

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 9th February: Town Pool Fundraiser @ School
Friday 9th February: Celebration Assembly @ 2:15pm - Leaders Hosts

Tuesday 13th February: Eketāhuna Home & School Meeting @ 7pm
Friday 16th February: Celebration Assembly @ 2:15pm - Pūtara Hosts
Friday 16th February: Touch Rugby after school in Pahiatua starts
Tuesday 20th February: Eketāhuna Board of Trustees Meeting @ 6:30pm

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura Eketāhuna, we hope everyone has had a great start to our school term and was able to spend Waitangi Day with family and friends. It has been a great second week at school with lots of engaged learners and exciting activities. The start has been extremely positive, as evidenced by the excitement and enthusiasm being demonstrated already in classes, in the playground and in the pool. We also enjoyed a lovely Mihi Whakatau last Friday with our tamariki helping to welcome new students and their whānau to school. We followed the ceremony with a delicious morning tea. We are all looking forward to seeing everyone here this evening for our annual 'Meet & Greet'. Another way to welcome our community in and celebrate this amazing school! See you there...



SCHOOL DONATIONS 2024

A reminder that we will not be asking for direct donations this year as we have again opted into the Government's scheme of funding \$150 per year per student. Parents are still required to pay for stationery, uniform items and out of school sports fees. However, day trips that support the curriculum & swimming lessons are no longer charged to parents. School camps and Year 7 & 8 Technology will need to be partly funded by parents but are heavily subsidised to lower the cost to parents substantially. We try to make whatever we do as affordable as possible for our kura families.



EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL VALUES

At Eketāhuna School, our values are encouraged, modelled and explored. We believe that although our school community comes from a wide range of backgrounds and diversity of experience, we collectively believe and uphold a range of values that are reflected in the way we think and act. They are integrated across the school curriculum and throughout each day. Our 4 core school values are:

| BE RESPECTFUL | BE RESPONSIBLE | BE RESILIENT | BE REFLECTIVE |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| HE WHAKAUTE | HE TAKOHANGA | HE PAKARI | HE WHAKAARO HURITAO |



EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL MEET & GREET

Tonight @ 4:30pm - 6pm

We will have our classrooms open so families can meet our teachers and see the engaging learning spaces, have a swim in our heated pool, grab a free sausage. Parking on the school field, where designated. See you there!

WEEKLY UPDATE

HUKANUI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau.

It has been a busy start to the year in Hukanui. We have been loving being able to get in the pool especially on these hot afternoons. The children are trying really hard in their daily swimming lessons and it is great to see their progress already. We have been working hard on learning our classroom routines. One important routine is that of the morning jobs. Please help your child learn responsibility by getting them to put their book bags and lunch boxes in their bags, carry their bags and then when at school empty their own bags.

All children do need a named drink bottle especially in this weather. Please remember togs, drink bottles and book bags daily. If you need to contact me feel free to email mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz Thanks, Marilyn

RONGOMAI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau, it's been busy in Rongomai with swimming lessons and ongoing assessments. We have begun our literacy rotations and are still perfecting our classroom routines. I have been super impressed by the outstanding behaviour of our tamariki. There have been some really helpful, responsible, and model behaviour coming through. What a great start to the year!

Thank you to those who have connected to Class Dojo. It's lovely to receive messages from whanau about your child. I am really looking forward to seeing everyone at the 'Meet and Greet' tonight. Any opportunity to connect with home is always a positive thing. Nga mihi, Miss Mac.



HANUA NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,

This week we have begun our school swimming lessons with Lisa. It's been amazing seeing all of the Hanua students giving it their best efforts in the pool. We have been practising breathing in the pool like blowing bubbles out of their nose. In maths we have been working on statistics. We have been looking at how to write tally marks. As a class we began an investigation to look at how many eye colours we have in our classroom. Please ensure that water bottles and togs are brought to school. If you ever need to get a hold of me please don't hesitate. I am contactable through the school cell

phone or via email hjohnston@eketahuna.school.nz. Nga Mihi, Holly



SCHOOL BUS MONITORS

Congratulations to our 2024 team of Bus Monitors who will ensure students are following our Code of Conduct and are safe on the bus. The monitors completed their training with Senior Constable Maxine last week. Nireaha Bus has Hunter Rankin, Lucy White, Cleo Davis & Pounamu Roiri. Rongomai Bus has Noah Duffy and Brooke Duffy. The Rongokako Bus has Jehanne Knight, Annabeth Read & Paityn Wright. Our Newman Bus has Evan Governor & Campbell Mackisack.

SCHOOL ROAD PATROL TEAM

Congratulations also goes to our students selected for the Road Patrol Team for 2024. These students have completed their Kea Crossing training with Senior Constable Maxine last Thursday, and her feedback was incredibly positive of the team, in particular Noah & Hunter who stayed to support the new trainees. The team are: Maxwell Crudis, Lucy White, Rubylee Burton-Foley, Jehanne Knight, Noah Duffy, Hunter Rankin, Savannah Hammond, Annabeth Read, Bella Ifill, Lana Hanson, Campbell Mackisack, Cleo Davis, Brooke Duffy, Cody Bedford-Robinson, Maisyn Parr, Lleucu Anderson, Rhianna Jones, Madison Rankin, Chelsea Spring, Faith Kwok-Sun, Pounamu Roiri & Kerrin Atkinson.



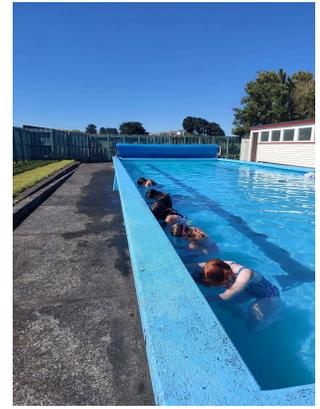
NIREAHA NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,

I hope you had a great Waitangi Day earlier this week. I had a really nice time relaxing with friends and family. The year 7's had their first day of Technology at Tararua College yesterday. The students have already completed their first projects, they are really proud of their completed pillow cases and 'desk mates'.

