

# 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 8th March: St Cuthberts Lunch - Kowhai & Kakariki  
 Friday 8th March: Celebration Assembly @ 2.15pm-Nireaha  
 Friday 15th March: Tararua Interschool Swimming Sports

Friday 15th March: Celebration Assembly @ 2.15pm - Rongomai  
 Monday 18th March: House Team Softball Competition - Round # 1  
 Wednesday 20th March: Year 7 & 8 @ Technology in Pahiatua  
 Wednesday 20th March: Parent Teacher Learning Discussion Meetings  
 Thursday 21st March: Parent Teacher Learning Discussion Meetings

Easter Break  
 No School

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS COMING UP - NOTE THE DATES

School will be closed for instruction on the following dates:

Good Friday 29th March, Easter Monday 1st April and  
 Easter Tuesday 2nd April

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura Ekētahuna,  
 Another fantastic week of teaching & learning . . .

### JUNIOR MINOR SPORTS DAY A SUCCESS

Hukanui and Hāmua had a great day at the Tararua Bush Minor Sports Day on Friday. The event was a variety of skills based activities that the students rotated around. It was a 'fun filled' day that saw many tired little faces return to school in the afternoon! A huge thankyou to Marilyn, Carolyn and Jo for organising our students, along with all the fantastic whānau support throughout the day. Well done team!



### INTERSCHOOL SWIM TEAM

Congratulations to the students selected to represent Eketāhuna School at next Friday's Tararua Bush competition. Brooke Duffy, Lucy White, Evan Governor, Toby White, Hollie Giddens & Mack Duffy all showed top skills at our school swimming sports and our best wishes go with them for next week!

### TEACHER AIDES UPSKILL FOR LITERACY

Our three wonderful teacher aides had the opportunity earlier this year to upgrade their phonics skills. They gave up some holiday time and got together with Carol Laubscher during the break to spend a day of intensive learning around phonemic awareness and phonics instruction. They then had a month to spend reviewing/completing the course online, and



they then officially graduated on 29th February. We are very proud of them and the efforts they go to in supporting our students! Some personal comments: Carolyn: "I really enjoyed the new strategies I learnt on the Yolanda Soryl Phonics course. I now understand that whilst some students pick new ideas up quickly, others need more time. Being able to watch the recorded lessons was a great way to reinforce what we are learning." Lisa: "I found the resources very good to use and the little tips are very helpful-especially the seatbelt metaphor to speed up the pace!" Jo: "It has helped me understand how the children learn in different ways, and helped me to put the theory into practice." NB Purl (Dog) did not complete the course!



# WEEKLY UPDATE

## HUKANUI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,

It has been a fantastic week in Hukanui. We went to the Bush Minor Sports on Friday which was an amazing day. The children ran, jumped, climbed, built and threw all sorts of objects throughout a very busy day. A **HUGE** thank you to all whanau who came and supported us in many ways. Without you it wouldn't have been possible. Today we are looking forward to our Junior Swimming display and to seeing many of you to watch. We have worked hard during the swimming season gaining lots of confidence and skills. Tomorrow will be our last swimming day. Any questions please don't hesitate to contact me on [mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz](mailto:mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz) Thanks, Marilyn.



## HĀMUA NEWS:

Kia ora Whanau,

This week we have been looking at place values in maths - looking at 'tens' rods and 'one' cubes to create two and three digit numbers. The kids have created a game out of the equipment and they seem to be thoroughly enjoying it. In writing we have been continuing to look at recounts. We have written about being in the shoes of "Liam", the character in the story "That's not a Hippopotamus". Thank you to all of the whanau that came and supported their tamariki at our junior swim display. The students thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. We would also like to say thank you to Lisa for taking daily swimming lessons with our tamariki over the last 7 weeks. Please remember our tamariki needs to bring a sun hat, drink bottle 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,

First up, a hearty congratulations to our very own Hollie & Toby for being selected to represent Eketahuna School at the Bush Swimming Sports. All the best for next week. I know you will both give it your all, enhanced by some adrenalin in there too :) This week we have been working on adjectives to make our writing more interesting for our readers. It's been amazing how a piece of writing can be lifted to a new level simply by adding an adjective/s to describe a noun. A reminder that this is the last week of swimming. No more togs are needed in school bags as of next week. Have a great upcoming weekend. Nga mihi, Miss Mac



### 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.



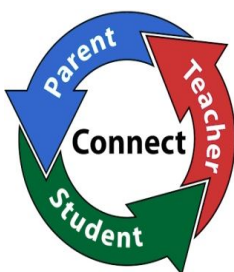
### SCHOOL RUBBISH:

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 ONGOING SUPPORT WITH THIS.



### 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. WE NEED TO ENTER THE REASON THEY ARE NOT AT SCHOOL ON OUR ENROL SYSTEM. THANK YOU.



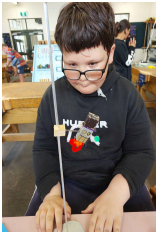
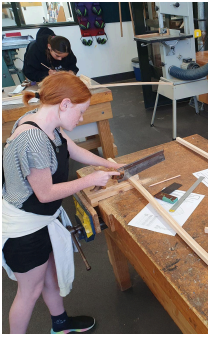
## TEACHER & PARENT LEARNING DISCUSSIONS

In Week 8 we are holding conferences with parents and caregivers at school. They are useful, positive meetings where, as well as hearing from your child's teacher, you can ask questions and share your thoughts so that you and our teachers can become partners in your child's education. On Monday SKool Loop went 'live' with the booking schedule for Wednesday 20th or Thursday 21st March. The conferences will start at 3:30 pm and go through until 6:00pm These discussions will be 15 minutes and enable our teachers to share their first few weeks at school, celebrate successes and look towards setting goals for the rest of the year. We look forward to seeing you there!

