

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 25 July: Celebration Assembly @ 2:15pm - Pūtara hosts
 Wednesday 30 July: Tararua 7 Aside Tournament Year 5 - 8 in Pahiatua
 Wednesday 30 July: Board of Trustees Meeting @ 6:30pm

Friday 1 August: Tararua 7 Aside Tournament Postponement Date
 Friday 1 August: School Wheels Day
 Tuesday 5 August: Manawatu Netball Sessions for School
 Wednesday 6 August: Technology for Yr 7 & 8 in Pahiatua
 Friday 8 August: Polar Bear Swim & Winter Woolly Day!

SCHOOL CLOSURE TERM 3 - PLEASE NOTE DATE

We will be closed for instruction on
Friday 22nd August, for Mid Term Break & Staff Only Day

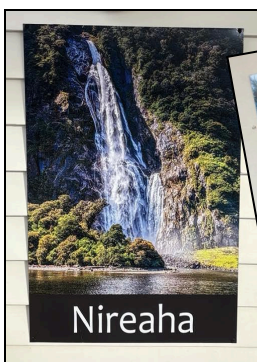


Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura o Ekētahuna,
 We're off to a fantastic start to Term 3! It was wonderful to see our tamariki return last week full of energy, ready to learn, and reconnect with their friends. A highlight of the week was our Mihi Whakatau on Friday morning, where our students helped welcome new ākonga and their whānau into our kura. It was a special occasion, followed by a delicious shared morning tea. This week has continued with the same positive momentum—classrooms are full of focused learners, creative ideas, and some exciting new learning experiences. The playground has been buzzing too with new signage being installed and sports practise for next week's 7 Aside competition. We're looking forward to the rest of the term ahead—as always, thank you for your ongoing support.



NEW SCHOOL SIGNAGE - THANKS TO FUNDING FROM HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

You may have noticed some fantastic new signage popping up around our school and town! These were created by Select Signs in Masterton, using designs based on our school's plans and vision, and generously funded by our amazing Home & School Association. On site, we now have clear and professional new signs including pool rules, classroom names, and a welcoming office sign. A real standout is the brilliant enlarged copy of a Sarah Platt artwork—which now brightens the courtyard entry. We're also looking forward to the installation of a stunning window graphic featuring a Tararua Range view that will enhance the admin block and make a beautiful first impression when arriving at school. Out in town, signage featuring images of tamariki and our school name has been installed on the Health Centre fence helping to share the pride and presence of Ekētahuna School within the wider community. A huge thank you to our Home & School team for helping make this project happen—it's made a real impact already!



CLASS UPDATES

HUKANUI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,

Another busy week here in Hukanui. We have been busy learning about 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes. The children are going around picking out cylinders, spheres, boxes and cones and are quite intrigued about where we can find them in the playground. We have been working with Hamua, doing some buddy music and p.e. I don't think that we will make the symphony orchestra but our soccer skills are improving. We have been working hard to use our values and get ticks on our charts. Please encourage your child to do their home reading daily and bring their book and book bags back to school..this is a really important part of their literacy learning.

Thanks, Marilyn. mwhiteley@eketahuna.school.nz

HAMUA NEWS:

Kia ora Whanau, it's been another busy week in Hāmua. The highlight was our reward afternoon on Thursday. The students earned 100 dojo points last term and after sharing some ideas, they all agreed that a Teddy Bears' picnic would be a great way to celebrate. We had lots of fun with our various soft toys, who came to school for the day. We made miniature nibbles, for our visiting friends, out of different 2D and 3D shaped foods. The children worked in groups, followed written instructions on how to make the kai, and then were able to 'help' their friends eat it. There was some dancing and games and lots of smiles. It was a great way to celebrate the effort all of the children have put into living our values each day at school.

Ngā mihi, Amanda. afowldshartley@eketahuna.school.nz

RONGOMAI NEWS:

It's been a great week at school as we settle into new routines and build positive classroom habits. In maths, we've been exploring **measurement**, learning how to estimate and accurately measure length using rulers and metre sticks. The students have enjoyed hands-on activities and are growing in confidence with their skills. Everyone is adjusting well to classroom expectations and showing great teamwork and focus. We're also getting excited for **Sports Day next Wednesday**—another fun day outdoors! If your child is joining the soccer team, please ensure your child has their hat, water bottle, sport shoes and shin guards ready for the big day! Enjoy the weekend which is just around the corner.

Francois Crous fcrous@eketahuna.school.nz

STUDENTS 'OFF' BUSES

A REMINDER FOR NEXT TERM FOR PARENTS & 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 & WANT TO AVOID ANY MIX UPS AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY. THANKS



KEEP UNWELL CHILDREN AT HOME

WE STILL WANT TO ENSURE EVERYONE IS WELL & HEALTHY, SO IF YOUR CHILD FEELS UNWELL, PLEASE KEEP THEM AT HOME. REMEMBER, IF YOUR CHILD HAS A TUMMY BUG, VOMITING OR DIARRHOEA THEY CANNOT RETURN TO SCHOOL FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS AFTER THEY WERE LAST SICK OR HAD A LOOSE MOTION. DON'T FORGET TO KEEP WASHING YOUR HANDS TOO! THANK YOU.



DEVICES AT SCHOOL

STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO HAVE PHONES OR DEVICES OF ANY DESCRIPTION ON THEM AT SCHOOL. IF THEY DO NEED TO BRING ONE THEY ARE TO BE HANDED INTO THE OFFICE BEFORE SCHOOL & COLLECTED AT THE END OF THE DAY. NO PHONES SHOULD BE USED DURING BUS RIDES TO OR FROM SCHOOL EITHER. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT WITH THIS.



