

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, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

Great to see everyone after the 'long weekend' and exciting to get back into the fantastic learning activities across school. It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through Term 3! It has been a challenging couple of weeks as we learn to readjust to Level 2 requirements. We sincerely thank you all for your support and understanding as we adhere to the Government guidelines and recommendations. The school day itself has seen minimal interruptions to our learning programmes with teachers and students managing changes well. The

guidelines have necessitated the school restricting people gathering on site and requiring everyone to sign in using the QR code or at the office should they need to come onto the site. With the extension of Level 2 until early September, we are still unable to hold Whole School Assemblies but will continue to have online Friday celebrations of all the good things that have been happening in the school. We will continue to mitigate the threat of the virus at school through basic hygiene, hand washing and continuing to ask children to bring their own water bottles to keep at school, and social distancing at 'moist breath zones'. By continuing to work together we can beat this virus!!

TEACHER ONLY DAY

We had a very valuable 'Staff Only Day' at school on Friday and a big thanks to our wonderful school community for enabling staff to have this opportunity. The day gave staff time to review the Pandemic Plan, as it looks like we will have Covid-19 around for some time, and establish ways we can ensure students' opportunities are not impacted due to restrictions at each Alert Level. We also spent time analysing our mid year data, our school targets and reviewed our school assessment schedule. We will look to have another staff only day next term, where we will focus on the localised curriculum.



ADDITIONS TO OUR TERM OVERVIEW

Due to the continued Alert Level 2 restrictions, we have looked at how we can add more activities to the term which will ensure we get a range of experiences and fun opportunities as replacements for the events we have seen cancelled due to the Covid-19 guidelines. An updated term overview is include in this newsletter and you will see we have added weekly STEM rotations where groups will have a science theme with technology added, ball skill practise in the form of drill relays which will end with a House competition, a House Team sing off and a fun students vs staff volleyball game which teachers fully intend winning! ;-D

NETBALL UNIFORMS

WITH THE SEASON NOW OVER, WE ARE ASKING FOR ALL NETBALL UNIFORMS TO PLEASE BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE UNIFORMS ARE A SCHOOL ASSET AND WE DO EXPECT THEM RETURNED. THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY SENT THEM IN.



INFORMATION ON STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ALERT LEVEL 3

LAST WEEK WE SENT HOME A SLIP FOR ALL FAMILIES TO COMPLETE AND RETURN TO SCHOOL. THE INFORMATION WAS IN REGARD TO CHILDREN OF ESSENTIAL WORKERS ATTENDING SCHOOL IF WE EVER MOVE TO ALERT LEVEL 3. WE KNOW IT MAY LOOK DIFFERENT AT EACH TERM SO NEED TO BE PREPARED. RETURNING THE COMPLETED FORM WILL HELP US AS WE PLAN FOR REMOTE AND ON SITE TEACHING & LEARNING.

SPRINGSHOW CUPS BACK

IN PREPARATION FOR THE SPRING SHOW EARLY NEXT TERM WE ARE ASKING FOR THOSE CHILDREN WHO WON CUPS LAST YEAR TO PLEASE RETURN THEM TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY BROUGHT THEM INTO THE OFFICE.



HEAD LICE

We have had a case of head lice at school this week. This is a perennial problem in all schools and we recommend you check all members of your household carefully. If you require any further information or support in dealing with this issue please contact the school office on 375 8191.



COMING UP:

Friday 4th September - Lucky Book Club Order Due

Wednesday 16th September - Tararua Volleyball Competition Yr 6 - 8
Monday 21st September - Jump Jam Competition

2020 MID YEAR RESULTS

Recently our children participated in a variety of assessments and activities that staff oversaw. This data collecting was to show where each year group was tracking, in terms of achievement, for the middle of the year. Of course this year is unprecedented with the Covid-19 pandemic which has had an impact on our teaching and learning since March. This data was used by teachers to support teacher judgements for reporting to parents, establish class grouping for learning and each student's next steps. We have now compared these results to the mid year results from this time last year to see progress indicators and to get a true picture of the school wide achievement to date. The results paint a positive picture when you consider the ongoing interruptions to educating our tamariki. Our writing and reading have stayed very close to previous years results, with maths dropping ever so slightly. We need to keep our focus on our boys who are still low in comparison to our girls in literacy, but favourable results for our mid way point! We will continue to focus on explicit teaching and learning goals at Eketahuna School!

