

# 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 26 May: Celebration Assembly - Nireaha as Hosts

Thursday 1 June: School Road Race

Friday 2 June: Pasifika Day - come in your island gear!

Monday 5 June: King's Birthday - Public Holiday **School Closed**

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

We are delighted to share that it has been a truly fantastic week with lots of engaging activities. Not only have our students made remarkable progress in their studies, but we have loved the sunny days, making school even more enjoyable.

### LIBRARY NOTICES SENT HOME FOR OUTSTANDING BOOKS

Yesterday, notices were sent home to those children who currently have outstanding library books. Reminders will now be coming home regularly from school and we kindly request your assistance in locating these items and returning them promptly. Our school library is a valuable and essential resource for our students' education and personal development. It provides a wide range of books and materials that support their learning journeys. By returning the borrowed books, you contribute to ensuring that all students have equal access to these valuable resources. We understand that sometimes books may be misplaced or forgotten, but with your help, we can ensure their timely return. We encourage you to check your child's backpack, bookshelves, or any other place where these books may be kept. If you find any library books, kindly remind your child to return them directly to the library. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. By working together, we can maintain a well-stocked library that benefits all our students and develops a love of literacy!



## POSSIBLE WHOLE DAY STRIKE ACTION NEXT WEEK

You may be aware of the ongoing negotiations between the teachers union NZEI and the government with new offers being made. Currently all action is paused while negotiations are held this week, but teachers have voted to strike & not attend meetings after 4:30pm if negotiations again fail. This Sunday night teachers will have confirmation regarding striking.

If there is a strike it will be on Wednesday 31st May.

Please be advised if the strike goes ahead Eketāhuna School will be closed for instruction. More information to come.



## 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. Tomorrow's assembly will be hosted by students from Nireaha.

Principal Award: Wk4 Pāniarose Mita who was a role model of our values with her 'Bully Free Day' knowledge



### Week 4 Class Awards - Star Student:

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

Hukanui: Litarah Taiaroa  
Hāmua: Isabella Hook  
Rongomai: Chelsea Spring  
Nireaha: Cody Bedford-Robinson  
Pūtara: Savana Waugh

### Week 4 Caught Being Good Award - Duffy Book:

Outstanding behaviour that exemplifies our school values and expectations:

Hukanui: Phoenix Paul  
Hāmua: Halo Crudis  
Rongomai: Toby White  
Nireaha: Mack Duffy  
Pūtara: Cleo Davis

# WEEKLY UPDATE

## HUKANUI NEWS: (ROOM 1)

Kia Ora. Here in Hukanui we are focusing on routines and rules as we have a few new children. It is great to see how the older ones help the others to be doing the right thing. Learning from your peers is very important. I had to have a giggle. I was running a little late to class and when I got there (thinking that mayhem was going to be happening!) one of the students was playing teacher and everybody else was being instructed. The child did then comment that it was quite hard to get everyone organised!! The children have been working on the position and orientation of things, Samoan art for the Aratoi exhibition and writing narratives...stories that have a problem and a solution. We are still training for the Road Race (next week) so shoes and drink bottles are important. Any queries etc please contact me via the school cell or [mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz](mailto:mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz) Thanks Marilyn.

## RONGOMAI NEWS: (ROOM 2)

Kia ora whanau,  
We have been doing some great learning this week. With maths we have begun to delve into algebra, by making patterns and finding the rule that goes with the pattern to make really large patterns. When it has not been raining we have been taking every chance we get to get out and do some road race training for the race next week. One of the reading groups was reading about how to grow crystals and had a great idea to try to create their own which they did and were very excited about the process of creating their own crystals. Next week we are going to be looking into Pasifika culture and creating some art pieces. As always, get in touch if you need to. Either by texting the office or emailing [hjohnston@eketahuna.school.nz](mailto:hjohnston@eketahuna.school.nz). Nga mihi, Holly

