

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

COMING UP:

Friday 19 May: Celebration Assembly - Pūtara as Hosts
Wednesday 24th May: Year 7 & 8 Technology @ Tararua College

Friday 26 May: Celebration Assembly - Nireaha as Hosts
Thursday 1 June: School Road Race
Friday 2 June: Pasifika Day - come in your island gear!
Monday 5 June: King's Birthday - Public Holiday **School Closed**

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

We have had another fantastic week here at school with lots of quality teaching and learning along with a definite shift to winter weather with frosty morning starts. We are continuing with our daily cross country training and look forward to seeing you on the 1st of June at the school event!



CASES ON THE RISE THIS TERM

The incidence of COVID-19 infections across the Tararua area has increased recently and it is probable that this increase will continue over the next few weeks. We have a small number of new cases here at school and want to remind families that if children appear unwell to keep them home and they do need to test for Covid. We have RATs available if needed and whanau health packs from Whaiora. Please notify the school if your child has covid and they will need to stay home for 7 days or until they test negative. For more information, tests or packs, please contact the school office.

A REMINDER REGARDING VAPING AT SCHOOL FOR STAFF, CAREGIVERS & STUDENTS

As per the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Vaping) Amendment Act 2020, which came into effect on 11 November 2020, all schools, kura, early learning services, and kōhanga reo must be smoke and vape-free both indoors and outdoors, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To maintain a healthy and safe environment for our students and staff, we strictly enforce a no-vaping policy on our school premises. Vaping, which involves the use of electronic cigarettes or similar devices, is prohibited at all times, including during school hours, after-school activities, and any school-related events or functions. We kindly request your cooperation and support in ensuring that our school remains a smoke and vape-free zone. We encourage you to have open conversations with your children about the risks associated with vaping and the importance of adhering to the school's policy. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy, please feel free to contact the school office. We appreciate your understanding and partnership in maintaining a healthy and supportive learning environment for all.



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

It is great seeing everyone in school on Fridays, at the school assembly at 2:15pm, in the hall. Check the school calendar on our website online for dates. It's a great opportunity to share the successes children have had throughout the week. Tomorrow's assembly will be hosted by students from Pūtara. Principal Award: Wk3 Carlos Cresswell for showing initiative & being responsible.



Week 3 Class Awards – Star Student:

For great work done in class and related to learning throughout the week:

Hukanui: Amelia Webber
Hāmua: Maia Cremen
Rongomai: Maisyn Parr
Nireaha: Annabeth Read
Pūtara: Heidi Hanson

Week 3 Caught Being Good Award – Duffy Book:

Outstanding behaviour that exemplifies our school values and expectations:

Hukanui: Nikora Van der Wiel
Hāmua: Heath Dennison
Rongomai: Renee Dennison
Nireaha: Pounamu Roiri
Pūtara: Priscilla Taiaroa-Stafford

WEEKLY UPDATE

HUKANUI NEWS: (ROOM 1)

Kia ora all. It is great to see the sunshine after these frosty mornings. We have been busy working on learning our sight words in Hukanui. The children are enjoying the practical ways such as playing hopscotch with the words, jumping them and throwing bean bags at them. Keep up the great learning of these children. We have started looking at our next topic, looking at the Art of Samoa. We have started to look at the symmetry in many of them. The children have been putting a lot of effort into their writing and have been creating poems about the Autumn leaves. Please remember that we are training for the road race and the children need their shoes and water bottles. Remember any queries do not hesitate to contact me on mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz Thanks, Marilyn.

