

EKETAHUNA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Preparing today's child for tomorrow's world - Whakakaha ngā tamariki mo apopo

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Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te kura Eketahuna,

We are in the midst of challenging times with Covoind-19. This is having a huge impact in the community and there's a lot of information available via social media. From our perspective, the only information we share is from reputable sources, such as the Secretary of Education and the Ministry of Health. We will continue to mitigate the virus through basic hygiene, particularly hand washing and asking children to bring their own water bottles to keep at school, and limiting non-essential school events. Be assured that while we care for your wonderful children, we are still teaching and planning great activities at school!

TARARUA INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

This year our students were incredibly successful at the Tararua Bush Swimming Sports, and showed skill and fantastic attitude throughout the event. There were 30 listed events - of those we had 27 students make it into a final - we had 2 students in seven final events! Of those finals we had 10 placings - lots to be very proud of! A HUGE thanks to Ryan and Lisa Seator for the training sessions, coaching and team management. Thanks also to all the parents and family members that supported the team with transport, time keeping and side line cheering at the competition. All your contributions are much appreciated. The awesome results are listed below:

TARARUA BUSH SWIMMING RESULTS 2020 - get pic

Event 7: Boys 12 - 13 25 SC Meter Freestyle: 2nd Scott Duffy
 Event 10: Girls 12 - 13 75 SC Meter IM: 3rd Stella Governor
 Event 11: Boys 12 - 13 50 SC Meter Freestyle: 1st Scott Duffy
 Event 13 Boys 7 - 9 25 SC Meter Breaststroke: 1st Evan Governor
 Event 13 Boys 7 - 9 25 SC Meter Breaststroke: 2nd Lachie Duffy
 Event 17 Boys 12 25 SC Meter Breaststroke: 2nd Scott Duffy
 Event 21 Boys 10 - 11 25 SC Meter Butterfly: 3rd Lachie Redington
 Event 29 Boys 12 - 13 25 SC Meter Backstroke: 1st Scott Duffy
 Event 30 Girls 12 - 13 25 SC Meter Backstroke: Meila Mitchell-Hopa
 School Relay - **FIRST** - Team: Brooke Duffy, Stella Governor, Scott Duffy, Lachie Redington, Lachie Duffy, and Harrison Mackisack - **AWESOME!**



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Over the last few days the government has brought in tough measures to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus in New Zealand. Going forward, we will be monitoring all Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Health updates and act accordingly, for example, we will not be holding any assemblies until further notice. We expect further announcements over the next few days that could impact on more events, and will get all information to our school community as soon as we have it. Along with all other schools, we have been asked to plan ahead in terms of students learning from home and to help with our proactive plan we will be conducting an online survey, going out today, that we ask you to complete. Please be aware that there is currently no advice indicating that school closures are either imminent or likely and any such decisions would be made at a government level. Included in this newsletter is the latest advice from the Ministry of Health regarding Coronavirus and a request for all students to bring their own water bottles.



GOLF TOURNAMENT POSTPONED

Due to rising safety concerns regarding large gatherings and sports events, the 2020 Home & School Association Golf Tournament has been postponed until later in the year. We are following Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education guidelines. It is very disappointing but we feel it is a necessary action in the current situation. A huge thank you to our Home & School team for all their hard work and the commitment they have put in to organising the event - it is greatly appreciated. Also a big thank you to all our wonderful sponsors who had donated a hole or prize - the amazing community support is what makes Eketahuna School such a special place!

DIARY:

Friday 20th March: Lucky Book Club Orders Due.

Tuesday 24th March: Tararua Interschool Tennis Competition

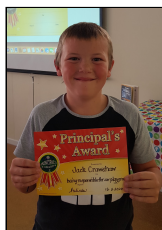
Wednesday 1st April: Room 6 at Technology

Monday 6th April: ANZAC topic week starts

Thursday 9th April: Last day of School

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

It has been great seeing everyone at the school assembly each Friday, in the hall. It's a great opportunity to share the successes children have had throughout the week. Please note there will be **NO** assembly tomorrow. At this stage we do not plan to have any full school assemblies this term.

