

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,

Welcome back to Term 2. We hope your Easter was lovely and you all enjoyed time together, in your 'bubble', out in the fine weather we are having! We have thought about you all during the past few weeks and we understand and appreciate the difficulty and challenges faced when there are job losses, juggling budgets, juggling caring for elderly and the young, all while people are working from their homes. We understand and appreciate the complexities around having essential workers in our bubble and ensuring safety for all is maintained. We also understand and appreciate how hard it is for our single parent families and those families who have partners as essential workers who are not at home through the day and who are now 'educators' as they try to work with children in the house and meet their needs in all areas as well. We understand and appreciate it is indeed difficult. Please know all your efforts are appreciated as we work together to fight Covid-19.



SCHOOL OPERATIONS

You will have heard messages through the media over the week regarding school resuming once we move down from Alert Level 4, along with Jacinda Adern's description of what Level 3 will look like today. We will continue to update you regularly on school operations as information comes to hand. Please note:

- No decision has been made yet about when schools will reopen. This decision will be made based on data about the spread of Covid-19. That decision will not be made before Monday 20 April.
- The very earliest schools would open would be 29 April but attendance is purely voluntary. For children who are able, distance learning is still the best option.
- The Ministry (and us) are preparing for all possible scenarios - we want to be prepared for whatever the decision is once the data becomes clear.
- There will be ample notice before schools open. They will not be closed one day and open the next. We will be given ample time to ensure that the school has a good clean, and that we put in place any Health & Safety regulations.

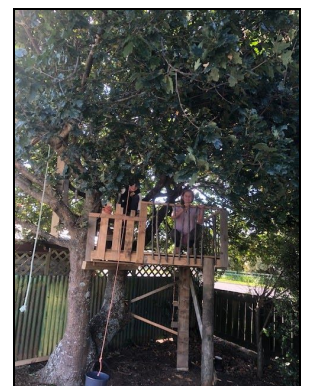
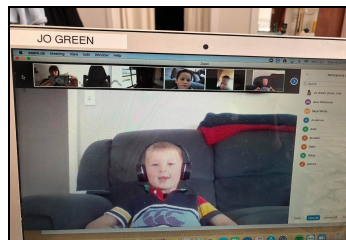
A reminder we are all working on 'Pack 1' this week. Our teachers are available to meet students from 9am - 1pm daily. They have been enjoying the one to one 'catch ups' with students and check the booking schedule regularly! Daily zoom meetings are also happening with class teachers sending out invites and information on how to access Zoom. Please feel free to email teachers along the way to give feedback and ask questions. We are all learning and we will be adjusting things as we go to make the best of this!

Please remember, 'hauora' and 'well being' comes first - we know teaching and learning will look different for each family and are not expecting parents to replace teachers. You are all doing a fabulous job as parents at this time, be proud of your efforts and let us know if we can help in any way. None of us have had experience in this before at this level, so we thank you in advance for your grace, kindness and ongoing support.

We love getting the updates from students and their families about what they are up to. Stay in touch and we look forward to seeing you all again, at our wonderful school, very soon.

Nga mihi,

Melinda & the Eketahuna School Team



Toby White on Zoom & the Governors new tree fort!

COMING UP:

Monday 20th - Friday 24th April - Week 2 of Term 2 with 'PACK 2' being used
Monday 20th April - Government decision regarding Covid-19 Lockdown Level

Wednesday 22nd April - Original date of the National Covid-19 Lockdown being lifted (TBC)

Wednesday 29th April - Possible first day of school being open with attendance being voluntary (TBC)

2020 Weekly Update

HUKANUI (Room 1)



Hello everyone, Kei te pēhea koe? We hope you are safe and well in your bubbles. It has been good to connect with many of you. It was lovely to be able to see lots of faces this morning at the class Zoom meeting.

The first class Zoom. Lana was sharing her holiday news and everyone was listening. We were impressed that people were respectful while listening. We also would love to see the pictures of you leaning at home so please send them to us via email.