RONGOMAI NEWS: (ROOM 2)

Kia ora whanau

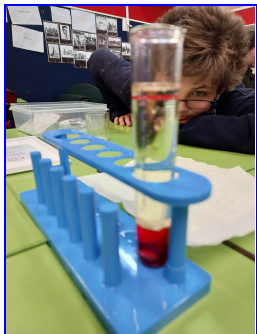
We have been diving into the science kit looking at fireworks again. We have looked at how the colours of the fireworks are created, students have taken a huge interest in this experiment plus have come up with other experiments that they would like to explore. In writing, our focus is changing from poetic writing to narrative writing with students seeming very keen to be delving into, which we will be doing over the next few weeks. Just a reminder that all students need to bring a water bottle to school as students are coming in very thirsty after fitness in the morning and in the afternoon after road race training. As always, get in touch if you need to. Either by texting the office or emailing hjohnston@eketahuna.school.nz. Nga mihi, Holly

HAMUA NEWS: (ROOM 3)

It's safe to say I don't know what each day is bringing me until the bell goes at 9am. We have had a lot of kids away, for various reasons, over the last week, but rest assured that the rest of us are marching on with our class activities. We have begun our Topic this week, looking at Samoa and the Art of Samoa. Today we learned how to find Eketāhuna on the NZ map and on the globe, and how to track the tectonic plates up the Pacific Ocean to find Samoa. If you have a way to do this at home, ask the kids to show you. Maps, globes and phones are all very useful here. It's great to see the winter sports in full swing. Road Race training continues - please keep up with the drink bottles. Thanks for your ongoing support, Rachael.

HOUSE OF SCIENCE KIT A HIT IN RONGOMAI & NIREAHA

Students are enjoying 'House of Science' kits this term. Each class has chosen a topic for the term. Currently Rongomai and Nireaha have the unit Fireworks - Pahūahi. From 'fireworks' in a test tube to changing the colour of a candle flame, students have been enjoying the exciting activities. There are many opportunities to predict, observe and explain natural phenomena, especially in the context of fire. What is the fire triangle? What are the different zones in a candle flame and what is happening in each zone? What creates the colours in fireworks? All these questions are explored in a safe but engaging way!



ROAD RACE PREPARATION

In preparation for our upcoming Road Race, students are training daily at school to improve their physical conditioning and build up stamina for the upcoming event. Please ensure they have appropriate clothing and shoes with them each day. The Road Race will be held at school on Thursday 8th June. **We will need parent helpers on the day - if you are available please contact the school office and speak to Leona or email our Sports Co-ordinator Dean Parsons via dparsons@eketahuna.school.nz**



NIREAHA NEWS: (ROOM 5)

We have been busy honing our multiplication skills and I'm thrilled to see great progress. Students are working hard to solve a range of multiplication and division problems.

This week we have started narrative writing. The students are developing their settings, characters and sequences of events to create great stories.

Preparation for the upcoming Cultural Festival is well underway. We are working with Putara and Rongomai to create our performance. We are looking forward to performing on the 29th June.

Lastly, our students are hitting the ground running, literally, as they work on their fitness for the upcoming Road Race. They are challenged to run more and more each day. The race is the equivalent of 6 times round our school field. We can do this!

PUTARA NEWS: (ROOM 6)

Kia ora, whānau

It's always great catching up with ex pupils and listening to just how well they're doing. Luke 'The Duke' Downer and Ben 'Muscles' McWhiteley popped into school today. Great chatting guys!

Pūtara, not long before the road race; therefore, hit the road in your spare time. Think about all the mathematics involved with running!

Continuous data in terms of heartbeats...

Discrete data i.e. how far I've run each day...

**STUDENTS 'OFF' BUSES**

CAN WE ASK PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF ANY BUS STUDENTS WHO ARE BEING TAKEN OFF THE AFTERNOON BUSES TO PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW BEFORE 2:30PM. LATE 'RING INS' ARE HARD TO MONITOR AND WE WANT TO AVOID ANY MIX UPS AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY.

**CELL PHONES:**

STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO HAVE PHONES OR DEVICES OF ANY DESCRIPTION ON THEM AT SCHOOL. THEY ARE NOT TO USE THEM ON THE SCHOOL BUSES EITHER. IF THEY DO NEED TO BRING ONE THEY ARE TO BE HANDED INTO THE OFFICE BEFORE SCHOOL. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT WITH THIS ISSUE.

