

# 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 23rd February: Peace Run participants visiting school  
 Tuesday 27th February: School Swimming Sports Year 4 - 8

Thursday 29th February: School Swimming Sports Year 4 - 8 (pp)  
 Friday 1st March: Minor Sports @ Pahiatua for Year 1 & 2 Students  
 Wednesday 6th March: Year 7 & 8 @ Technology in Pahiatua  
 Thursday 7th March: Junior Swim Display @ school for Hukanui & Hāmua

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura Ekētahuna,  
 A great week at Eketāhuna kura with lots of engaging activities and nice weather!!!

### GREAT START TO THE TOUCH RUGBY SEASON

Friday saw our three teams play after school in Pahiatua. All of our students put in 100% effort in the full sun - with awesome support from whānau on the sidelines! The Under 9's had a draw, the Under 11's a close loss and the Under 13's had a win! A big thank you to our parent coaches for their time-great stuff everyone!



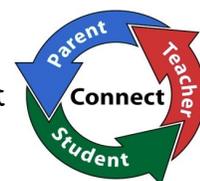
### SCHOOL STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2024



Coming out with the newsletter is a summarised copy of the Strategic Action Plan for 2024. The purpose of a charter is to set the direction for a school and identify the priorities the Board of Trustees expects the principal to be leading. The Education Act 1989 requires every school to complete a charter and a copy of the annual update to be sent to the Ministry of Education each year. The plan is a key planning document that sets out the school's objectives and targets for the year, and establishes the mission, aims, objectives, directions and targets of the board that will give effect to the Government's National Education Guidelines and the Board's priorities.

### PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS COMING UP THIS TERM

In Week 8, on Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st March we are holding conferences with parents and caregivers at school. They are useful, positive meetings where, through discussion, you and our teachers can become partners in your child's education. More information to come . . . including links to SkoolLoop online to book meetings!



## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

It is great seeing everyone in school on Fridays, at the school assembly at 2:15pm, in the hall. Check the school calendar on our website online for dates. It's a great opportunity to share the successes children have had throughout the week. Please note: there's no assembly tomorrow due to the Peace Run being hosted at school. Our next assembly is Friday 8th March.



### Week 3 Class Awards – Star Student:

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

Hukanui: Emily Trass  
 Hāmua: Heath Dennison  
 Rongomai: Neive Davis  
 Nireaha: Savannah Hammond  
 Pūtara: Noah Duffy

### Week 3 Caught Being Good Award – Duffy Book:

Outstanding behaviour that exemplifies our school values and expectations:

Hukanui: Matthew Webber  
 Hāmua: Amelia Webber  
 Rongomai: James Rushbrook-Robinson  
 Nireaha: Maclane King  
 Pūtara: Rubylee Burton-Foley

# WEEKLY UPDATE

## HUKANUI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau. This week has been a busy one in Hukanui. We have been looking at two books by Julia Donaldson, *The Gruffalo* and *Room on the Broom*. The children have particularly enjoyed being creative and using their imaginations to create scenes and tell the stories with puppets. We are still swimming and it is great to see the difference in the confidence of the children as the term progresses. If it is cold then we have been starting to do some cross country training. Next week we are looking forward to going on the bus to Pahiatua for the Bush Minisports. Please remember to put a set of spare clothes in your child's bag, for accidents or paint. Remember named drink bottles with water please. Thanks, Marilyn



## HAMUA NEWS:

Kia ora koutou,  
This week we have been learning about graphing and looking at our data that we have collected to make a final comment. We looked at a packet of jelly beans to see what was going to be the most popular colour in each packet. Also in maths we have been going over what are the number bonds of 10 e.g.  $9+1=10$ . Next week we are looking forward to going on the bus to Pahiatua for the Bush Minisports. Please remember our tamariki needs to bring a sun hat, drink bottle, togs and a towel daily. If you have any questions please feel free to email [hjohnston@eketahuna.school.nz](mailto:hjohnston@eketahuna.school.nz)  
Nga Mihi, Holly 😊



## RONGOMAI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,  
Swimming lessons have 'amped up' to a new level in readiness for the upcoming swimming sports. Our practice in the town pool, this Friday morning, will be good for our year 4's in particular. It's a good chance to become familiar with the format. I look forward to guiding our tamariki through to ensure there are no surprises on the day. Please be sure your child brings their togs, towel and comfortable shoes for walking.  
We have begun our Star Writing programme. Rongomai are now in a good routine for our phonics to warm up and build writing fluency with no interruptions. We have some great storytellers in the class!  
We are very fortunate to have the Peace Run visit this Friday at 1pm. We look forward to hosting them and showcasing our wonderful school and its community. Nga mihi, Miss Mac 😊



## COVID CASES ON THE RISE THIS TERM

The incidence of COVID-19 infections across the Tararua area has increased recently and it is probable that this increase will continue over the next few weeks. We have a small number of new cases here at school and want to remind families that if children appear unwell to keep them home and they do need to test for Covid. We have RATs available if needed and whanau health packs from Whaiora. Please notify the school if your child has covid and they will need to stay home and isolate for 5 days. For more information, tests or packs, please contact the school office.

### ATTENDANCE & BUSES FROM SCHOOL

IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT COMING TO SCHOOL PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE BEFORE 9AM TO LET THEM KNOW. A REMINDER TO ALSO NOTIFY THE OFFICE BEFORE 2:30PM IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT GOING HOME ON THEIR USUAL BUS.



### 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!



### 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 FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



**NIREAHA NEWS:**

Kia ora koutou,

The Year 7's enjoyed their second day at Tech yesterday. Dean tells me that they were awesome and gave everything a go. Great stuff! Well done Team! I enjoyed the day at school with the Year 6's - we worked on the chromebooks: creating Google Slides, and learning how to insert text, images and videos. The children were really engaged and loved displaying their work on the TV for their peers to see.

