE TIME TO UNPACK, SORT THEIR EQUIPMENT AND PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE UPCOMING LEARNING IN CLASS.

BUS BEHAVIOUR

A REMINDER THAT WE HAVE A 'BUS CODE OF CONDUCT' WHICH STUDENTS AND CAREGIVERS HAVE AGREED TO. FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL WHO TRAVEL ON OUR BUSES WE MUST BE VIGILANT WITH BEHAVIOUR DURING TRIPS BOTH TO AND FROM SCHOOL. STUDENTS WHO EXHIBIT POOR BEHAVIOUR CHOICES WILL BE TAKEN OFF THE BUS AND WILL NEED TO BE TRANSPORTED BY PARENTS.

MIRĀHA NEWS: Ngā mihi o Matariki, te tau hou Māori. Happy Matariki! ★



The children had a fantastic final Netball Manawatu session with Rebecca this week. The children played a game to bring together the skills they have learned. It was very heartwarming how well they participated, supported and encouraged each other in the game. That's one of the things I love about this class, we are all very different, with a range of skills and abilities, and we look out for each other. ❤️

Today we perform at the Tararua Cultural Festival. I'm sure you will be very proud of your child. I hope you get some time This Matariki Weekend to relax, reflect on the past year, celebrate the present, and plan for the year ahead. Nga mihi, Barb.

PUTARA NEWS: It was great to have Ryan and his volunteer fire crew visit our school today. The kids in Pūtara had some excellent questions and there is a huge appreciation for the service these volunteers provide - right across Aotearoa.

I'm sure we will be able to generate a lot of mathematics and use our research skills to explore firefighting a lot more. Weight of the trucks, the ratio of volunteers vs fully paid firefighters, the water capacity of the trucks, litres/second, time frame from a single flame to a house being fully destroyed, firefighter salaries... Real life concepts always provide for the best learning. Lastly, Evan, you and your family have been an integral part of Eketāhuna school and the wider community for a long time. I wish you all the very best for the future.



PRINCIPAL'S MORNING TEA SHOUT REWARD

Next Thursday I will be taking students out for morning tea – in recognition of their ability to continually make good choices! Our school behaviour system is focused on “catching children when they are good” as these positive reinforcers have a powerful effect. Teachers implement a variety of methods to reinforce positive behaviour at our school. In all situations our focus is encouraging appropriate and positive behaviour and catching kids when they're doing the right thing. When students need support to 'make good choices', we have a school wide behaviour plan in place. A Visual Behaviour Chart is displayed in classrooms and around the school. This is referred to often.

Each child starts a day in GREEN and an overwhelming majority stay at that level. At last weeks assembly we drew out the students who will be enjoying this terms reward:

- RubyLee Burton–Foley, Sadie Opie,
 - Mareana Roiri, Chelsea Spring,
 - Renee Dennison, Olivia Capes,
 - Georgia Wensley, Ellie Christensen–McCaffery,
 - Matthew Webber & Noel Lochhead.
- Congratulations everyone!

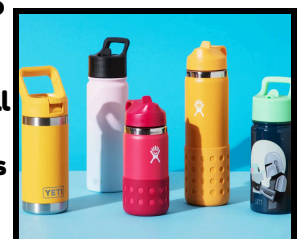


Eketāhuna Playgroup Update:

Kia Ora Playgroup Families! This week we were lucky enough to explore a fire engine and learn all about fire safety with real life fire fighters. The kids had an absolute ball! Thanks to the Eketahuna fire brigade and the new entrant class for involving us. We had Cherry from Tararua Breastfeeding support attend and it's always a pleasure to see a smiling face with so much knowledge. We also had a ball with our Matariki inspired sensory play working on our fine motor skills. Next week we have Shirley from Tararua REAP attending which is always the most fun session. Last week of playgroup so we hope to see you all there. M ā nawatia a Matariki!

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.





Board of Trustees Update - Exciting Developments

As we approach the end of Term 2, the shortest day is now behind us, hopefully the weather remains mild and everyone is having a few slower days. The Board of Trustees would like to update our community on the exciting developments ahead for our school.

We had our fourth meeting of the year with Melinda on the 19th June, our role is currently sitting at 101 students which is four students down from where we were last year.

In term 3 we are expecting the renovations and modifications to Hāmua and Rongomai to commence, these modifications will really modernise the classes and will make them more comfortable for learning, they will be getting new flooring, storage spaces, insulation, lighting, heat pumps and autex wall surrounds. This does mean however that there will be a bit of a shift around for the kids as they won't be able to be in these classes while all the building and renovating is occurring. Rest assured there are very comprehensive plans in place and the kids will be well catered for. Eketāhuna school is lucky to have plenty of space and Playgroup has kindly agreed to relocate temporarily so some of the kids can move into this room, library and in Hukanui which is actually designed to have two classes in it.

Another exciting announcement is that Melinda has managed to organise a cyber safety presentation, from the group "Our Kids On Line", this presentation will talk about cyberbullying, social media, gaming and the developing brain, online predators, fake news, and healthy relationships. This will be a presentation for adults and tailored to parents/caregivers of primary age children and early teens. This will likely go ahead early in Term 4 and be an evening event. I, like many of you, expect this to be hugely informative and beneficial, with the on going accessibility of online platforms, it is something that we all could upskill and know more about to keep our kids safe and happy.

As you will all know, Dean sadly resigned from Eketahuna School and is off to teach over in the Manawatu, this is a loss for our school but we wish him all the best with his new position. The Board was very happy to hear that Jess Wilkinson has agreed to take over this position! Jess is a wonderful teacher and has been doing class release work across the school since returning from maternity leave. Jess first started at Eketahuna in 2020 and has been a firm favourite with many of the students, I am sure you will all join me to welcome Jess back in full time capacity.

The Home and School continues its fantastic work! The Eketāhuna Golf Tournament raised almost \$9000 this year! This is the biggest fundraiser we do. It was an amazing day seeing 89 golfers out and about, fantastic prizes and a lot of support for our school. The next Home and School meeting is on the 24th September at 7pm in the school staffroom. The main aim of this meeting will be to plan the Spring Show. We would really like to see some new faces, so if you can, please come along and lend a hand. I promise you will have a laugh and enjoy cake!

Ngā mihi,

Skye White & Eketāhuna School Board of Trustees

