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 20 November: Senior Athletics 8+ Year Olds
Monday 23 November: Year 8 Day Out in Palmerston North
Wednesday 25 November: Road Patrol Training for New 2027 Team
Wednesday 25 November: Road Patrol Team 2027 Thank You BBQ Lunch
Wednesday 25 November: Board of Trustees Meeting @ 6:30pm
Friday 27 November: Interschool Bush Athletics @ Pahiatua
Monday 30 November: Interschool Bush Athletics @ Pahiatua (pp)
Wednesday 2 December: Technology for Year 7 & 8 @ Pahiatua

A SUCCESSFUL EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL SPRING SHOW 2026!






What an awesome day we had at our Spring Show last Friday! It was fantastic to see so many of our families and community members come along and enjoy the day with us. Our students were outstanding – from the creativity and effort put into their class exhibits to the care and dedication shown in preparing their pets. They certainly had plenty to be proud of! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success! Our judges, who generously gave their time and did a brilliant job, everyone who donated delicious baking for our Bake Sale, and our wonderful Home & School Association, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes setting up rings, serving drinks and running the busy cake stall. A special thank you to Property Brokers, who generously donated the sausages and bread for our BBQ, and to Mr and Mrs Thomas, who did an amazing job cooking and serving throughout the entire day! We really appreciated your efforts. Well done also to our Pūtara students, who did a fantastic job running their popular Soda Café and gala stalls, and to our amazing staff, who put so much time and effort into preparing activities and making the day run smoothly. And, of course, thank you to all our parents and whānau for your support leading up to and on the day! We were pretty lucky with the weather too – right up until prizegiving, when the heavens opened! But in true 'Eke style', everyone simply took shelter under the courtyard verandahs, kept smiling and carried on! A wonderful day, a fantastic community effort and another Spring Show to be proud of!

SPRING SHOW PET RESULTS









A great pets this year with hard decisions for all the judges! The Supreme Champion Calf was Madison Rankin and the Reserve Champion Calf was Liam Giddens. The Supreme Champion Lamb was Margot Algie and the Reserve Champion Lamb was Hugo Algie. The Horse Cup went to Lleucu Anderson The Best Small Pet was Dihasna Asangule and the winner of the Anderson Family Cup for Best Overall Pet was Georgia. Results from all pet competitions are on the back page of our newsletter. A huge congratulations to all our tamariki who brought along their pets - well done!

PET PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION WINNERS





We had some fantastic entries in this year's Pet Photography Competition at the Spring Show! Our judge, Kate Small, was highly impressed by the quality and creativity on display. 1st Place:Rhianna Jones (23), 2nd Place: Charlotte Smith (27), 3rd Place: Ayva Hudson (30). Well done to our winners, and to all our budding photographers - you all did a brilliant job!



EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL SPRING SHOW RAFFLE WINNER!

A big thank you to Bisset Honda for their generous donation of a fantastic goodie bag for our Spring Show raffle! We really appreciate their kindness and support of our school.
Congratulations to our lucky winner, Shirley Henderson! 🥳
Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and supported our Spring Show!

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY WEEK 5

It is great seeing everyone in school on Fridays, at the school assembly at 1:00pm, in the hall. Check the school calendar on our website online for dates. It's a great opportunity to come together and share the successes children have had throughout the week.
Our next assembly will be in Week 8, Friday 4th December.
It will be hosted by Pūtara. We look forward to seeing you there !





Term 4: Week 5 - Principal Award:	Term 4: Week 5 - In Class Star Student:	Term 4: Week 5 - Duffy Book - Values:
All Eketāhuna School Students Spring Show Stars For outstanding effort, enthusiasm and wonderful display of our school values throughout the Spring Show	**Hukanui**: Lydia Lochhead **Hāmua**: Takaiah **Rongomai**: Katie Plaisted **Nireaha**: James Rushbrook-Robinson **Pūtara**: Mikey Hammond	**Hukanui:** Ollie **Hāmua:** Senorita Van der Wiel **Rongomai:** Liam Giddens **Nireaha:** Ann Kent **Pūtara:** Zyana Crudis

SCHOOL POOL UPDATE - SWIMMING FROM WEEK 8!