READING	TOTAL SCHOOL	COMMENTS:
Above	2 / 121 = 1.8%	Total STUDENTS achieving At to Above = 86/121 = 71.2% • Total BOYS achieving At to Above = 41/64 = 64.1% • Total GIRLS achieving At to Above = 45/57 = 78.95% • Total MAORI achieving At to Above = 33/50 = 66%
At	84 / 121 = 69.4%	
Below/Well Below	35 / 121 = 28.8%	

WRITING	TOTAL SCHOOL	COMMENTS:
Above	14 / 121 = 11.5%	Total STUDENTS achieving At to Above = 88/121 = 72.5% • Total BOYS achieving At to Above = 41/64 = 64.1% • Total GIRLS achieving At to Above = 47/57 = 82.4% • Total MAORI achieving At to Above = 32/50 = 64%
At	74 / 121 = 61 %	
Below/Well Below	33 / 121 = 27.5%	

WRITING	TOTAL SCHOOL	COMMENTS:
Above	2 / 121 = 3.3%	Total STUDENTS achieving At to Above = 85/121 = 70.4% • Total BOYS achieving At to Above = 45/64 = 70.4% • Total GIRLS achieving At to Above = 40/57 = 70.1% • Total MAORI achieving At to Above = 33/50 = 66%
At	43 / 121 = 67.1 %	
Below/Well Below	19 / 121 = 29.6%	

**CORRECT PRONUNCIATION OF EKETĀHUNA**

You will have noticed that we are using the correct writing of Eketāhuna, with the macron added, to ensure the word is said correctly and therefore ensuring its meaning is also correct. We have advised the Ministry of Education and they are in the process of altering their database to the correct recording. Further information on the meaning of Eketāhuna and how it got its name is below.

SPORT UPDATE WITH COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL 2**Rugby**

All Junior Manawatu Bush games for U11, U12 or U13 are back on Saturday. Wairarapa Jab rugby is also going ahead on Saturday with Level 2 restrictions.

Basketball

No basketball game on Friday due to Covid-19 Alert Level 2. The next game will be Friday 11th September. Please note that **NO** extension of the season is planned.

Take care, be kind and be safe!
 Nga mihi,
 Melinda & the Eketāhuna School Team

2020 Weekly Update

Hukanui News: (Room 1)

We hope you had a restful long weekend. The Teacher Only Day was a valuable day for all staff. Please keep up the great home reading you are doing with your children. We are very pleased with the progress children are making and you supporting your child's learning at home makes all the difference at school. Aria has been visiting school and the children have been very welcoming to her. We have been having fun coding on the Ipads using Scratch Jr and the children are really enjoying this.

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

Regards Jo & Jess

Rongomai News: (Room 2) Hi everyone how are we all? Room 2 has had a great week of maths, reading comprehension and writing. Students are enjoying working from text books focusing on addition and subtraction, magic numbers and number puzzles. We continue to practise comprehension strategies in reading by questioning what, how, who, why, when and where as we are reading. Our designs on our Bongo Drums are starting to take shape and we have some very creative students in Rongomai. Some of our students will be helping Hamua students with their reading practise. We look forward to another great week of fun and learning. Take care.

Hamua News: (Room 3)

We hope everyone enjoyed their long weekend :)

We have started learning about TIME in math this week, which will continue for the next few weeks. At home-you can please help reinforce the ideas of the short hour hand, and the long minute hand, as well as each number representing 5 minute intervals. Thank you!

In writing, we are continuing our superhero stories and some will start publishing them this week.

We have also been doing 3D constructions with ice block sticks, which has been great fun and we are seeing some excellent engineering skills.Thanks :) Carol

Nireaha News: (Room 5)

Hello! Speeches, AgResearch Worm Surveys, Lessons from Egyptian ePals, messing with the addition of decimals, managing equivalent fractions and revising work around time, have been just some of the focal points this week. When you can almost hear 'a pin drop', we're enjoying the story 'Slave Girl' - a classical historical 'diary', through the eyes of a 12 year old. Enthusiastic calls to turn the story into a play - with auditions have even been requested.

We reactivated our class Facebook site for you this week, as there's much on the go, with a few requests in the mix coming up. First up - we need regular garden 'spades' to come to school Tuesday and Wednesday next week - if possible please, as we take part in an Agresearch National Worm Survey/count. We're also seeking millilitre and litre based containers and bottles for maths. If you can help - please send them to school early next week. Lastly, to fit in with some online classes with overseas students, it's looking like we'll need to tap into time after school, to fit in with other timezones. So watch the Facebook group 'Nireaha2020' for the heads' up as they evolve. Thanks! Jo & Barb.

Putara News: (Room 6)

Kia ora all

It's great being back at technology. The hard materials children have been making alarms and the children in cooking made delicious pizza! There was a real level of excitement to be able to get back into such worthwhile learning.

We will be writing speeches over the next few weeks; therefore, you may wish to ask your child what their topic is about.

