

EKETAHUNA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

A huge welcome back to everyone involved with our fantastic Eketahuna School. We've had an awesome start to the year with our teachers putting a lot of time into preparing their classrooms, whilst planning wonderful teaching and learning experiences for Term 1. It has been lovely walking around the school over the last couple of days, meeting new children, catching up with returning students and seeing so much excitement, fun and great engaged learning happening! We look forward to seeing you in and around school in the next few weeks with all the great events coming up!

Welcome To Our New Students

A very warm welcome to all of our new students who started with us this week. We have four lovely new entrants in Room 1 - Maisyn, Lleucu, Zyana and Fern. We also have Aiden in Room 2, Sasha in Room 3, Raniera, Tommie and Kuini in Room 5, along with Blake and Libby in Room 6 - great children to add to our wonderful school. We wish them all the best for a fantastic year at Eketahuna!



Our Amazing Heated Pool!

Over the holidays we were able to install the heat pump for our school pool, along with the new roller and covers. It is a huge investment in the future of our children and their swim safety. With the new heat pump in operation we will have a lovely warm pool; we have started running it at 27 degrees, and the temperature can be



increased or decreased slightly depending on feedback from the swimmers. A big thanks goes to Skye White for her enthusiasm, and hours, put into raising funds and leading the development. Thanks also to all those that gave generously, with time and finances, to see this plan come to fruition. A list of all those we thank is on our last page.

Swimming Lessons 2019:

Starting next week we will be providing all students with daily swimming lessons at school. Ryan & Lisa Seator will be running the daily sessions for the next 6 weeks. This comes under our Health & Wellbeing Curriculum and just like all other learning areas, students will be expected to participate. Today Lisa & Ryan were here doing assessments in preparation for the lessons which start on Monday. Please make sure your children bring their togs and towel daily.

Playgroup Moving to School:



The Eketahuna Playgroup are now on site and settled into Room 4. We are thrilled to have them here! The playgroup meet each Wednesday and Thursday morning. Sessions go from 9am through to 12:30pm. We will be starting up a '4 Year Old' club once swimming has finished. More information will follow.

Activity Fee

This year we will be charging a \$15.00 activity fee per student, which will be added to your school account. This will go towards the six weeks of swimming lessons with the Seators, the four sessions in Term 2 with NZ Hockey, and a variety of other sporting activities planned for Terms 3 and 4. Your support with this ensures we can continue to give our children a range of experiences and cover a full curriculum.

School Accounts and Student Information Update

The school accounts will come home on Monday. The accounts will show childrens' activity fee, school donations, and for those students in Room 6 - a technology fee. It would be appreciated if your school accounts are fully paid. Donations are not compulsory but do help the school immensely. Don't hesitate to contact Denise or Jesse, in the office to discuss payment options. Also, with the start of the new year we ask that parents and caregivers update the school with any new information regarding their children - especially in relation to their health i.e., asthma, allergies etc, and contact details. Please inform the office if any update is necessary.

Diary:

Tuesday 12th February - Home & School Assoc Meeting
Friday 15th February - House Captain Assembly @ 10:10 am

Friday 15th February - Lucky Book Club Due
Thursday 21st February - Board Of Trustees Meeting
Friday 22nd February - School Powhiri

Homework for 2019

Thanks to all those who completed our survey at the end of last year. In line with the results and your comments we have reviewed homework for 2019. It is clear that the community wants homework and that it needs to have clear guidelines, specific to age and be consistent across the school. Homework will start next week:

Room 1, 2 and 3: will be using the same template each week and set similar tasks at the year level for their students. The activities will be skill based, relating to reading, writing and maths as follow ups to classroom learning. Room 5 and 6: a fortnightly sheet will be sent home with a reading log and a project type task to work on problem solving skills that focus on the Key Competencies in our NZ Curriculum. For those children in the senior rooms who may require further support to consolidate 'in class learning', additional tasks may come home after consultation between parents and the classroom teacher.

