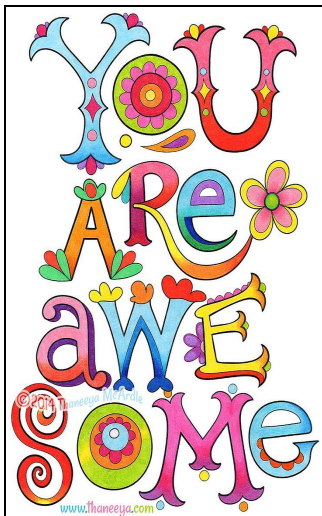


EKETAHUNA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te kura Eketahuna,



I hope you are all safe and well in your bubbles. It has been fantastic to see what families have been doing over the last week - we have some incredibly creative people in our community! This week the country moved to Level 3, which is a very positive sign. Distance learning will continue as normal for Eketahuna School, as all children are staying safe at home. Our remote school teaching and learning will continue to be delivered daily, by our staff who also continue to work from home.

The distance learning will continue for the next 2 weeks while we are in Alert Level 3. I want to acknowledge the work you are doing as parents to support your child's learning, many of you will also be working from home. As I have said previously, as a school we will do our best to provide a continuity of learning and support children while at home. All teachers will do their best to support the students and make instructions clear and not too overwhelming. The expectation is that all students try their best, complete the work they are able to and have fun! Learning will also look different for each household depending on your situation. Please do not put pressure on yourselves when it comes to completing distance learning.

I also want to acknowledge those of you who have been doing essential jobs in the community throughout this time. Your efforts over the last five weeks, to keep the town running as much as it could, has been incredible! The service you have all provided through this time is what community is all about - it is greatly appreciated! Let's stay safe in our bubbles over the next week and a bit, beat the Covid-19 virus, and 'fingers crossed', be back to a sense of normality after Monday 11th May. We can't wait to see you all back at school!

SCHOOL OPERATIONS - WEEK 4

The school site will be closed Week 4 and Monday 11th May, as we await the decision regarding levels. Remote teaching and learning continues, using student Pack 4. As with the previous packs, many have come with school equipment and teacher's personal resources so please take good care of these as we expect them to be returned. Teacher support for the learning at home for Level 3 will continue unchanged. The '1 to 1' teacher student 'catch ups' will continue, along with the daily Zoom class meetings. The link for next week's booking schedule is here: [Week 4 Eketahuna School Booking Schedule](#)



PREPARING FOR WEEK 5 - LEVEL 3 OR LEVEL 2?

At this stage we have received no information regarding expectations around a shift to Level 2. However, we will prepare for Week 5 in a way that will ensure both scenarios are covered. As a consequence we will have to limit the time teaching staff are available online, as they begin to prepare, which will mean next Thursday and Friday will be Zoom class meetings only. The online booking schedule will be altered in line with this change. However, teachers can still be contacted via their emails. We will continue to update you regularly on school operations as information comes to hand.

GENEROUS NEWMAN DOMAIN BOARD

We have been the lucky recipients of a \$1,250 donation from the Newman Domain Board. The ongoing generous support from this group makes it possible for our school to offer great educational opportunities and to make the school community a great place to be. We are looking at using the funds to purchase new sporting equipment and make improvements to the outdoor play areas. All of our children will benefit from this very kind gesture - it is truly appreciated - thank you!!



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PACKS

We have ordered ALL students a hard copy pack to be couriered to their home. We have followed up with the Ministry of Education to see where they are - we have been assured they are in 'dispatch'!

2020 Weekly Update

HUKANUI (Room 1)

Hi everybody. Last Thursday week we were busy making the home learning packs which you received on Tuesday. It has been great to see the pictures of the learning people have done from them. The pack should have contained something for everybody to have a try at. If you are looking for something else to do you could try the extra for experts we made last week. We will make some more to go with next week's learning. When we return to school please return any equipment that went home in the pack.



Nikau with his bee

Jacob & his family building a dam



If you are looking for some practical activities to do at home then this is a good website to try. [Science Kids](#) has some easy experiments that can be done with things that you have at home.

Looking forward to seeing everybody again soon. But in the meantime if you have any questions please email us.

Thanks Jess & Jo

RONGOMAI (Room 2):

Hi everyone.

I hope you are all well and keeping safe inside your Bubbles.

Yesterday I enjoyed getting 'out and about' to deliver the different learning packs within our village of Eketahuna.

It was great to see the sunshine and a few smiling faces along the way.

Keep looking on our Classroom Facebook page for ideas and different family games and activities you could enjoy it together.

ANZAC Day in Eketahuna was different, but lovely.

It has been great to see all of the different activities being created at home.

Rongomai students have received their MyLockDownDiary - take the time to read and work through each activity carefully. They are to be returned to school when we finally get back on site.

These will be packaged up together, placed into a Time Capsule then will be opened up at the next school reunion.

Have a great week - I miss you all

HAMUA (Room 3)

Hello everyone

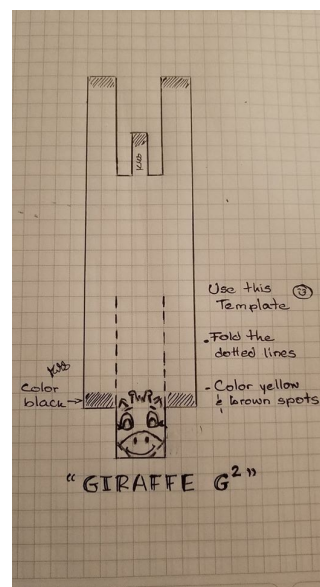
Thank you so much for all the great photos and videos you've been sending - Purl and I love seeing them!