Remember that we will be walking to the Town Pool on Friday morning for swimming. Children will need their togs, towels and comfortable walking shoes. The class have been working hard in their swimming lessons and I look forward to seeing them 'in action' at the Swimming Sports on Tuesday.

Nga mihi, Barb.

**PUTARA NEWS:**



Kia ora, all

In mathematics we have been learning how to add, multiply and divide fractions. We have also been learning the difference between proper, improper and mixed fractions. This has been excellent work, and the children in Pūtara are applying themselves incredibly well.

During literacy, we have been working on grammar rules and the four different types of nouns. These are: proper nouns, common nouns, abstract nouns and collective nouns.

Ask your child about these nouns and how to identify each kind.

Have a fantastic end to the week! 😊 Dean

**TOUCH RUGBY DRAW - FRIDAY 23rd February**



Good luck to our teams for the games tomorrow. Thanks to the coaches and supporters cheering our tamariki on. . . .much appreciated!

Under 9's  
Eke Thunder vs  
Pahiatua Wh ā  
3.30pm  
Field 3A

Under 11's  
Eke Flyers vs  
Pahiatua Ono  
4pm  
Field 2

Under 13's  
Eke Chargers vs  
Pahiatua Defenders  
4.25pm  
Field 1

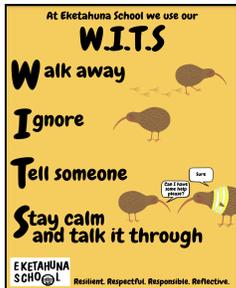
**SCHOOL POLICY & PROCEDURE - TERM 1 REVIEW**

SchoolDocs manages our school's policies and procedures online, in a way that allows us to maintain, review, and update them regularly. This term we're asking parents to review:

- Parent Involvement
- Communicating with Parents
- Community Conduct Expectations
- School Planning and Reporting
- Reporting to Parents on Student Progress and Achievement

All feedback is great to get and this is your opportunity to have your say!

Please take the time to go online at [www.https://eketahuna.schooldocs.co.nz](https://eketahuna.schooldocs.co.nz) and take part in the review. (User name eketahuna and Password 4900) Thank you. 😊



**REMEMBER YOUR W. I. T. S.**

We use our WITS as our 'go to' strategy for teaching children to make safe and positive choices when faced with peer conflict. The WITS acronym — Walk away, Ignore, Tell someone, and Stay calm & talk it through — provides a common language that children and adults in their environments can use to talk about, and respond to, when dealing with an issue. We are integrating them into our school culture and role modelling them daily. We ask you to take some time to discuss & practise this strategy with your tamariki. 😊

# EKETĀHUNA SWIMMING SPORTS

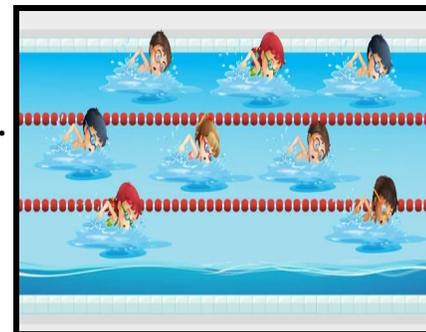
Our swimming sports are coming up for students in Pūtara, Nireaha and Rongomai. Children will be walking down to the town pool. Children will need to bring snacks for morning tea. They will need their togs, towels, sun screen, hat, and drink bottle.

**When:**

**Tuesday 27th February @ 10:30am**

(Postponement Thursday 29th February)

Junior classes are going to be taken to watch and cheer on competitors. We need parents to be timekeepers for races. Call the office if you can help!



## KIDS SOCIAL TENNIS

Starting Tuesday 20th Feb weekly & going until 9th April  
3.30-4.30pm/5pm at Eketahuna Tennis Courts by rugby grounds. No charge

For ages 7-13 years

This is not coaching but an opportunity for kids to get together and have a game. If your child requires supervision please be in attendance.

There will be tennis rackets available to use.

Any questions please contact  
Skye 0272787080



## KEEPING OUR SCHOOL GATES CLOSED DAILY

For the safety and security of our students, it is crucial to keep the school gate closed at all times during normal school days.

- Parents are requested to park in the car parks on Albert Street.
- Drop off, and pick up your children at the gates.
- Please enter via the pedestrian gate beside the letter box.
- Please avoid driving into the school grounds unless absolutely necessary.



## 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.



## HUKANUI & HĀMUA TO SWIMMING SPORTS

Hukanui & Hāmua are going to walk down to the town pool to support competitors in the school Swimming Sports on:

**Tuesday 27th February**

The two classes will leave school at 10:40am & walk to the pool. They will watch, cheer & encourage senior swimmers and then return to school for their lunch and an afternoon swim.

Please make sure your child has shoes they can walk in, a sunhat and a drink bottle.



## BUSH MINOR SPORT DAY

**FRIDAY 1ST MARCH**

HUKANUI (ROOM 1) & THE YEAR 2 CHILDREN FROM HAMUA (ROOM 3) WILL ATTEND THE BUSH MINOR SPORTS AT PAHIATUA STADIUM, FROM 9.45 – 2PM.

THE CHILDREN ARE GOING TO PAHIATUA BY BUS AND WILL BE LEAVING SCHOOL AT 9:00AM. PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO COME ALONG AND WATCH.



## EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL WHEEL DAY

In support of the Sport Manawatu 'Walk & Wheels Week', taking place from March 4th to MARCH 8th, we will be holding a school wheel day on Friday 8th March. 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!



