

Date 7th February 2020

Term 1 Week 1

EKETAHUNA 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

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 in a lot of time preparing their classrooms, whilst planning wonderful teaching and learning experiences for Term 1. Our roll has maintained its growth and we are starting with 125 students. Ensuring a strong student, parent, teacher relationship will continue to be an integral part of our school. We will continue to work together to teach higher-level thinking skills and develop key competencies using technology to prepare students for the future. Once again, we look forward to fostering a positive partnership with you to ensure your child's success at our school.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS

A very warm welcome to all of our lovely new students who started with us this week. We have two new entrants - Bentley and Ann. We also have Ramona, who is Year 2 starting with us. In Year 3 we have Annabeth and in Year 4 we have Michael. We also have Carlos in Year 5 and Charli in Year 6. In the senior room is Jacob who is Year 8. Great children to add to our wonderful school. We wish them all the best for a fantastic year at Eketahuna!

NEW CLASS NAMES

This year we will be moving away from the traditional class numbering system, and instead calling each room by its own name. We have consulted with staff, students and community in this process and feel the choice of past schools, which over the years were closed, acknowledges these places of learning and their educational impact and importance in our local history. Students from the areas where these schools once were, still attend our school and their families talk sadly of the recent school closures. We are keeping their memory alive! New class names are:

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Room 1 | Hukanui | Year 0 - 2 | Joanna Green & Jess Wilkinson |
| Room 3 | Hāmua | Year 2 & 3 | Carol Laubscher |
| Room 2 | Rongomai | Year 4 & 5 | Roseanne Sayles |
| Room 5 | Nireaha | Year 6 & 7 | Jo Gibson & Barbara Whitburn |
| Room 6 | Pūtara | Year 7 & 8 | Dean Parsons |



DAILY TIMETABLE CHANGE

Another change for 2020 is the eating times throughout the day. We will still break at 10:30am, but the children will go out to play, returning to their classes to eat at 10:50am. Teachers will then monitor food being eaten, check that all students have had an enjoyable break time and are settling down ready to learn at 11am. We will repeat this system at lunch time, with the bell for the break at 12:30, and children going out to play. The end of 'playtime' will be 1:05pm when they will start to return to class and begin eating their lunch in their classes with their class teachers supervising. The bell to start back into the afternoon teaching session will be at 1:20pm. Children in the juniors tend to 'graze' through the day so teachers will be ensuring if students are hungry between breaks they can access food.

SWIMMING LESSONS FOR 2020 STARTING

Monday, next week, will be swimming lessons at school for all students in our amazing heated pool. There will be no charge to parents this year. 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. Lisa & Ryan have been doing assessments in preparation for the lessons. Please make sure children bring their togs & towel daily.



DAIRY:

Tuesday 11th February: BoT Meeting @ 2pm
Friday 14th February: School Powhiri
Friday 14th February: Lucy Book Orders Due

Tuesday 18th February: Room 6 to Technology
Thursday 20th February: Skate Project Training for Seniors
Thursday 20th February: School Meet & Greet @ 5pm - 6:30pm
Friday 21st February: Celebration Assembly @ 2:10pm - Leaders

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HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Our awesome Home & School Association had their first meeting of the year on Tuesday. The installation of the heat pumps into our school hall was celebrated! These will make a huge difference in our ability to use the venue, especially during the winter months! They are now busy with the upcoming Eketahuna Golf Tournament fundraiser later this term, and lots of other great topics on the agenda. Come along to our 'Meet & Greet' evening where you will be able to talk to some of the committee members and sign on to an activity this year!

LOST PROPERTY:

TO TRY AND AVOID THE 'AVALANCHE' OF LOST PROPERTY WE HAD LAST YEAR CAN WE PLEASE ASK FOR ALL STUDENTS CLOTHES, HATS, TOGS AND TOWELS ETC TO BE CLEARLY NAMED IN FULL. THANKS.

**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.

**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.

**POWHIRI ON FRIDAY 14th FEBRUARY**

Next Friday, we will formally welcome our new staff, students and whanau to Eketahuna School. A powhiri is a Maori welcoming ceremony involving korero, kaikaranga, waiata and hongi. We look forward to seeing you all there! The organisation for Friday is:

- New staff, students, whanau and supporters will gather outside the staff room at 9.55am for a 10:00am start. From there, the group will be lead onto the school courtyard.
- At the completion of the ceremony there will be a morning tea provided for those who were welcomed to school.