**Class Awards – Star Student:**

Given to a student by their teacher to acknowledge the great work done in class and related to learning throughout the week

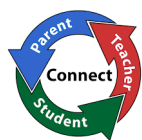
Room 1: Noah Trass
Room 1: Zyana Crudis
Room 2: Nevaeh Carrington
Room 3: Maclane King
Room 5: Luke Downer
Room 6: Kris Highet

Caught Being Good Award – Duffy Book:

Given to a student by their teacher in recognition of outstanding behaviour that exemplifies our school values and expectations:

Room 1: Lexi Mitchell
Room 1: Ann Kent
Room 2: Michael Cunningham
Room 3: Sophy Smith
Room 5: Rani Kenrick
Room 6: Carmen Bidois

Principal's Award: Jack Crawshaw for being very 'RESPONSIBLE' in the school playground - made sure we're safe!

**PARENT TEACHER - LEARNING DISCUSSIONS**

Thank you for getting your slips back so promptly – at this stage we are reviewing the meeting format and may look to change it in light of the current situation. The classroom teachers are still looking forward to sharing how your children are progressing and looking at goals for the upcoming year. We hope to have more information around the parent teacher meeting format coming out tomorrow.

STUDENTS 'OFF' THE BUS

CAN WE ASK PARENTS / CAREGIVERS OF ANY BUS STUDENTS WHO ARE BEING TAKEN OFF THE AFTERNOON BUSES TO PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW BEFORE 2:30PM. LATE 'RING INS' ARE HARD TO MONITOR & WE WANT TO AVOID ANY CONFUSION. SO GIVE DENISE A CALL AS EARLY AS YOU CAN. THANKS!

**CONTACT DETAIL UPDATES**

ON MONDAY, FORMS CAME HOME ASKING FOR CAREGIVER CONTACT DETAILS TO BE UPDATED. PLEASE GET YOUR FORM BACK TO SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THANK YOU

LOST PROPERTY

ONCE AGAIN WE HAVE A 'MOUNTAIN' OF LOST PROPERTY HERE AT SCHOOL. PLEASE COME INTO THE OFFICE AND HAVE A LOOK. LOTS OF TOWELS, T-SHIRTS, FLEECES AND HATS. PLEASE CHECK THAT ALL YOUR CHILDREN'S SCHOOL CLOTHES ARE NAMED, THANKS.

**BUTTERFLY FARM TRIP**

Both Rongomai and Hamua classes had an awesome day in Pahiataua last Thursday. They enjoyed time spent at the Native Butterfly farm and have lots of inspiration for our school butterfly garden! They also had a nice time in the park, where they had lunch and a play. A big thanks to Carol and Roseanne for organising the trip. Thank you to the great parents that gave up their time to come along and support our tamariki - it was very much appreciated.

**WORM JUICE FOR SALE**

Available at the school office from Monday - \$2.00 for a 2 litre bottle and \$3.00 for a 3 litre bottle. Great for your garden!!!

Nga mihi

Melinda, and the Eketahuna School Team

2020 Weekly Update

Hukanui

Thank you to those parents who came and supported us during Assembly on Friday. It was good to see everybody there. We thought the children did a fantastic job of being the assembly hosts.

This week we welcome Ashaia who has joined our class. The children have been showing manaakitanga to help her settle in. We are fundraising on Friday for our Matariki Glow show in Masterton next term by selling Juices. They will be for Sale on Friday at lunch time for \$1.

We are looking forward to discussing your child's learning with you as we are busy creating their progress reports.

As ever if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thanks Jo & Jess

Rongomai

Hi everyone we have had another very busy week. Students have been working hard all week. **Math:** sees us continuing with our addition and subtraction focus. **Reading:** we continue to work on comprehension and strategies skills. **Writing:** we have been learning to set our own writing goals. **Art:** we have started our Swimming Art based on David Hockney's paintings of swimming pools. **Trip:** Thank you to the parents who came on our Butterfly Trip Last Thursday.

Hand Washing: We have been focussed on washing our hands and students have been very diligent when they come in from play. Today we tried the 'Milk, Pepper and Soap' experiment that has been shown on FB. It was an excellent, fun way to reiterate to the students the importance of washing our hands. Ask your child about the experiment and what they learned. It is an easy experiment to do at home.

