

EKETĀHUNA 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 Ekētahuna - warm greetings to you all as we continue school, work and home life in our nationwide Alert Level 3 conditions!

We are very proud of our Eketāhuna whānau and the way we have united as a strong, resilient and positive school community to ensure that all our families and staff are cared for with both educational and pastoral needs. We also need to acknowledge our amazing staff both teaching and support staff for the work in preparing, planning and implementing the distance/home learning programme over these weeks. I especially want to acknowledge our parent community for the fantastic work that you are doing at home to support your children with their ongoing learning - not just the school based learning but the wonderful family activities that you are doing that encourages the children to explore, observe, question, investigate, suggest, change, innovate, create, build, construct, demonstrate, talk about and think about and so much more.

We never stop learning so being away from school does not mean the children are missing out, what it does mean ... is that they are learning in a different context being at home, where they are gaining and developing new skills, new knowledge, new understandings and an appreciation for learning in each of their family Bubbles! We are proud of the way the children are choosing their learning activities, adapting and responding to each of the challenges and projects in a way that best shows their understanding. We need to recognise the resilience our tamariki are showing and their positivity during these challenging times - they are all truly wonderful!

We are now in our second school week of Lockdown Level 3. It is continuing to be a challenging time but the action we have taken, as a community and a country, to stay home is the reason we seem to be having success fighting Covid-19. Let's hope that we are near the end of the higher level restrictions, but no one can be too sure as to when this will be. There will be an announcement by Jacinda Ardern on Monday, 11th May, but until then we all need to continue to play our part. So let's continue the fight, and look forward to a time when we're all back at school very soon! Kia kaha!



SCHOOL OPERATIONS - WEEK 5

The school site will remain closed while we are at Alert Level 3. On Monday 11th May, we will find out the decision regarding levels. **From the update today, Jacinda Adern made it clear that even if we shift to Level 2 next week, schools currently closed will not reopen until Monday 18th May.** Our school remote teaching and learning will continue next week, using a 'slim line' school pack which will be delivered tomorrow. This smaller pack is not a full week's work as in previous weeks, but a few 'fun' type projects and 'optional fillers', with the Ministry of Education packs being the 'go to' for work. Teacher support for the learning at home will continue unchanged. The '1 to 1' teacher student 'catch ups' will continue, along with the daily Zoom class meetings. If you feel your child requires more school work please contact their class teacher. The link to next week's booking schedule is:

[Week 5 Eketahuna Booking Schedule](#)

PREPARING FOR WEEK 6

At this stage we do not know what Level we could be at the end of next week, as we all await cabinet's decision on Monday 11th. If we shift to Level 2, the earliest the school will possibly open is Monday 18th May. Further, at the time of writing this, we do not yet have clear guidelines from the Ministry of Education as to what the health and safety expectations are for schools if we move to Level 2. We hope to include an update on this with all packs being delivered tomorrow. We will continue to update you as information comes to hand.

WHANAU SUPPORT AVAILABLE

If you or your whanau is experiencing hardship through these times, the Eketahuna Community Health Centre is open to provide food parcels. If you need this support, you can contact them on (06) 375 8188. The best thing to do is ring first and they will inform you of current procedures in obtaining a food parcel. They are there to support the local community so give them a call!



COMING UP:

Monday 11th May - Level 3 Extension or a 'Shift To Level 2' announced

Monday 11th-Friday 15th May - Remote Teaching & Learning continues

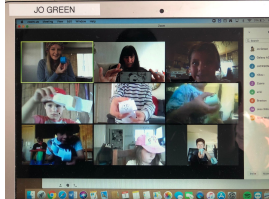
TBC: Monday 18th May - Level 2 & Eketahuna School site open

2020 Weekly Update

HUKANUI (Room 1)

Well done to everyone on their continued home learning. We know that some of you are finding it tough, take a break or just do a few fun things. They don't have to be traditional learning. Looking through the newspaper and talking about the stories. Reading the supermarket mailers, deciding on a dinner menu, matching the containers and lids in 'that kitchen cupboard' or baking are all useful and helpful jobs.

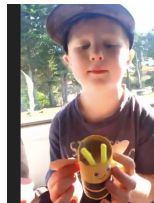
Here are some pictures we have received of people learning.



The class zoom making caterpillars.



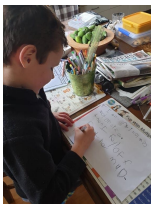
Toby & Lucy reading



Jacob's Bee



Brodie's Maths



Braxton writing

Here is a good website to have a look at. [Sparklers](#) has some good ideas about feeling good, looking after your well being (Hauora) and talking to your children about the lockdown.

We hope to see you all really soon. We miss everybody, but we are very grateful for your home support.

Thanks Jo & Jess

RONGOMAI (Room 2):

Hi everyone. How are you all?

I have enjoyed working with different groups throughout the last couple of weeks.

Everyone is focussed, happy and 'on to it'.

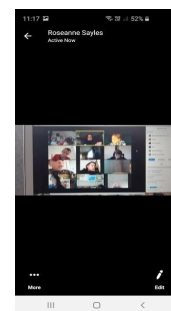
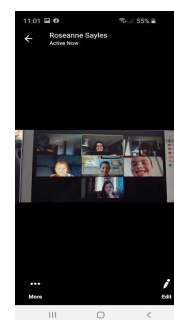
Thank you so much to our lovely parents that have been supporting our children's learning online.