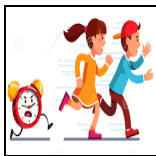


## HAMUA NEWS: (ROOM 3)

Kia ora all. There's still a lot of bugs going around but it's nice to see so many turning up this week. Almost back to a full house. We have been looking at the art of Samoa and the Pacific in preparation for the Aratoi Art exhibition which we hope to feature in again this year. We saw a wonderful clip about how tapa cloth, or siapo, is made. Ask your children about this, they were quite fascinated. We are also working on our Geometry at the moment, left and right, points on the compass, and our place on the globe. Talk to your children about which direction the sun rises and sets, where the weather comes from - good and bad, warm and cool. It is a fascinating topic and they were all very animated about it. The more we talk about it, the more they will remember. Have some fun! We enjoyed the sun today and hope for more of it for our Road Run next week. Please remember your drink bottles. Thanks, Rachael.

### 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 DAY IN CLASS. THANKS



### NOTIFYING THE OFFICE WHEN UNWELL

A REMINDER THAT IF YOUR CHILD IS TOO UNWELL TO ATTEND SCHOOL YOU NEED TO NOTIFY THE OFFICE EACH DAY THEY ARE AT HOME TO AVOID THEM BEING RECORDED AS TRUANT. FURTHER, AFTER 3 DAYS AWAY FROM SCHOOL DUE TO POOR HEALTH WE WILL REQUIRE A DOCTOR'S MEDICAL CERTIFICATE FOR OUR SCHOOL ENROL SYSTEM. THANKS FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT.



### NO SWEETS OR SUGARY DRINKS

A REMINDER THAT NO SWEETS OR SUGARY DRINKS ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL. OUR HEALTHY FOOD POLICY DISCOURAGES CONSUMPTION OF FOODS HIGH IN FAT, SUGAR AND SALT. IT ALSO ADVISES THAT HIGH ENERGY AND 'FIZZY DRINKS' ARE NOT TO BE CONSUMED AT SCHOOL. THANKS.



## PASIFIKA CELEBRATION DAY

Friday 2nd June

We will be celebrating all that is Pasifika, with a special focus on Samoa's traditions, language and our school sasa – so come in your lava lava or any Pasifika island attire for a colourful, fun day!

**NIREAHA NEWS: (ROOM 5)**

Nireaha have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming Road Race by practising our running skills, and striving to improve our personal fitness. In Maths, we have been getting so much better with our times tables and division facts. The Cultural Festival practices have been going well and our performance is starting to come together, ready for the Tararua Cultural Festival in Week 10. Nireaha students have been using their creativity to develop their narrative writing skills. There are some great narratives taking shape. It is our turn to host the school assembly tomorrow, which the children are looking forward to.

Ngā mihi, Barb.

**PUTARA NEWS: (ROOM 6)**

We had a great time at technology today! The children were exceptional in their creativity, so well done tamariki! Mrs Morgan has been working hard during my release time with the class. They are creating masks for art, which will look incredible once completed. It's always a bonus having Mrs Morgan involved in this subject area, as she's a fantastic teacher of art, music and singing. **This is certainly an area I wasn't so blessed with!**

Keep up your wonderful learning, Pūtara. We're making some pretty decent progress! Ka pai 😊

Dear whānau,

We are supporting Stats NZ to encourage everyone to complete the 2023 Census. So, this is a reminder that you need to return your census forms if you have not done so already.

Census data is used to make important decisions that affect us all. The census is the official count of people living in Aotearoa New Zealand, and everyone who was in the country on Census Day, 7 March 2023, is required by law to complete a census form. Your participation will help ensure that our community receives funding for services for the number of people that live in our community. That includes education, health, and social services.

To complete the census, you can do it online at [www.census.govt.nz](http://www.census.govt.nz) using one of the access codes provided in the letters sent to your household. Or you can fill out paper census forms if you have them. To request a new access code or paper forms, freephone 0800 236 787 (0800 CENSUS) or order online at [www.census.govt.nz](http://www.census.govt.nz).

The 2023 Census closes on 30 June, so you should do them online now or as soon as practicable. Ensure your paper forms are posted so they arrive with Stats NZ by 30 June.