**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU REQUIRE HELP BOOKING A MEETING TIME - WE CAN DO IT FOR YOU, OVER THE PHONE.**

**NIREAHA NEWS:**

Kia Ora Koutou, What a busy week! Jess was here yesterday and the children started looking into some local history and the lives of early settlers. They began crafting postcards – putting themselves into the shoes of some of Eketahuna's early settlers – writing to their families back in Scandinavia. In maths we are studying statistics. Our school is getting new playground markings, so we surveyed every class to find out which markings/games they would like us to get. Nireaha students are currently analysing the information and will present the results to the school at tomorrow afternoon's assembly. I was lucky to attend Tech with the Year 7 and 8's yesterday. It was great to see how their skills have developed in the 3 sessions at Tech so far this year. So far they have each completed 3 really cool projects. This is the last week of swimming as the days are getting a lot cooler! A huge 'Thank you' to Ryan for taking our swimming lessons. We have improved so much week after week.

**PUTARA NEWS:**

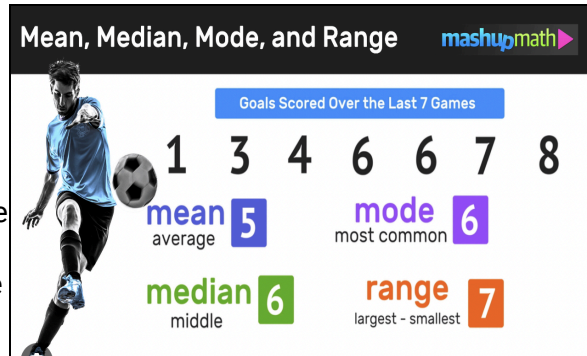
Hi all

This week we have been learning a lot about statistics. There are four key components when analysing data: Mean, Median, Mode and Range. Ask your child about how to calculate each of these. There are some easy tips when remembering all four.

Swimming is officially over for the term, so next week there will be more time available for key learning areas.

Please feel free to sign up for a parent / teacher conference if you would like to discuss your child's learning.

Kind regards, Dean.

**TOUCH RUGBY DRAW - FRIDAY 8th March**

Congratulations again to our three teams - Eke Thunder had Woodville Warriors default. Our team showed great spirit by lending players to have a fun game. Eke Flyers and Eke Chargers both had wins. Eke Chargers are unbeaten so far!

Under 9's -  
Eke Thunder vs  
St Ants Purple  
3.30pm Field 2A

Under 11's  
Eke Flyers vs  
Woodville Wonders  
4pm Field 2

Under 13's  
Eke Chargers vs  
St Ants Blue  
5pm Field 2

**SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TOMORROW**

We have our school Celebration Assembly tomorrow, which will be hosted by students from Nireaha. It's a great opportunity to share the successes children have had throughout the week. We are looking forward to seeing you, in the hall, at 2:15pm where we will have awards to give out and student's to acknowledge. . .

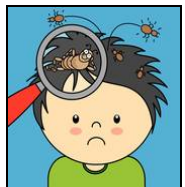
**EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL WHEEL DAY**

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!

**WATCH FOR HEADLICE**

We have had another case of head lice at school this week. This is a perennial problem in all schools. It is recommended that you check all members of your household carefully. Treating the hair is no guarantee that the problem has been eradicated.

Success is more likely if treatment is thorough, checking daily for at least three weeks and children are reminded to avoid head to head contact with others. If you require any further information or need some support in dealing with this issue please contact the school office and speak for Leona.





## HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION AGM

Our Home & School Association met last night for their Annual General Meeting and it was great to see such an enthusiastic bunch of people! At the AGM there were several new appointments to positions:

- Chairperson is Kirby Duffy
- Treasurer is Sally Duffy
- Secretary is Kim Braddick
- Calf Scheme Liaison is Bex Howell
- Staff Rep is Marilyn Whiteley
- BoT Rep is Skye white



This group is an amazing support for our school and are already busy organising fundraising events for a new playground markings! Planning for the upcoming Golf Tournament is underway so save the date. We really appreciate all their hard work and commitment to making our school a wonderful place! A report from our Home & School Chairperson is attached to your email.

## 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.



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Northfuels School Sponsorship Programme

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You purchase 100 litres we get 50c

Every \$1000 earned means technology or sports gear for the kids

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### Eketāhuna Our Town Committee Annual General Meeting

## AGM

**Where :** St Johns Hall, Church St.  
**When :** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
**Time :** 7.00pm  
**Who :** All Welcome



### WE WANT YOU

#### Election of Executive Committee

If you are interest in taking on a role or have ideas on making Eketāhuna better, we would love to see you.

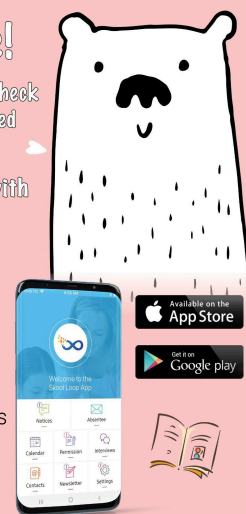
A community that is engaged and working together can be a powerful force!

### Hey there!

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

Stay in the loop with Skool Loop.

- ✓ Events
- ✓ Notices
- ✓ Instant school messages
- ✓ Book interviews
- ✓ Absentee
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Permission Slips



Simple free download: In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

## 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](http://www.https://eketahuna.schooldocs.co.nz) and take part in the review.

(User name etekahuna and Password 4900) Thank you. 😊





**Home & School Report from Kirby**  
**Baking please**