Our caretaker, Mark Watson, is getting ready to prepare the school pool for swimming this term. The pool will be cleaned, checked out, and then – fingers crossed – refilled! With chlorine added and the heat pumps set to go, we're hopeful that swimming will start next week. Swimming will be a mix of casual, fun pool time, along with some important water safety refreshers, practice and reminders as we head towards the summer holidays. A great opportunity to enjoy the pool while reinforcing those important skills for staying safe in and around water! Please send your child with their togs, towel, goggles on Monday 30th November. Updates will be shared on our school Facebook page and Skool Loop to confirm when swimming will begin. Here's hoping for sunshine!



A1 Standards-Pride in Our Work!

Our school A1 Standards Awards aim to encourage students to take pride in their work and develop great learning habits. This award recognises students who care for their books, follow presentation expectations, and stay organised—from neat handwriting and correct dating to using the right equipment and finishing each page before starting a new one. It's all about the basics, valuing our learning and striving for excellence. Congratulations to: Rossy Dudan-Moore, Maddie Giddens, MJ Sinclair-Meehan, Phoenix Paul and Sophie!



House Team Leaders Award!

Our House Team Leaders Award is a new student-led initiative recognising children who demonstrate our school values during break times. Each week, our student leaders will be on the lookout for students showing respect, responsibility, resilience, and reflection in the playground. Recipients will be celebrated for their actions —a great way to build a supportive school community! Congratulations to: Katie Plaisted & Georgia!



STUDENT STATIONERY PACKS FOR 2027

We're delighted to confirm that our stationery pack system will continue next year! following the success of this year's trial. Thanks to generous donations from the E. L Herbert Trust & St Cuthbert's, and the Nireaha Domain Board, every student will receive a complete stationery pack for 2026, ready for collection on the first day of school.



Thanks to the kind donations, we have been able to heavily subsidise the cost of our 2027 student stationery packs, significantly reducing the amount families need to pay. We are incredibly grateful for this support, which helps make the start of the school year more affordable for everyone!

This approach ensures all students start the year with the correct equipment, avoids families purchasing incorrect items, and reduces delays that impact learning early in Term 1.
Info & order forms went home last week.

Please ensure the $20 payment is paid at the office by Friday, 4th December to secure your child's pack.

CLASS UPDATES

HUKANUI NEWS:

Kia ora whānau, It's been a busy few weeks in Hukanui. The Spring Show was such a special day. A highlight was seeing the children's focus and delight as they made their exhibits. The children who bought flowers from home were all so generous, offering to share their flowers with the other children. We've had three new visitors, Abigail, Jarvis and Caleb. The older children have been wonderful welcoming role models; which has made us feel very proud. There was disappointment when we couldn't proceed with athletics, but we are really hoping it will be fine for next Wednesday morning, so they can show what they have been learning over the past 6 weeks. We hope you can make it. We've noticed more children bringing lollies and toys to school. Please make sure your child is not putting these things in their bags. And while you're checking, check that they have a hat and water bottle each day. After our Sun Smart session with Nicola Hosking, which included making bracelets with beads that respond to light, they are aware of the importance of being protected from the sun. Children that don't have hats are required to play on the deck but they much prefer the freedom to move around, so please help them to be prepared for the school day. Wishing you a restful weekend. Ngā mihi nui, Amanda and Kate. afowldshartley@eketahuna.school.nz, kmckay@eketahuna.school.nz

HĀMUA NEWS:

Kia ora whānau,
What a great day we had at the Spring Show. The children worked so well on their classroom activities, and I was so impressed with how prepared they were. They got straight into their work and created some amazing things. Well done, everyone. It was also lovely to see all the pets visiting school. The children were so well behaved on the day. Well done. Unfortunately, we couldn't get Mini Athletics underway yesterday, but fingers crossed for better weather next Wednesday. Good luck to our 8-year-olds participating in the School Athletics tomorrow. I hope you have a fantastic time. The 6- and 7-year-olds and I will be there to cheer you on!
We have also been busy completing our end-of-year assessments. It is so lovely to see the growth and progress the children have made this year. I am very proud! b.whitburn@eketahuna.school.nz

RONGOMAI NEWS:

Kia Ora whānau, Rongomai has been a lovely, busy and positive place over the past two weeks. Following a very successful and enjoyable Spring Day, we are now wrapping up most of our in-class assessments and beginning to look ahead to the final few weeks of the school year. We are looking forward to our school athletics on Friday. It would be wonderful to see whānau come along and support our amazing athletes as they give it their best! The students are practising well for the end of year prize giving and I am so proud of their commitment and determination this time of the year. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We hope you all have a lovely weekend! **Mr Crous** fcrous@eketahuna.school.nz

NIREAHA NEWS:

Kia ora whanau! What a brilliant Spring Show! It was great to see everyone's hard work come together, both through their artwork and the care and dedication shown towards their animals. Congratulations to those who attended Bush Ag Day too. It sounds like a fantastic day! We are enjoying our last few weeks of 2026 with research projects, writing letters to people who inspire us (and asking some very thoughtful questions!), turning our year into comic books as we review highs and best bits as well as continuing to get ready for Athletics tomorrow. We look forward to seeing lots of whānau there to enjoy a great day of field events! Arohanui, Miss T kthomas@eketahuna.school.nz

PŪTARA NEWS:

Kia ora everybody. I hope this week's newsletter finds you all well. It's been a jam packed couple of weeks. Starting to think about reports, it has been a good time to reflect on just how far Pūtara students have come this year. They have really worked hard to make their own gains, personally and academically. Our recent Spring Show was a great day. It was awesome to see our senior students come up with some creative entries, as well as do a fantastic job of organising their stalls. They were enjoyed by students and adults alike. Coming up, we have a very busy 3 weeks with a number of events and outings. Our school athletics is scheduled for tomorrow, Year 8 Day Out on Monday next week, and (fingers crossed) our Golf Challenge day next Thursday. I hope to catch up with you at one or more of these events.
Mr. Pallister - spallister@eketahuna.school.nz



Eketāhuna School

Upcoming Board of Trustees Meeting

Notice of Board Meeting to be held on **Wednesday 25th November, 2026** in the school staff room at **6:30pm.**

If you have any items for the agenda please contact our Board Chair, Skye White, with any relevant information by: **Friday 20th November.**

063758059 | botchair@eketahuna.school.nz

STUDENT NUMBERS 2027

We are at the time of the year when we begin to look ahead and plan for 2026. If it is likely that your child/ren will not be returning to Eketāhuna School for 2026, please advise the school.

If you have younger siblings of current students at home, who will be attending Eketāhuna School in 2027, or know of any new families planning to join us next year, can you also please contact the school. Thank you. 😀

Please phone Leona in the office on: 375 8191 or our school mobile on 022 368 1830.



SCHOOL RESOURCE RETURN

We still have many junior readers and other school resources needing to be returned after Book Bags with homework have been taken home.



All resources sent out to families were recorded and we have asked for their return. If we do not have them returned we will be obliged to invoice families for the outstanding school supplies.

To avoid receiving an account please return all outstanding resources as soon as possible!

HOME READING BOOKS AMNESTY

We are asking for all Eketāhuna School junior readers and library books to please be returned. Please have a hunt around your homes for any books you might have that belong to School - drop them into the school office - **NO** questions asked! The 'missing books' can add up to be a costly item, eg, junior readers alone are worth around $10 each and with many going home nightly never to return, it is a cost to the school. Thank you.