If you want any further information regarding homework please feel free to contact class teachers via their emails, give the school a quick ring or come in and catch up with them.

Room 6 Roseanne Sayles - roseanne@eketahuna.school.nz

Room 5 Jo Gibson - jgibson@eketahuna.school.nz

Room 5 Ingrid Blair - iblair@eketahuna.school.nz

Room 3 Carol Laubscher - claubscher@eketahuna.school.nz

Room 2 Renee Oakly - roakly@eketahuna.school.nz

Room 1 Joanna Green - jgreen@eketahuna.school.nz

**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. Thank you.

**Lost Property:**

To avoid the 'avalanche' of lost property we had last year can we please ask for students clothes, hats, togs and towels to be clearly named - thanks.

**Stationery Lists:**

This year you'll find your child's school stationery list online at myschool.co.nz. Simply search for our school, select your child's class and/or subject lists and follow the instructions on the website.

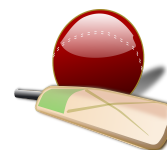
**Home & School Association**

Our awesome Home & School Association will have their first meeting of the year, next week, on Tuesday 12th February. The venue is the school staff room at 7.00pm with the upcoming Eketahuna Golf Tournament fundraiser, and lots of other great topics on the agenda. Come along, support our school, share your great ideas, and enjoy a 'cuppa' & delicious piece of cake'!

CRICKET DRAW**Tomorrow night:**

Eke Tornadoes vs Red Star Firebirds @ 5:30 pm - Eketahuna

Eke Cyclones vs Red Star Gladstone Strikers @ 5:30 pm - Park Sports Ground, Mstn - 3A



Nga mihi,
Melinda and the Eketahuna Team

Parent Tutor Reading 2019

We are looking to extend the 'Parent Tutor Reading' programme at Eketahuna School this year. This programme involves of parents/grandparents who have voluntarily offered to help children with their reading. Volunteers are given training in the basic reading strategies (provided by the school) and come along once a week to hear children read and practise taught reading strategies which are monitored. They work one on one or with a very small group of children to give them further practice with their reading. They work with the same children each week and this builds a bond between the child/children and parent/grandparent. The programme has been very successful in many school across New Zealand and parents of the children taking part, and their class teachers, record considerable improvement in the children's reading is a positive outcome.

If you would like to be involved, or know of any grandparents that would like to be a "reading buddy", then please contact the office or Joanna Green in Room 1 as soon as possible



Room 1

Welcome to the Room 1 classroom. I'm Joanna Green and I am excited to be teaching your children.

The topics for this term will be Swimming for the first 6 weeks (please send named togs and towel, in a bag each day) and then after that skipping. Inside the classroom we will be learning about Statistics, Number Knowledge and Geometry in Maths. Writing will be skills on a range of experiences. Daily guided reading for Reading. We will be looking at All About Me for our theme. I operate a play based learning programme. I guide learning, whilst your children play, this way they are having a balanced programme of academic learning whilst matching the Key Competencies set out in the New Zealand Curriculum. I am happy to chat further with you about this programme. I have an open door policy so please feel free to come in at any time.

Room 2

Welcome back to school everyone. The pool is up and running and it's lovely. Please help your child remember to bring their togs each day and a drink bottle. We have sunscreen at school and I'll encourage the children to put it on before they go out to lunch, so I encourage you to apply some before sending them off to school in the morning. This week we are focusing on 'Growth Mindset' and learning and implementing our class routines. I am aware that I have not taught some of your children before so feel free to pop in and make contact. Call the school to make an appointment to discuss any concerns at any time.

Thanks, Miss Oakly

Room 3

Hello to all my new parents :)

Please pop in and introduce yourselves-I'm looking forward to meeting you!

We will be spending the first few weeks in Room 3 getting to know each other, and adapting to the new routines and the play-based learning environment. Please remember to supply the needed stationery as soon as possible as this will help us get organised in class.