Our **LockdownDiary2020** has been well worked over.

There is lots of writing and creativity going on and I am looking forward to seeing the end results.

I have enjoyed looking at the different photos and family activities on our classroom facebook page.

Keep them coming, they are great.

**HAMUA (Room 3)**

I can't believe we're four weeks into lockdown already!!

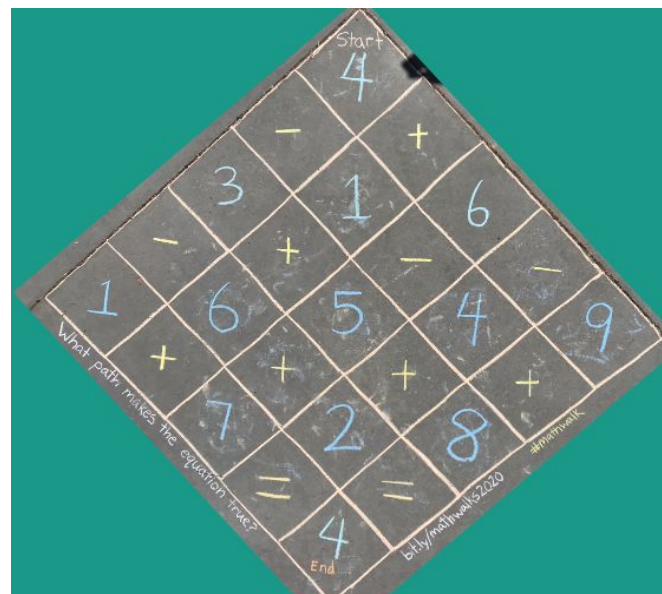
Hats off to all our parents and children who are still working hard and keeping focussed in these difficult times!

I'm loving all the pictures of your work-please keep them coming :)

Here's a great math game to draw outside with chalk (when the rain stops!)

Some recent birthdays: Kerrin, Chelsea, and Mack-congratulations!

Hope to see you all again soon :)
Carol



NIREAHA (Room 5)



Fascinating developments as new options emerge.

Student initiatives are now launching 'thick and fast'. For those who've been attending Zoom sessions, the invite to design, develop and direct their own learning as really taken off. The beauty evolving, is that they've become collaborative invites for others to join. Invites come from Aurora, with Egg Sitting, Nancy with a Lockdown Diary and Angus with his Spelling Bee etc.



Alongside, we've taken our Zoom lessons to a new level, using Break Out rooms; have created a class web site to house our online work, and have taken up the invite from a class in Italy, to join them as their pen pals. We'll share the links in our email on Monday.

New insect species named after Lady Gaga

By Charli.

This new species is known as a treehopper.

This incredible new treehopper is officially going to be known as Kaikaia Gaga.



It was named by a student from a university in Illinois. A grad student called Brendan Morris chose to name this tree hopper in honor of the musical artist Lady Gaga.

These insects are one of the most spectacular and beautiful insects. As you stare into its bulging eyes of despair, you'd think it's a mini helicopter, in the distance. You may even think that it's a firefly with its magnificent colours. That's what I see when I look at Kaikaia Gaga.

All up, a highly varied week so far. Enjoy what's left, have a fabulous weekend and roll on next week! Cheers! Jo & Barb

PŪTARA (Room 6)

Using the image (right), Pūtara has been doing some creative writing.

Here is the link:

[The Trench](#)

The gas filled the air; the gas mask tight against her face. Watching her friends drop like flies around her, she wondered if the mask is enough to keep her alive. After a while the gas cleared up and it started to reveal some of the barren wasteland surrounding her. She was the only one that made it once the gas was fully cleared. She realised that she was alone and none of her surroundings were familiar.

She couldn't see anyone for ages, then she turned around to see a small village, so she walked in that direction and arrived home to see her family...

M-Jay Carrington

Wonderful effort M-jay, and all of you who attempted this writing challenge.
Ka pai :)

Dean

SHOP LOCAL
EAT LOCAL
SPEND LOCAL
ENJOY LOCAL

START THE TREND!

SUPPORT THE LOCAL
BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT
THE AREA WHERE YOU LIVE,
WORK AND PLAY.

KEEP BUSINESS ALIVE!

They need us & we need them

We welcome adverts from any local businesses who are starting up after Level 3/4. We believe in supporting our team. We encourage our community to get behind local business. We need to do our bit to get society 'moving' again.



If you run a business in our community and you would like some 'advertising' in our newsletter, please contact office@eketahuna.school.nz We will run your advert in our newsletter for as long as possible.



SCHOOL CONTACTS

During this 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

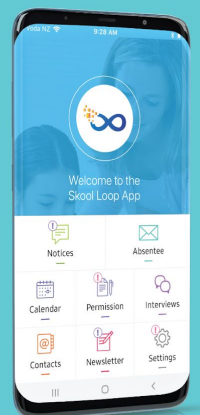
CLASS ZOOM MEETINGS ONLINE DAILY

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.