In class we have been creating really cool caricatures and have painted self portraits - come and have a look at these at tonight's 'Meet and Greet'. Swimming lessons are well underway, we are currently working on regulating breathing in the water.

Looking forward to seeing you tonight, please come and introduce yourselves and say "Hi". Nga mihi, Barbara



PUTARA NEWS:

Kia ora, all

The year has started off very positively. Already, we have done a maths test, some writing samples and our literacy tasks are up and running. It's good to get an early understanding of your child's abilities.

At present, we are in technology at Tararua College. All the children have remembered to bring their shoes and hair ties, so well done. Please let the school know asap if your child will not be attending on a tech day, or if you intend to pick your child up from the tech block (you may have an appointment etc...), as this helps us keep an accurate roll, particularly for children on connecting buses after school.

Again, please remember that swimming is compulsory, so if you can ensure your child has their togs and towel each day then I would appreciate that very much. Dean

HOMework FOR 2024



Homework is happening in all classes across the school this year, and should be coming home from next week. Tasks will be skill based, set at the appropriate level for the students. Activities will be related to literacy and maths as 'follow ups' to classroom learning. We expect all students in Hukanui, Hāmua and Rongomai to be reading and completing basic tasks with caregivers each night to support the building of foundation skills. In Nireaha & Pūtara caregivers have been asked to indicate on a form, which came home last week, if they will support senior students with learning at home. These forms need to be back to school tomorrow. Homework books will come out next week with clear expectations and guidelines for whānau. If you have any questions or need more clarification please contact your child's teacher. You can do this before school, or after, via the school phone on 375 8191 or the school cell phone on 022 368 1830. You can also contact our teachers via their school emails.

SCHOOL RUBBISH:

WE ARE ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO PUT FOOD 'WRAPPINGS' & PACKAGING BACK IN THEIR LUNCH BOXES ONCE THEY HAVE EATEN AT BREAK TIMES. WE ARE CONTINUING TO KEEP THE AMOUNT OF RUBBISH DOWN HERE AT SCHOOL. THANK YOU!



STUDENTS 'OFF' BUSES

A GENERAL REMINDER 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.



HATS & SUNSCREEN

OUR SUN SAFETY POLICY REQUIRES HATS TO BE WORN IN TERM 1. A GOOD IDEA IS TO HAVE YOUR CHILD BRING A HAT (NAMED) THAT CAN BE LEFT AT SCHOOL THEREFORE AVOIDING SPENDING THEIR BREAKS ON THE DECK IN THE SHADE.



STUDENT STATIONERY STILL REQUIRED

A huge thank you to all those who have organised their children's school stationery through Office Max. We still have some students without stationery, so coming home with them this week will be a paper stationery list.

You can either purchase those items yourself and get them into school, or send the list and money into school and we will order for you. School provides many things through the year but it is up to parents to provide stationery.

We work hard to ensure the lists are inexpensive and manageable for our whanau. If you need any help organising stationery please contact Leona in the school office.



A REMINDER REGARDING VAPING AT SCHOOL FOR STAFF, CAREGIVERS & STUDENTS

As per the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Vaping) Amendment Act 2020, which came into effect on 11 November 2020, all schools, kura, early learning services, and kōhanga reo must be smoke and vape-free both indoors and outdoors, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To maintain a healthy and safe environment for our students and staff, we strictly enforce a no-vaping policy on our school premises.

Vaping, which involves the use of electronic cigarettes or similar devices, is prohibited at all times, including during school hours, after-school activities, and any school-related events or functions. We kindly request your cooperation and support in ensuring that our school remains a smoke and vape-free zone. We encourage you to have open conversations with your children about the risks associated with vaping and the importance of adhering to the school's policy. Students

who engage in vaping on school grounds may face disciplinary actions such as being stood down from school. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy, please feel free to contact the school office.

We appreciate your understanding and partnership in maintaining a healthy and supportive learning environment for all.



FEBRUARY
8



EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL MEET & GREET

COME ALONG AND JOIN WITH OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY IN CELEBRATING THE GREAT START TO OUR YEAR!

4:30pm - 6pm

A great opportunity to see the fantastic learning environments we have at Eketahuna School and meet up with our teachers.

- Teachers will have classes open to view @ 4:30pm with digital learning demonstrations in Nireaha & Pūtara
- School draft Strategic Plan for 2024 on display & feedback welcome
- Pool swim from 5:10pm
- Sausage sizzle available in our courtyard area

NB ALL CHILDREN MUST ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR PARENTS AND/OR CAREGIVERS

SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS & ROLLER SKATES AT SCHOOL

It is great to see so many students bringing their equipment to school. Please note that those children riding them to school will require helmets. While at school we ask that all children with scooters, skate boards & roller skates wear covered shoes. Also, helmets are advised if students are using a ramp or doing any 'tricks'. It is fantastic to see children riding around on the basketball court but we do need to ensure we are all safe!



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. Thank you.

Board Of Trustees Meeting



The next Eketāhuna School Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th Feb at 6.30pm in the Eketahuna School staff room. Everyone is welcome to attend and if you have any items for the agenda please let me know by 5pm on Friday 16th February. I am contactable on botchair@eketahuna.school.nz or 3758059.

Warmest Regards - Skye White
(Chairperson Board of Trustees)

EKETĀHUNA HOME & SCHOOL MEETING

Tuesday 13th February
@ 7pm
Eketāhuna School
Staffroom

We look forward to seeing you there!



