

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 Eketahuna,

It has been wonderful having so many of our children at school this week after being away for so many weeks during the Covid-19 Levels 3 and 4. We are very lucky to have got to this point in an international 'pandemic' of reopening the school and returning to learning on site. A big thank you again to our amazing community for all your support and recognition of the effort put into staying connected to our Eketahuna School team.

"Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa - let us be close together, not far apart."



ALERT LEVEL 2 AT EKETAHUNA SCHOOL

A reminder that the key principles for Alert Level 2 are to reduce the risk of someone getting infected, ensure we can identify and contact anyone who does become infected, and understand that Level 2 is not business as usual. We need to maintain an Alert Level 2 school environment so please continue to discuss the expected social distance with children, remind them they are **not breathing on or touching each other** and that coughing or sneezing is done into their elbow. We also need to ask you all to please keep any sick children at home. **Do not send children to school if they appear unwell.** School staff will continue to observe students on arrival into the classroom and we will be asking those presenting as unwell to be collected by parents and caregivers.

BUS BEHAVIOUR DURING LEVEL 2

The ongoing safety of drivers and students is a priority under Alert Level 2, and is being managed with hand sanitiser available for each student to use as they board the vehicle, vehicles and surfaces sanitised after each journey by the transport company and seats in close proximity to the driver left empty. The other important factor is the behaviour of students on the bus.

If any child's behaviour compromises the social distancing expectations they will no longer be able to use the school bus transport system - if this occurs it will be up to caregivers to transport their children to school.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY USER AGREEMENT

We actively encourage our students to be competent and confident in the use of digital technology; and aware of and able to manage the challenges and issues that go with it. These issues include safety of themselves and others, privacy, copyright, and protection of digital devices and equipment. In short, to be digital citizens. We have spent time creating user agreements for parents and students which many completed at the end of last year.

Those students who currently do not have a user agreement will have the forms coming home today with the newsletter. Please take time to read through these with your children. The forms will need to be signed and returned to school as soon as possible. We really appreciate your support with this issue.

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:

Thursday 21st May - Eketahuna School BoT Meeting
Tuesday 26th May - Home & School Meeting @ 6:30pm (Library)

Friday 29th May - All pie orders are to be in to school
Monday 1st June - School closed for Queen's Birthday
Wednesday 3rd June - Year 7 & 8 to Technology

THE LAST REMOTE LEARNING 'SHOUT OUTS' FROM WEEK 5

A huge congratulations to all our fantastic recipients below for their efforts last week:

Pūtara: Carmen Bidios for being super enthusiastic doing her schoolwork!

Pūtara: Jackson Wells for sporting a 'cool as' haircut!

Nireaha: The fabulous Nireaha parents for all their efforts, support and interaction with the remote learning programmes - as was possible - during Lockdown!!

Nireaha: Oskar Mills for a stunning Bronze award in Athletics.

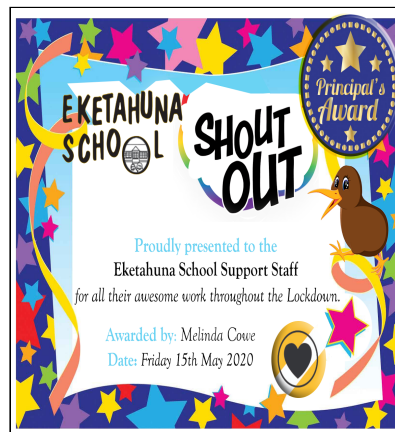
Hāmua: Campbell Mackisack for sharing his great science ideas.

Hāmua: Lovely Hāmua parents for teaching their children so well during Lockdown.

Hukanui: Mareana Roro for an awesome effort with maths during our zoom catch up.

Hukanui: Our wonderful parents for all their help in the Lockdown home learning.

Rongomai: All students, as Ms Sayles was impressed with how kind you have been to each other and how hard you have worked throughout the lockdown. You rock!!!!



SCHOOL RUBBISH:

WE ARE STILL ACTIVELY ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO PUT FOOD 'WRAPPINGS' & PACKAGING BACK IN THEIR LUNCH BOXES ONCE THEY HAVE EATEN AT MORNING TEA AND LUNCH. WE CONTINUE TO SEE A REDUCTION IN RUBBISH HERE AT SCHOOL. THANK YOU!