If they're unsure then discuss ideas and interests. Just a few key points to remember when writing and delivering speeches:

- What are you trying to accomplish, i.e. educate, inspire, entertain, argue a point?
- Are you using the appropriate ideas and language for your target audience?
- Know the length of your speech; don't leave your audience overwhelmed or underwhelmed.
- Lastly, write, revise, practise, revise, practise..

Have a wonderful weekend :)

Dean

UPDATED TERM 3 OVERVIEW

7 31 Aug - 4 Sept					School Assembly Room 2 Basketball
8 7 Sept - 11 Sept	STEM ROTATION AFTERNOON		Year 7 & 8 Technology	STEM ROTATION AFTERNOON	School Assembly Room 3 Basketball
9 14 Sept - 18 Sept	Te wiki o te Maori NZ Maori Language Week STEM ROTATION AFTERNOON	Wairarapa Small Sticks School Hockey Training	Tararua Bush Volleyball Year 6 - 8 Tararua Bush Speech Competition	Staff vs Students Volleyball STEM ROTATION AFTERNOON	School Assembly Room 1 Basketball
10 21 Sept - 25 Sept	Tararua Bush Formal Dance <u>Practice</u> Year 7 & 8 STEM ROTATION AFTERNOON Jump Jam Competition	Wairarapa Small Sticks School Hockey Training	Year 7 & 8 Technology	BALL SKILL RELAYS House Competition Tararua Bush Formal Dance Year 7 & 8	House Team 'Sing Off' School Assembly End of Term

Eketahuna JAB Rugby

It was great to have our children out playing rugby again on Saturday. Thank you to WAIBUSH for putting the work into making this happen, while in level two restrictions. Cheers to all our parents for complying to the waibush level two restrictions and helping with contact tracing. This will remain while in level two. Fingers crossed not for too much longer.

Team Photos Wednesday 9th September - 3:30pm

U6, U8 Yellow and Black team photos. **Wednesday September 9th**. Please be at the rugby grounds by 3.30pm, **in full uniform including team socks please**. Mingle around the deck with your teammates and coach. We realise not everyone can make this time – let us know if you are going to be late. If your child is going to be absent please notify your coach, so we do not wait for you. Training will follow once all photos are finished.

Photos need to be ordered and PAID FOR - \$10 per photo. We can only order photos that are paid for on the day so please remember to bring money. Or pay directly into the JAB Bank account, put child's name as reference and email Kirby to let her know.

EKETAHUNA JAB RUGBY - BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER 02-0724-0103953-00

Chairperson: Ben Johnston bpjohnston77@hotmail.com JAB Secretary : KirbyDuffy 06 3758119 lanceandkirby@inspire.net.nz

Facebook – Eketahuna JAB Rugby

An excerpt from the letter "Macron to be Added to Eketāhuna" written to the Ministry of Education by Whaea Everlyne Chase:

The correct way to pronounce and write the word of our School, is Eketāhuna not Eketahuna.

The macron has been inserted above the first a in the name, Eketāhuna. By doing this, we pronounce the a with a longer sound, which makes the meaning of the name more when it was given by the Rangitāne^[1] iwi, who have lived on the land now known as Tararua and Wairarapa for the past 30 generations.

The word 'eke' means to rise up onto, an example 'eke hoiho' up on a horse, 'he waka eke noa' we all on this boat together. The word 'tāhuna' means a sandbank.

Eketāhuna was given this name by the Rangitāne iwi, due to the Makakahi river that flows through and around the township. As with many rivers, there are bends and straights, as well as shallow and deep areas. When the Rangitāne people travelled through this area, by river on their waka tiwai^[2] (small canoe) which was originally called Te Tapere Nui o Whatonga (The Great Domain of Whatonga)^[3], they too encountered shallow and deep areas. As they got closer to where the town now stands, they found that the Makakahi river became narrow and quite shallow, causing them to get out of their waka tiwai, lift it onto a sandy or stoney type shore, and carried over land until the river became wider and deeper to put their waka tiwai into and continue their journey by river.^[4]

In very recent times, the correct spelling of the name Eketāhuna, has been displayed through the local Fire Brigade, the Eketāhuna Our Town Committee^[5], The Wairarapa Times Age and the New Zealand Geographic Board.

^[1] Manahi Paewai – Cultural Advisor for Rangitāne o Tamaki nui ā Rua/Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust

Mike Kawana – Cultural Advisor for Rantiāne o Wairarapa/Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust

^[2] Russell Gaskin, Warren Chase & Bridget Wellwood – members of the Waka Park Committee

^[3] Dorothy Ropiha – Historian for Rangitāne Waitangi Tribunal Claims

^[4] Mike Kawana & Manahi Paewai

^[5] Eketāhuna Our Town Committee meeting on www.eketahuna.co.nz