A big welcome to Hukanui, Brodie and Isabella who have started school as Term 2 starts.

Hari Huritau and Happy birthday to Rocco, Isabella and Brodie.



This is a fantastic website to look at for Art, [Kids Art Hub](#). It has step by step, how to draw on every topic you can think of.

We will continue to update you via email and look forward to seeing you very soon.
Jess & Jo

RONGOMAI (Room 2):

Hi everyone, how are you all? I miss you as I know you will be missing me!!!! It has been great looking at the different photos you have been sharing on our Classroom Facebook Page. Lots of interesting, creative activities and quality family time happening while we are in lockdown. I have been working on my gardening, baking, sewing and knitting plus walking on my treadmill. Enjoyed our first Zoom Classroom get together today. Was great to see everyone. You are welcome to email me if you have any questions or need help.



I am looking forward to seeing you again soon. Love Always.

roseanne@eketahuna.school.nz

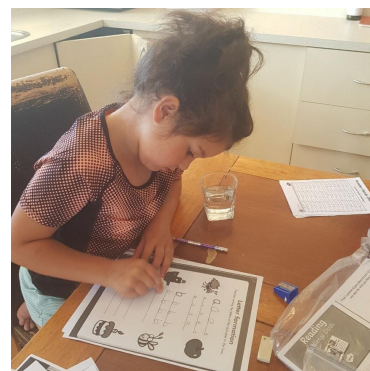
HAMUA (Room 3)

Hello to all the Clever Creatures-I am so missing seeing your faces each morning, but Purl and I loved our first Zoom meeting today. Purl has been working hard on some writing that she wants to share with you, and we are looking forward to hearing all your news. Madison's mum sent a picture of her working hard on her handwriting. Well done Madison!

Here is a link to some online audio stories-have a listen:

<https://storytime.rnz.co.nz/book/the-jumbaroo>

Love from
Carol & Purl



NIREAHA (Room 5)



*Kia ora koutou,
We are missing you all heaps and hope you are keeping busy.*

Meet Bob the Bear: My family and I made this giant bear in our front paddock. We had seen on the news that people were putting teddies in their front windows.

***Update:** Bob has been getting lots of attention.
He has appeared on both the "We Are Going on a Bear Hunt - NZ" and the
"Covid19 Wairarapa Updates" Facebook pages.
He has received many likes and has had many shares.
He's becoming a little bit famous!*

Barb

Please look for Nireaha2020 on Facebook. Ask to join and we'll let you in. This is a closed/private group, where we can connect and see what people in Nireaha are up to.

PUTARA (Room 6)

Kia ora whanau,

I hope you're all having a wonderful rest, and have enjoyed each other's company.

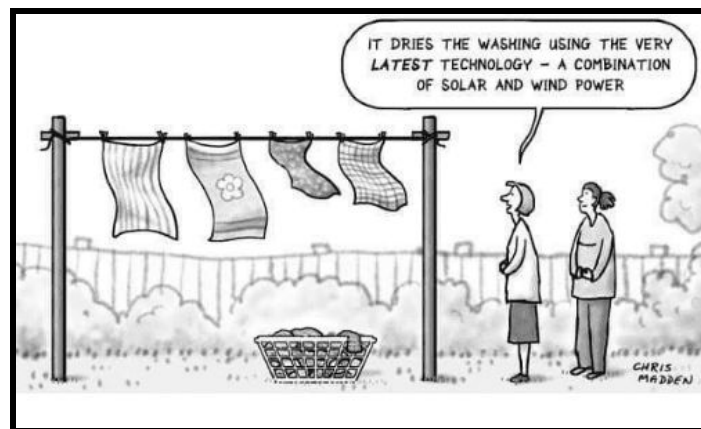
A special 'Happy Birthday' shout-out needs to go to Kiara and Marshall.

Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you...