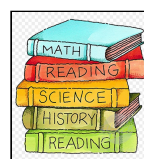
ATTENDANCE & BUSES FROM SCHOOL

IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT COMING TO SCHOOL PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE BEFORE 9AM TO LET THEM KNOW. A REMINDER TO ALSO NOTIFY THE OFFICE BEFORE 2:30PM IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT GOING HOME ON THEIR USUAL BUS.



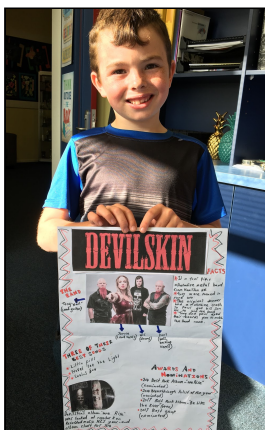
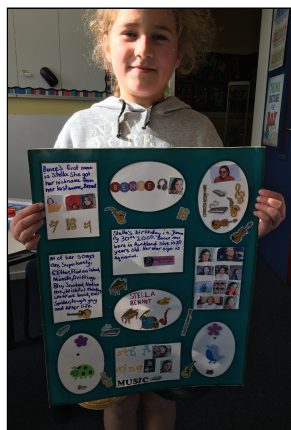
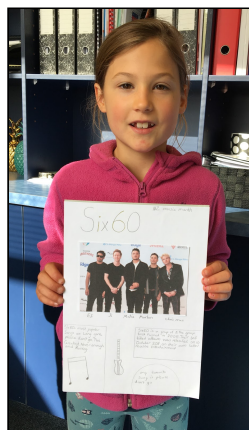
RETURNING SCHOOL RESOURCES

WE ASK THAT ALL SCHOOL RESOURCES THAT WERE SENT HOME IN THE STUDENT LEARNING PACKS PLEASE BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MANY ITEMS WERE THE TEACHER'S PERSONAL RESOURCES AND WE ARE EXPECTING TO GET EVERYTHING RETURNED. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



PARENT (or GRANDPARENT!) TUTOR READING 2020

We are looking to start up the 'Parent Tutor Reading' programme again this term, as we have found students make accelerated progress with this daily support. This programme involves our parents, grandparents and members of the community who voluntarily offer to help children with their reading. Volunteers were given training in the basic reading strategies and came along once a week to hear children read and practise taught reading strategies which are monitored. Each tutor would attend for an hour and 20 minutes each week in the morning (same day and same time). They work one on one with the same children each week and this builds a bond between the child/children and adult. If you would like to be involved, or know of anyone that would like to be a "reading buddy", then please contact the office or Joanna Green as soon as possible. Thank you.



NZ MUSIC MONTH PROJECTS AT HOME

Ms Sayles set a NZ Music Month project for her students to work on during their time at home. She was delighted with the projects that were completed and brought back to school. Brooke did hers on Six60, Kiera's did hers on Beenee and Hunter did his on the group Devil Skin. Hunter's family shared his work with the group and were thrilled to be contacted by a member from the band! The band was very impressed with his research and presentation! Well done everyone.

*Nga mihi,
Melinda & the Eketahuna School Team*



Great ideas to keep children developing their literacy and numeracy skills at home ...

Spelling Games:

Interactive spelling games that teach everything from consonants and vowel sounds for younger students, to contractions and commonly mixed up words for more advanced spellers. To visit the site go to:

<https://nz.education.com/games/spelling/>

Maths is Fun:

This page is full of activities for all areas of maths. You will find something for all levels of the primary school and beyond. To visit the site go to: [mathsisfun.com](https://www.mathsisfun.com)

Hukanui News: (Room 1)

It has been wonderful to see all the smiling happy faces back at school. Thank you to everyone who has returned their learning packs/equipment and a big **thank you** again to all our families for all your hard work over the lockdown.

We have had a great week in Hukanui with lots of shared reading, art, play and reflecting together on our time in the lockdown. We have also been gardening and planted some spring onions. We are excited to watch them grow. We are seeing lots of kindness and good choices being made as we settle back into school our routine which we are very impressed with.

Please remember to send a named drink bottle with your child each day.

As always please contact us if you have any questions.

Jess & Jo

Rongomai News: (Room 2)

Hi everyone. How are you all? It has been great catching up with Rongomai Students in the flesh!!! Thank you for all your support during the lockdown. We have been spending time getting to know each other again. Cross Country practise has started. We have been learning how to breathe, using correct arm techniques and running forward. We warm up through gentle running practise and proceed to run around the field. Please make sure your child has suitable shoes to run in and an extra pair of socks to put on incase feet get wet.