**SCHOOL RUBBISH:**

WE ARE ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO PUT FOOD 'WRAPPINGS' & PACKAGING BACK IN THEIR LUNCH BOXES ONCE THEY HAVE EATEN AT BREAK TIMES. WE ARE CONTINUING TO KEEP THE AMOUNT OF RUBBISH DOWN HERE AT SCHOOL. THANKS.

**PASIFIKA CELEBRATION DAY**

Friday 2nd June

We will be celebrating all that is Pasifika, with a special focus on Samoa's traditions, language and our school sasa – so come in your lava lava or any Pasifika island attire for a colourful, fun day!

REMINDER – OFFICE HOURS

Our School Office is open between 8:30am – 3:30pm on Monday to Friday.

SCHOOL START TIME

Please be aware that there are no staff to supervise children before 8am in the morning. We have children arriving as early as 7:45am and classes are not open until 8:15 – 8:30am. No children should be on site before that time.



INDOOR HOCKEY DRAW Week 3 - MONDAY 22nd MAY



Eke (U7)
vs Pah Rua
3.20 pm

Eke Dragons (U9)
vs Woodville
3.40 pm

Eke Thunder (U11)
vs Pah Ono
4.20 pm

Upcoming Board Of Trustees Meeting

The next Eketāhuna School Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st June at 6.30pm in the Eketāhuna School staff room, everyone is welcome to attend and if you have any items for the agenda please let me know by 5pm 16th June with all relevant information.



I am contactable on:

botchair@eketahuna.school.nz or 3758059.
Warmest Regards , Skye White Chairperson ,
Eketāhuna Board of Trustees

JAB Timetable for this Saturday 20th May.

U6: 9am - Eketahuna vs Gladstone Cheetahs –
Pioneer Rugby Grounds, Masterton

U6: 9:30am Eketahuna vs Gladstone Tigers

U8: 9am – Eketahuna vs Marist – Pioneer Rugby
Grounds, Masterton

U8: 9:30am Eketahuna vs Tuhirangi

U10 – HOME GAME – Eketahuna Rugby Grounds

U10: 11:30am - Eketahuna vs East Coast

U11- HOME GAME – Eketahuna Rugby Grounds

U11: 11am – Eke/Coast vs Gladstone

BUS SAFETY REMINDERS



We have been asked by GoBus to issue a general reminder that the speed limit for passing a stationary school bus that is dropping off or picking up children is 20kph in either direction. Further, please remember that children can sometimes run out into the road without looking, and the school bus is a large obstacle that obstructs

their view of the road. Also, if you are following a large vehicle that suddenly slows on a rural road, don't assume you can overtake; it might have spotted a school bus and is obscuring your vision of it. On rural roads it's possible to come around a corner and find a school bus on the side of the road, not leaving you much opportunity to slow down. Please take care in all these situations - especially at school run times - be prepared to have to slow down. Thank you.



NOTIFYING SCHOOL WHEN CHILDREN ARE ABSENT IS ESSENTIAL

Your child should go to school every day. But sometimes they might need to be away because they are too sick to attend, have an appointment or need to be at a tangi or funeral. If your child is going to be away from school you need to let us know as soon as possible. You will need to let us know that your child will be away, why and for how long.

Your child's safety and wellbeing is a priority for us. We monitor the daily attendance of students to:

- ensure their safety both in getting to school, & in accounting for them in an emergency
- identify students with achievement, engagement, or other issues
- meet our legal responsibilities.

The school expects parents and caregivers to:

- notify the school if their child is going to be absent by phone, text, or email by 9 am
- try to arrange appointments etc. outside school hours or in holidays

If your child doesn't turn up to school and we don't hear from you, we will get in touch with you to make sure your child/ren are safe. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.