SCHOOL HOUSE CAPTAINS FOR 2020

Today I met with the senior students who are putting themselves forward to secure a place as one of 4 House Team Captains and 4 Deputies this year. We are very lucky to have high calibre senior students to choose from! The process for selection is included with the class sections - very exciting!

The students are: WHEREQ: Stella Governor, Scott Duffy, Carmen Bidois, Sam Willetts, Harry Dickson. MA: Meila Mitchell-Hopa, Harrison Mackisack, Hayley Dennison. KIKORANGI: Hannah Mikoz, Lachie Reddington, Logan Atkinson. KAKARIKI: Kiara Potangaroa-Carter, Paice Mitchell-Hopa, Kaia Aplin.

**HOMEWORK FOR 2020**

We are continuing with homework this year and are taking on board feedback regarding the need to have clear guidelines, specific to age and be consistent across the school. Homework will start in Week 2 and each class will be using the same book and template each week. Similar tasks will be set weekly 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.

UPDATE STUDENT INFORMATION

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 give the office a ring, & speak to Denise, if any update is necessary.

CONTACTING CLASSROOM TEACHERS

We want all teachers to be accessible so please feel free to contact class teachers via their emails, give the school a quick ring or come in and catch up with them. Their emails are below:

Pūtara - Room 6 Dean Parsons - dparsons@eketahuna.school.nz
Nireaha - Room 5 Jo Gibson - jgibson@eketahuna.school.nz
Nireaha - Room 5 Barbara Whitburn - bwhitburn@eketahuna.school.nz
Hāmua - Room 3 Carol Laubscher - claubscher@eketahuna.school.nz
Rongomai - Room 2 Roseanne Sayles - roseanne@eketahuna.school.nz
Hukanui - Room 1 Joanna Green - jgreen@eketahuna.school.nz
Hukanui - Room 1 Jess Wilkinson - jwilkinson@eketahuna.school.nz



Nga mihi,
Melinda and the Eketahuna School Team

Our great Road Patrol Team
for 2020 - awesome stuff!

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2020 Weekly Update

Hukanui (Room 1)

Welcome back to school this term, we have had a great start to the term and it was awesome to see so many happy smiling faces on the first day.

From Wednesday we will be swimming Monday - Thursday so please send togs and a named towel each day. The pool is heated so we hope to go every day.

The school powhiri is next Friday 15th February, it would be great to see families there to support their children. Remember that in Term 1 children need a hat to play outside in the sun. Please remember to send this along each day.

As usual if you have any questions please do not hesitate to email one of us. We are both looking forward to seeing you at some stage this term.

Thanks Jess & Jo

Rongomai (Room 2)

Welcome back to the start of the year. Students have settled into a new classroom, with a new teacher and new routines. Please remember to send named togs, towels and bag along to school please.

Students also need a named hat for term one please. It's always a good idea to send along two hats so one can be left at school.

Homework will come home at the beginning of each week.

Have a great week.

Roseanne

Hamua (Room 3)

We are off to a great start and it has been a pleasure to have all the children back in class. They have settled back into routine very quickly, and adapted well to the increased work expectations.

Math-we are focusing on learning about fractions. Please back this up at home by demonstrating in real life-sharing food, pointing out fractions in media, dividing groups of objects etc.

Writing-we are aiming to write legible, interesting stories that reflect our own "voice", and using double adjectives where appropriate.

Reading: please ensure your child has a reading bag, and brings it each day.

Homework-we are checking this daily and children gain Dojo rewards for doing their homework-even if only reading has been done. Many thanks for your support.

A few children still need their stationery, please.

Water bottles are a very good idea to keep your child's body and brain hydrated-please label clearly.

Swimming: Please bring togs every day next week, and girls need to have their hair tied up.

Carol

Nireaha (Room 5) Haera mai! Nireaha has started out as a team of 27 Year 6-7 students, with Jo - Monday to Wednesday and Ms Whitburn - Thursdays and Fridays.