We have been contacted by a school in Denmark who are looking to write to students in New Zealand. This is exciting as it gives us an opportunity to learn about another country, culture and people. Our first step is learning how to write letters - our practise letter will be to ourselves in the future, which will also go into our time capsule. We will then be given a penpal that we can write to. Students are very excited so ask your child about it.

If you have any questions or concerns you can contact me on my school email address.

Have a great week.

Roseanne

Hamua News: (Room 3)

Well, aren't we happy to be back at school-WOOHOO!

The children have all grown so much!! They have been very good, and settled straight back into routine. **This week** we have been enjoying doing some Lockdown reflective art, working on identifying and drawing equivalent fractions, creative writing, and cross-country practise. We have also started learning the difference between musical rhythm and beat, and have reached out to find some writing penpals from another country!

We are looking to finish our **butterfly garden** this term and next-so are looking for pavers of some sort (wood or concrete), and ground cover, such as bark chip or similar, as well as weedmat. Any and all ideas and contributions will be greatly appreciated.

Please remember to return bookbags, homework books, and reading word rings DAILY. Thank you!

Carol

Nireaha News: (Room 5)

The chilled out hum in class has been so good to interact with. While scope to just cruise into being back was given, it was hugely intriguing to hear requests for the more formal style of learning too - by various students. How timely then, to have scored positive responses from *Denmark, Russia, Italy, Spain and Brazil*, that'll really enable an authentic edge with our current topics. Covid-19's our integrated studies / inquiry focus for now. What we're touching on are the concepts of *perspective* and '*Moments in Time*'. In keeping with global trends in modern-learning based education, these days, allowing students *direct input into curriculum design* has handed them the reins to design how our ePal/penpal programming will evolve. *iMovie-based documentaries* are now being scripted; letters have already been sent *digitally to Brazil*; and the *learning of another language*, by some, has begun. Calls to use Zoom to connect, be photo journalists and create 'international' projects are developing also. Enroute, prefixes, suffixes, Circle Time, decimal conversion and practicing our 'powers of observation' have all been woven in - both implicitly taught and facilitated. It's been an absolutely stunning return to school! *Many thanks Jo & Barb*

**Putara News: (Room 6)**

Kia ora, whānau

It's wonderful to see all your amazing children again. A big hello to John McGill who has joined us from Hawera. John, welcome to Pūtara. We have hooked straight back into learning, which is great. This week we've been adding **adverbs** in our writing to enhance the verb and give our writing greater depth. Here are a few examples:

*The hatchling **ferociously** snapped at the humans!* Paice

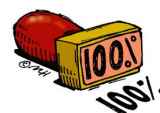
*The foal was jumping **gleefully**.* Indy

*Ducks hit the ground **painfully** as I was shooting them.* Lachie

*The pig ate **disgustingly**.* Hollie

Great start back, children. Let's have a wonderful second half to the term!

Dean





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 reminding every child to bring a named water bottle to school each day.

The drinking fountains will remain closed.

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

THANK YOU.

FLOORING INSTALLATION

TARARUA FLOORING

CARPET, VINYL,
LAMINATE, WOOD,
REPAIRS AND
RE-STRETCHES

CONTACT MIKE
027 777 0337

tararua flooring@extra.co.nz



HOME & SCHOOL PIE FUNDRAISER

Orders to be in by Friday 29th May



NB Pies will be delivered to school on
Wednesday 10th after 11am.

Thanks for your support!



NEW DAILY TIMETABLE

A reminder that we have introduced a new daily timetable for Term 2 & 3 which will result in shorter blocks. Although there are now 4 learning blocks and 3 breaks the total teaching time and play time's remain the same as in Term 1. We

feel this new timetable will help the transition to school and negate the long 'wet' lunch time that can be a challenge in the winter months.

9:00 - 10:35 Class Learning

10:35 - 11:00 First Break with morning tea eaten

11:00 - 12:00 Class Learning

12:00 - 12:30 Second Break with lunch/snacks eaten

12:30 - 1:35 Class Learning

1:35 - 2:00 Third Break with some lunch/snacks eaten

2:00 - 2:55 Class Learning

CONTACTING CLASSROOM TEACHERS

During 'Lockdown' teachers have enjoyed the constant connecting with caregivers - remember if you have a query or concern give them a ring via the school phone on 375 8191 or send them an email:

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