We are looking for some pot plants for our class if anyone has one to donate, please :)

Also a reminder to slather on the sunscreen and to send labelled drink bottles, with all this hot summer weather, and remember that we have daily swimming. Thanks, Carol Laubscher

Room 5

Kia ora to all from Room 5!

We're a team of Year 5 and 6's, comprising of 31 students, with three new classmates and two *Team Teaching* teachers.

We've started with a region-wide topic Health & Wellbeing. This coincides perfectly with getting our head around what Te Tiriti o Waitangi's all about, through to getting to know each other and ourselves even better - including 'Why?'

Two keywords are being woven into the year: *Balance* and that *Why*. Watch this space for how that'll evolve...! It's fun! In writing, paragraphs are developing, *listening* to what we *read* is unfolding with books, and in maths, we're diving into some complex work with Basic Facts. Merging throughout are logistics involving goal setting, Study Buddies, and licences for Self Directed Learning - complete with a range of class-based leadership opportunities. It's hugely exciting stuff and the buzz in class is excellent. Thanks team! Cheers! Jo, Ingrid and the Y5-6's.

Room 6

Welcome to 2019 senior students. I would like to especially welcome our year 7 students and their parents to the Room 6 family. You are going to have an amazing time of learning, fun and adventure.

If you need to discuss with me your concerns regarding your child please make an appointment with me through the school office.

Year 8's this is your opportunity to put yourself forward for leadership responsibilities throughout our school. Technology will be every second Wednesday. Covered shoes are to be worn and long hair needs to be tied up for safety.

Swimming is part of our curriculum so please ensure you have your togs and towel with you everyday.

All clothing and towels are to be named.

Hats are to be worn and water bottles are encouraged.

Have a great week.

Roseanne

SCHOOL HOUSE CAPTAINS FOR 2019:

Today I met with the senior students who are putting themselves forward to secure a place as a Team Captain or Deputy this year. We are very lucky to have high calibre senior students to choose from! The process we will follow is:

Monday 11th February: the candidates will have an opportunity to meet with their house and put forward their interest. Later in the day they will have the opportunity to work alongside students from Year 1 - 6 as they go into classrooms and interact with the children

Thursday 14th February: the candidates will meet with their teams, in the morning, and give a brief presentation outlining why they should be a house captain for 2019.

Friday 15th February: in the morning the school will vote for team captains. We will announce the new leaders for 2019 at a special assembly at 10:10am.

Tararua Piano

Piano Lessons

First welcome lesson is FREE

Options for child or adult lessons

Fun and creative approach to teaching

Lessons lasting 30 or 45 minutes

Tailored to individual abilities and aspirations

Private 1-1 tuition

For further information, availability and prices, or to book

your free welcome lesson,
contact Stephanie

027 462 1975

tararuapiano@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/TararuaPiano/>



Junior Golf - Eketahuna

For children 6-13 years

Eketahuna Golf Club

Weekly on Tuesdays

Starting Tuesday 12th Feb for Term 1 2019

3.30pm - 4.30pm

Please arrive 10 minutes before start time.

Bring a hat, shoes, drink, snack
& wear sunblock.

New players welcome.

Please contact Francie Duffy 375 8384
or Jenny Anderson 375 8310



Sponsors for Eketahuna School Heat Pump, Covers & Roller

Eketahuna Home and School \$5000

Nireaha Domain Board \$2000

Eketahuna St Cuthberts Anglican Church \$2000

Property Brokers Pahiatua \$500

ASB \$300

Fonterra Grassroots Fund \$4840

Eastern and Central Community Trust \$4200

Trust House \$2000

Eketahuna Sacred Heart Catholic Church \$500

The Freemasons New Zealand, The Members of the
Eketahuna Lodge No 92 in conjunction with
Eketahuna Club \$6000

Thanks also to:

Macdougalls Pahiatua discount on install and
supply of pumps

Mayfair Pools Carterton installation of cover
and roller

Stephen Drysdale & Ryan Seator for pool
preparation for students swimming

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