Here's a little food for thought.

Think about the image below, then watch the interesting link, "Old man cleans up."

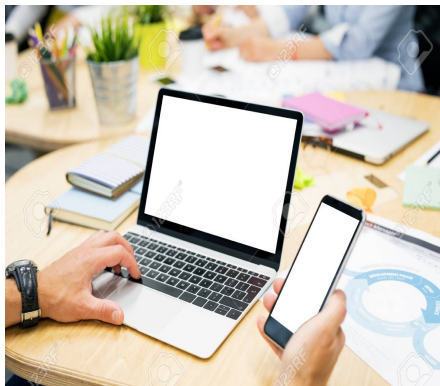


Watch this cool link :)

[Old man cleans up.](#)

Have a wonderful end to the short week!

Dean



SCHOOL CONTACTS

During this week and at the start of the new term, while the school remains closed, students and families are able to contact Melinda via her email at:

principal@eketahuna.school.nz.

Our Office Administrator Denise will also be accessible during the 'term time' via the school cell phone on 022 368 1830 and also the office email address at

office@eketahuna.school.nz

CONTACTING CLASSROOM TEACHERS

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 - clauscher@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

CLASS ZOOM MEETINGS ONLINE DAILY

Pūtara - Room 6 @ 10am daily with Dean

Nireaha - Room 5 @ 10:30am with Jo on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Nireaha - Room 5 @ 10:30am with Barb on Thursday & Friday

Rongomai - Room 2 @ 11am with Roseanne

Hāmua - Room 3 @ 11:30am with Carol

Hukanui - Room 1 @ 12pm with Joanna & Jess

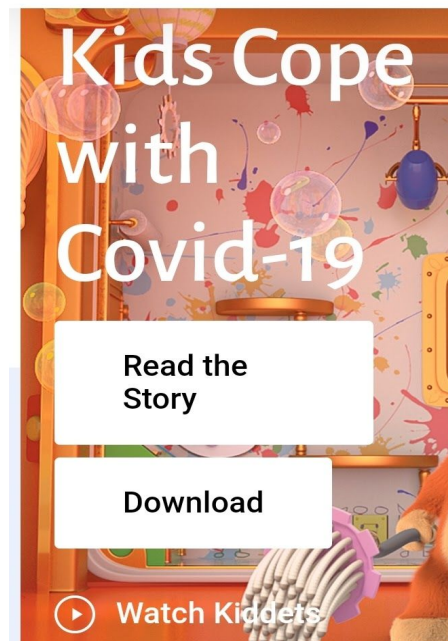
Class teachers will email out the invites to the Zoom Meetings.

NB Booking schedules for one to one 'catch ups' with class teachers are available via the links that have been emailed out

A beautiful FREE book download written by the amazingly talented Martin Baynton from Pukeko Pictures to help children in dealing with the Corona Virus

Go to:

<https://stayclearcleankind.com/?fbclid=IwAR1PlhJydVFZrCaIPN9dadpylyGtl3TqkAhIjfvqNr60c39t9yqAy8zeBo>



A great update on our worm farm which is currently in 'lockdown' with the Mackisack whanau:



Hi Eketahuna whanau

We of the worm farm, are enjoying the lockdown, eating lots of fruit and veges and turning them into lovely fertiliser that you can put in your lovely school gardens once we are all back.

We are hanging out on a farm for a few weeks.

We're missing all you awesome kids, but we are not missing the sandwiches and orange peels that you sometimes gave us - these are NOT nice for us worms!

When we're not busy munching we entertain ourselves by chasing our tails. You should try it sometime!

Love from the 'worms of wormville' xox

Our fantastic online challenges:

JUMP JAM

Students and staff are challenged to learn the "I like to Move It" routine via the school facebook link - next Wednesday we share how we have gone!!

SIGN LANGUAGE

A daily challenge for all to learn sign language - check the school facebook daily to see what Carolyn posts for us!