Did you know that Purl really really likes giraffes?? She found this clever math/art challenge:(here is the [link](#) too). You will need a ruler or something straight, paper (or cardboard if you have), scissor and colouring pencils or felts.

Look forward to seeing all your gorgeous giraffes!! You could even change it into a different animal :)

Lots of love

Carol



NIREAHA (Room 5)

Hi everyone,

We hope that you are all well. We understand that it may be getting a bit boring out there, and that you may be missing school. We are missing you too!

It is always great to see many of you in our Zoom meetings. Thank you so much for sharing what you are up to with us in these meetings. Other ways we can be in touch is by email or in our Nireaha2020 Facebook Group.

We have sent out the packs for weeks 3 and 4. There are plenty of “boredom busters” in there for you to be working on. You are all doing really well. We can do this!

Looking forward to seeing you back at school, when it is safe to do so.

Jo and Barb

PUTARA (Room 6)

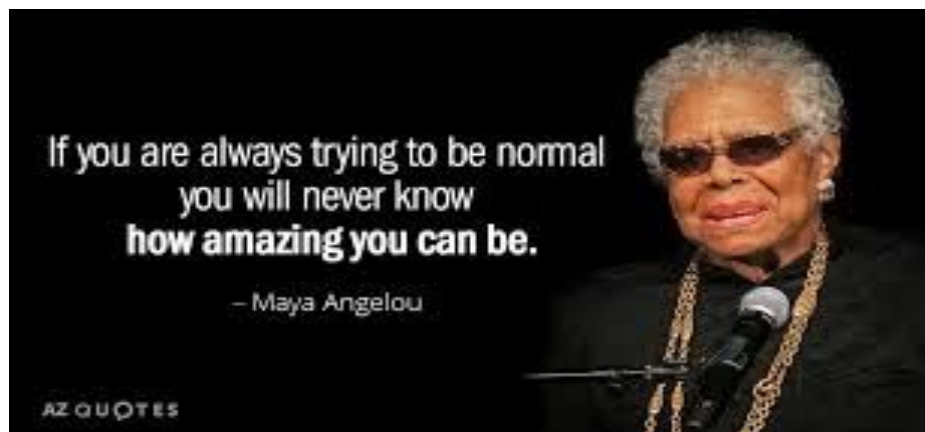
Kia ora, whānau

It's wonderful Zooming the children each day. I enjoy seeing them happy and relaxed; however, the general consensus, from our class korero, is that we're all pretty keen to get back to normal.

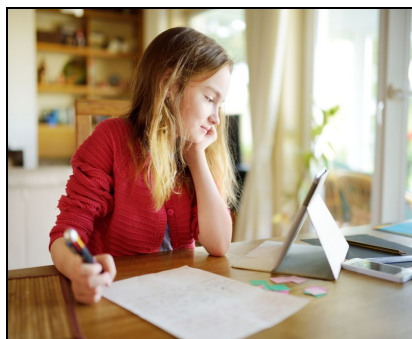
Interestingly enough, what is normal?

The beauty about teaching is that no two days are the same, making it the most rewarding and 'abnormal' job there is!

Every child has their own unique personality, quirks and traits.



Take care, you're all doing amazingly well!
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.

DOWNLOAD OUR SCHOOL APP

- ★ Events
- ★ Permission Slips
- ★ Cancellations
- ★ Notices
- ★ Absentees
- ★ Parent Teacher Interviews
- ★ Instant Messages
- ★ Newsletters



Stay in the loop
this summer



Simple free download:
In the Play Store and App Store search 'Skool Loop' and choose our school once installed.

Available on the
App Store

Get it on
Google play

RODENT UPDATE

FROM OUR TRACKING & TRAPPING TEAM

With the school being closed a number of weeks now, Stephen, our caretaker, has reported an increase in mice at school. The first day back on Wednesday 15th April saw 5 dead mice in traps at school, in the admin area and classes. There had also been a 'family' living in the pantry so that got a good clean out when the school was open last week! This is the time rodents come in for food and warmth. Some handy tips:

1. Make sure that you set your traps along the edges of the furniture or room because rodents don't like being exposed out in the open.
2. Try changing your bait. They might be sick of peanut butter. Have you tried Nutella?



For more information you could go to: [Predator Free NZ](https://www.predatorfree.co.nz/)

This site has resources, traps, equipment and interesting facts. You can also support them with their 'project'.

"The Predator Free movement is sweeping the country as people realise we're the last generation that can save our unique native bird, bat and insect species before they're devastated by introduced predators."



"WALK TARARUA - IN YOUR BUBBLE"

Let's traverse the length of the Tararua (keeping in our bubbles) during the month of May. From Norsewood to Eketahuna is 87 kilometres.

Register as an individual or register your whole bubble! You can walk, run, cycle, or scooter the distance, from the comfort of your neighbourhood in your bubble. Keep track of your kms and send them through to us weekly.

Once you've registered, via <https://www.sportmanowatu.org.nz/event/walk-tararua/> you'll be invited to join a private Facebook group, to be part of the online community taking part in this event.

Spot prizes will be drawn along the way (and sent out when we can). The challenge begins on the 1 May and will finish at 11.30pm 31 May 2020.

If you want to give yourself a bigger challenge, do a return trip! Up to you!