BUS CODE OF CONDUCT

A significant number of school students at Eketāhuna travel on buses to attend school. All students have the right to a safe and enjoyable journey between home and school. In the morning, a pleasant trip to school can set the tone for a day of productive learning. We have a Bus Code of Conduct which provides guidelines for those involved in the safe travel of school students on buses. All students are required to read the bus code of conduct with their parents & caregivers, sign the school bus code of conduct and abide by the expectations. We really want all students to have a safe & enjoyable trip!



ATTEND TODAY
ACHIEVE TOMORROW

REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REMINDER

School attendance has a direct impact on academic achievement. In order to make the most of educational

opportunities, students must have consistent, punctual daily attendance. Remember the Ministry of Education requires students to attend school around 95% of each term. The days away have a huge impact on the progress students can make with their learning, which is why a doctor's certificate is required for more than three consecutive days away. We hope to see ALL students healthy and attending regularly. Thank you very much.

NIREAHA NEWS:

Kia Orana! Tech for our year 7s restarted yesterday and it sounds like they had a fabulous day. Back at school, the year 6s and I had our own version of tech where we baked some chocolate chip cookies & discovered how one recipe can have very different outcomes yet both taste delicious! "Dragons Den" pitches are in full swing as the students are learning how to persuade others to invest in their 'products' and a fun experience to prepare for speeches later in the term. The students are loving our oral language unit of plays and drama as they learn how to portray different characters! Who knew Nireaha was full of such great actors/actresses.

All the best to our netball, football and rugby 7s teams for the Bush Tournament next Wednesday - enjoy the day, have fun and remember to show our Eke School values!

Have a fabulous week 😊 Miss T kthomas@eketahuna.school.nz



PUTARA NEWS:

Kia ora Whanau, We had another great Tech day at Tararua College yesterday. What an awesome bunch! The students showed great skill and focus while designing photo frames and stitching their sports bags—ka pai!

We're learning how to persuade. Students are preparing their product pitches for our very own "Dragons' Den" next Tuesday—just like the TV show! Which pitches will convince classmates to invest their millions?

Polar Plunge sponsorship forms came home last week. Keep up the great work collecting sponsors for this chilly challenge on August 8th! Please keep these forms and the money safe and return them to school after the event. Let us know if you need a second form!

All the best to our netball and rugby 7s teams heading off to the Bush Tournament next Wednesday! We're proud of your skills—play hard, show great sportsmanship, and enjoy the experience.

We will be hosting the school assembly tomorrow—you're very welcome to join us!

Barb b.whitburn@eketahuna.school.nz

WHEELS DAY

Friday 1ST August

Children can bring a scooter, bike, drift trike, skateboard, roller skates or rollerblades to school. Areas across the school are zoned for activities.

Please make sure that you have a helmet and appropriate safety gear!



ANNUAL TARARUA BUSH 7-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT

Next Wednesday we will be taking students from our Year 5 & 6 and Year 7 & 8 classes to the Tararua Bush 7-A-Side Tournament in Pahiatua. The competition, run by Sport Manawatu, will see our students compete in rugby, football and netball.

A huge thanks to those parents who are coaches and/or managers for the day - your time and support is much appreciated. Also thanks to all those planning to come along and cheer on our teams along.

Kia kaha Eketāhuna!!



PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE DAILY

At school we have a filtered water bottle filler for students to access for fresh drinking water. Due to colds, bugs and germs we no longer have any shared drinking fountains operating so it is vital that all students come with their own water bottle. Please check that your child has their bottle, with their name on it, packed in their bag each day. Thank you for your support with this.

Board Of Trustees Meeting

Notice of Board Meeting to be held on Wednesday 30th July in the school staffroom at 6:30pm. If you have any items for the agenda please contact me with any relevant information by 5pm on 25th July 2025

063758059 or email me at:

botchair@eketahuna.school.nz.

Warmest regards,

Skye White - BOT Chairperson



EKETĀHUNA HOME & SCHOOL MEETING

Save the Date

Tuesday 16th September

@ 7pm

Eketāhuna School Staffroom

We look forward to seeing you there!



REMINDER - SCHOOL 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.



NO MONEY, TOYS OR VALUABLES AT SCHOOL



Students are encouraged NOT to bring money, toys or valuables to school.

Students have been asked to leave these items at home and we are asking parents to please be vigilant about checking what their tamariki have in their bags when leaving home in the morning.

If it is necessary to bring cash or something special, they should be left with Leona in the office for safekeeping. Please note the school will not be responsible for lost money, toys or valuables that are not left in the office.

REGULAR DENTAL VISITS FOR FREE

Free dental care is available from birth to 18 years old.

Call 0800 TALK TEETH for appointments or concerns.

If your child is not enrolled, please contact us at: 06 377 9071 or oralhealth@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz.

The Wairarapa Dental team is based at Masterton Intermediate School



SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TOMORROW

We have our school Celebration Assembly tomorrow, which will be hosted by students from Pūtara. It's a great opportunity to share the successes children have had throughout the week. We are looking forward to seeing you, in the hall, at 2:15pm where we will have Awards to give out and students to acknowledge...



POLAR BEAR SWIM

Friday 11th August



Year 7 & 8 camp fundraiser to raise funds for El Rancho.

Please look for sponsorship forms that came home!



Get on board!

Nominate yourself or someone you know
to be a school board member.

Nominations close 5pm, Friday 18th July