We've started swimming; library time and even 'Tech' - when our Year 7's join Putara every 'Odd' week e.g. Weeks 1, 3, 5... We tuned in the 3P's aligned to the Treaty of Waitangi: Partnership, Participation and Protection and will create our own 'Class Treaty'. We've enjoyed knuckling down to the latest in Handwriting, our Ko Wai Au (About Me) topic and hype that involves some chat about a KidzConference. Our French ePals are keen to continue their partnership with us and we've become a team of journalists, with a cool Global Network Newspaper, alongside kids in Auckland, Masterton, Taupo, South Africa and India. All up - we're into it - well! Cheers! Jo & Barb

Pūtara (Room 6)

Kia ora, whanau.

We've had a wonderful beginning to the school year in Pūtara. Week one is a great week to get to know each other, establish classroom and schoolwide expectations, and settle back into routines.

Personally, I would just like to thank you all for having your children prepared; there's some real buzz and excitement in the class, which is wonderful! Also, I would like to say what a wonderful welcome I've had, from not only the children, but the wider community. Ka pai!

Mr Parsons.

SCHOOL HOUSE CAPTAINS FOR 2020:

The process we will follow to select our student House Team Leaders and Deputies is:

Monday 10th February: the candidates will have an opportunity to meet with their house and put forward their interest.

Tuesday 11th February: opportunity to work alongside students from Year 1 - 6 as they go into classrooms and interact with the children

Friday 14th February: the candidates will meet with their teams, before lunch, and give a brief presentation outlining why they should be a house captain for 2020.

Friday 14th February: the school will vote for team captains. We will announce the new leaders for 2020 at a special assembly at 2:30pm in the school hall.

You can help your child's learning every day, by supporting and encouraging them and being excited by their learning. Here are some ideas to keep them developing their literacy and numeracy skills at home

PBSKids:

Hundreds of literacy games to play - top right corner has a drop down box for more games including letter, spelling & vocab games. To visit the site go to: <https://pbskids.org/games/>

Math Playground:

Full of activities for all areas of maths and guaranteed to give your 'maths brain' a real 'workout'! You will find something for all levels of the primary school and beyond. To visit the site go to:

<https://www.mathplayground.com/>



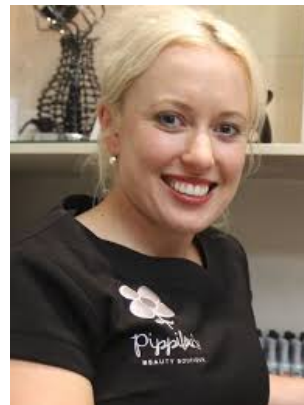
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MUSIC LESSONS AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL

Pip Hansen is ready to return to the music industry! She has had a break, to set up her beauty boutique business 'Pippilou's' in Masterton and more recently in our very own Eketahuna. While Pip is loving her time in the local salon, and the support from the local community, she is now ready to get back into music and looking forward to being a part of the school community!

- Trinity College of London classically trained pianist
- Certificate in 'Contemporary Music Performance' from Nelson School of Music
- Professional singer performing in various covers bands and groups for over 10 years. Her big break came in form of pop-reggae four-piece Deaf Lemon, active from 2008 to 2011, which embarked on several North Island tours and opened for Supergroove, Evermore and Che-Fu
- School Music teacher of 4 years teaching rockbands, choirs, group & individual music lessons. Lead choirs to Art Splash and twice won the North Island school Battle of the Bands



Lessons available Thursdays 9am - 12:30pm

- piano
- vocals
- drums

(guitar may be offered - waiting to see interest & skill level)

Please contact Pip via her email: pippilou295@gmail.com

As a school we will also look at the opportunity of having Pip work with a selected school choir to perform at 'ArtSplash' later in the year.

Parent Tutor Reading 2020

We are looking to extend the 'Parent Tutor Reading' programme at Eketahuna School this year. programme involves parents/grandparents who have voluntarily offered to help children with reading. Volunteers are given training in the basic reading strategies (provided by the school) come along once a week to hear children read and practise taught reading strategies which 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 many schools 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 Hukanui (Room 1) as soon as possible

CRICKET DRAW 2020

The new season kicks off tomorrow in Masterton and it will be great to see how the school holiday 'backyard cricket' has consolidated those skills! Good luck everyone. For any further information please get in touch with Jacqui or Brad Anderson at: bradandjacs@xtra.co.nz or 375 8101.

Saturday Game:

Eke Tornadoes vs JCB Girls Green @ 9am - Queen Elizabeth Park, Jnr South, Masterton

Eke Cyclones vs Martinborough Hawkes @ 9am - Queen Elizabeth Park, Jnr North, Masterton