Thank you for your continued support

Roseanne / Beyonce

Hamua

It's been another busy week!

We are monitoring that the children are washing their hands regularly, especially before eating, and trying to remain calm.

In Math we are learning the concept that plus and minus are opposite, as are times and division.

A big thank you again to all the parents who helped on the butterfly trip-we had a great time!

A HUGE thank you, also, to the parents and friends who are helping with reading in Hamua-we love having you and it's a great help!

We are fundraising on Friday for our Matariki Glow show in Masterton next term by selling Juices. They will be for sale on Friday at lunch time for \$1.

Looking forward to doing some clay art this Friday :)

Carol

Nireaha

With the overarching theme being focused on who 'we' are, this term, we let loose yesterday with some fascinating studies. One studied Brisbane, to understand where his grandparents live; a team of 5 boys are seriously devoted to a comic they're creating and one girl's digging deep into the world of a vet, as she aspires to become one. One of them wants to fly a kite; others want to write a novel and another dived into more coding!

Have a healthy week everyone! Cheers Jo & Barb.

Pūtara

Kia ora, all

This last week we're in the process of developing sentence starters with words ending in 'ed'.

Words such as: amazed, annoyed, terrified, frightened, puzzled, shocked, surprised, relieved, exhausted, confused, startled.

We can even combine 3 x 'ed' words to create descriptive writing e.g.

"Puzzled, shocked, surprised, I quickly dashed for cover!"

"Confused, worried, frightened, she quickly retreated and made her way to the safe zone."

Ethan, welcome to Rūma Pūtara. It's wonderful to have you in our class!

Tracking & Trapping Update

We have successfully caught our first outside mouse for the year. This was found underneath the deck beside Room 2. One was also caught near Mrs Drysdale's desk / storage room. She was extremely brave!

We need to educate classrooms / children and adults about putting the right food for worms into the buckets. We can't put in any citrus items like oranges, lemons, limes or mandarins. Also, we can't feed the worms any packaged food like muesli bars or potato chips.



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 general knowledge skills at home - keep checking weekly to see new suggestions . . .

Kiwi Kid News:

Here's a great way for kids to stay up to date with current events from New Zealand and around the world. You'll find current events, challenges, fun home activities, games, and a whole lot more. To visit the site go to: <https://kiwikidsnews.co.nz/>

National Geographic Kids:

This is where you can discover some of the coolest facts for kids from around our planet. From animals and geography to science, nature and history, there are so many amazing facts for kids just waiting to be discovered. To visit the site go to: <https://www.natgeokids.com/nz/>

COVID-19 update from the Ministry of Education

We know that some parents have concerns about their children attending school at the moment, some of which may be due to what they are seeing in the media about other countries.

There's a simple rule here – if students are unwell (whether or not their illness relates to COVID-19) they should stay at home. Students who are not unwell should continue to attend school.

Please remind your parent community that while we are seeing large-scale school shutdowns elsewhere in the world, in New Zealand we still have no community transmission. Consequently any decisions about school closures will be made on a case by case basis. In the meantime, unless students are unwell themselves, then parents should keep sending them to schools and early learning centres as these environments continue to be safe and the best place for them to continue their learning.

Schools will continue to be provided with the latest information and guidance from the Ministries of Education and Health, so that Principals and Boards can make well-informed decisions based on their particular circumstances.

As you have been doing, please continue to focus on prevention of spread including through:

- Washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and drying thoroughly - before and after eating as well as after attending the toilet
- Covering coughs and sneezes with clean tissues or with an elbow
- Putting used tissues in the bin

Remember that personal hygiene, and reducing unnecessary physical contact (eg. hugs, handshakes, hongi when meeting people) are still the most important things to do to stop the spread of any virus.

BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE



**We are now beginning to hit the cold and flu season.
For this reason we are concerned about the spread of germs.**

In light of this we are asking every child to bring a named water bottle to school to use from MONDAY ONWARDS.

We will be closing the drinking fountains on Monday.

Teachers will be able to organise the refilling of water bottles in classes when they are empty.

THANK YOU.

Date 19th March 2020

Term 1 Week 7