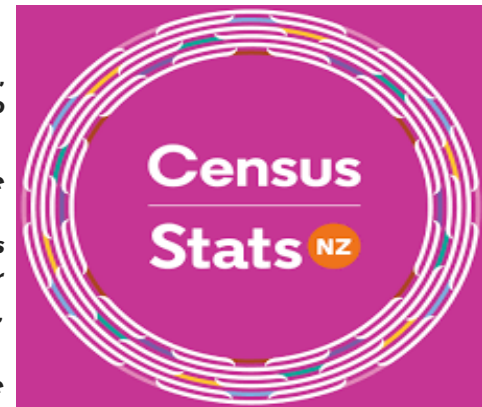
Census collectors are no longer visiting households providing help to complete census forms. If you need assistance or more information:

You can attend a census support event and get face-to-face help to complete forms at [www.census.govt.nz/census-support](http://www.census.govt.nz/census-support).

We encourage you to help whānau, friends, and neighbours complete their forms. There is information in New Zealand Sign Language, Braille, Easy Read, Large Print, and Audio formats, as well as in 29 different language at [www.census.govt.nz](http://www.census.govt.nz).

The 0800 CENSUS (0800 236 787) helpline will be open until 30 June.

Thank you for your support in making sure our community is accurately represented in the census.

**HELPERS FOR ROAD RACE NEEDED & THE COURSE WALK IS TOMORROW**

Our school Road Race will be held at school on Thursday 1st June.

Thank you to those who are volunteering on the day. We still need helpers on the day to marshal & do stop/go signs out on the road course. If we do not have enough the Road Race will be cancelled.

If you are available please contact the school office asap and speak to Leona.

Our staff will be walking all students around the course tomorrow so they have a clear understanding of where they will be running next week.





## An update on COVID-19

### WE ARE SEEING COVID CASES ON THE RISE THIS TERM

The incidence of COVID-19 infections across the Tararua area has continued to increase this week. We still 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 for 7 days or until they test negative. For more information, tests or packs, contact the school office.

## HOME & SCHOOL PIE FUNDRAISER



### Order forms & money to be in by Friday 30th June

Pies will be delivered to school on Thursday 27th after 11am.

We would love any donations of strong paper bags. Eg: The supermarket (NW/Countdown) online shopping bags are great.

If you have any spare, please drop into the school office. Thanks for your support!

### BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE

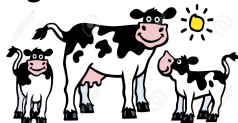
A reminder to make sure all children are bringing a water bottle to school each day. Please make sure it has your child's name on it. They are able to refill them at our refilling station throughout the day. It's really important that they stay hydrated throughout the day!



Thank you

### HOME & SCHOOL 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 ring the school office.



### Board Of Trustees Meeting



The next Eketāhuna School Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st June at 6.30pm in the Eketāhuna School staff room, everyone is welcome to attend and if you have any items for the agenda please let me know by 5pm 16th June with all relevant information.

I am contactable on:

[botchair@eketahuna.school.nz](mailto:botchair@eketahuna.school.nz) or 3758059.

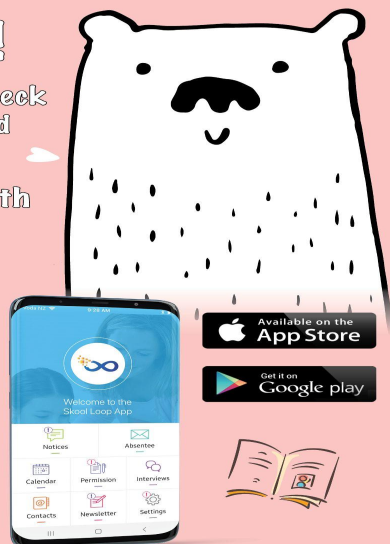
Warmest Regards , Skye White Chairperson ,  
Eketāhuna Board of Trustees

## Hey there!

Just popping in to check you have downloaded our school app?

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