HOCKEY DRAW - TUESDAY 24th NOVEMBER	Eke Quicksticks (U11)	Eke Strikers (U11)
It seems like the rain likes to visit Eke and Pahiatua on a Tuesday! Another week cancelled due to the weather and wet conditions on the pitch. We will continue with the Round Six Draw next week. Good luck Eke!	vs Woodville @ 4.30pm Turf 4	vs Pahiatua Silver @ 4.30pm Turf 3

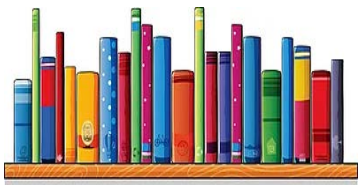
EKETAHUNA CHRISTMAS PARADE

Coming up on Saturday 28th November is the annual Santa Cruise in Eketāhuna. The event organisation will again have the parade going down Alfredton Road and to the town Community Centre where community stalls, and our Home & School BBQ will be on! This year we will have one float. Information and permission slips came home to those students wanting to participate this week. Please get the forms returned to the office as soon as possible.



RETURN SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOKS

We still have many books missing from our school library. These are a treasured school resource and would like them all returned. We enjoy issuing them to our students but will have to review this system if we find the number of missing books is not reduced. We will also need to invoice parents for the cost of the missing items. To avoid receiving an account please return all outstanding books asap!



EKETĀHUNA SPRING SHOW 2026 SHOW RESULTS

CATEGORY:	FIRST:	SECOND:	THIRD:
LAMBS - JUNIOR			
Care & Attention	1.Margot Algie	2.Freddie Algie	3.Harry Capes
Leading	1.Margot Algie	2.Freddie Algie	3.Harry Capes
Calling	1.Freddie Algie	2.Sophie	3.Ava Braddick
LAMBS - INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR			
Care & Attention	1.Braxton Duffy	2.Neive Davis	3.Rylan Carrington
Leading	1.Neive Davis	2.Charlotte Smith	3.Rylan Carrington
Calling	1.Rylan Carrington	2.Rhianna Jones	3.Neive Davis
CALVES			
Care & Rearing	1.Maddie Giddens	2.Madison Rankin	3.Liam Giddens
Leading	1.Olivia Capes	2.Liam Giddens	3.Chelsea Spring
Type / Breed	1.Madison Rankin	2.Liam Giddens	3.Maddie Giddens
HORSES & PONIES			
Best Presented	1.Lleucu Anderso	2.Katie Plaisted	
Best Walk & Trot	1.Katie Plaisted	2.Lleucu Anderson	
Combination	1.Lleucu Anderson	1.Katie Plaisted	
Care & Attention	1.Lleucu Anderson	2.Katie Plaisted	
SMALL PETS			
Overall Care & Attention	Dihasna Asangule	Saul Opie	Ann Kent

EKETĀHUNA SPRING SHOW - ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & THANKS!

HUGE THANKS TO THE WONDERFUL EKETĀHUNA HOME & SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR ALL THE WORK THAT WENT INTO ENSURING IT WAS A GREAT DAY!

PET JUDGES:
Richard Thurston, Rose-Marie McGhie, Emma Kelson, Anna Brown, Marie Reddington, Brad Anderson, Courtney Stewart, Liam Cooper, Ella Shannon, and Daryn Peterson. Jess Willets and Mark Watson.

CLASS ACTIVITY JUDGES:
Kate Small & Leona Hayes.

PET PHOTOGRAPHY JUDGE:
Kate Small

SPONSORS:
Richard Thurston Silver Fern Farms - Supplying meat for our BBQ
Property Brokers - Supplying bread & sausages for our BBQ

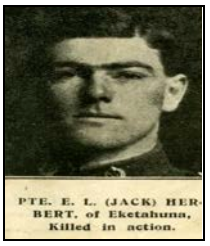
HELPERS ON THE BBQ:
Mr and Mrs Thomas (help from Destiny Aitken)



Generous Donation from E.L. Herbert Memorial Trust & St Cuthbert Church



We are incredibly grateful to have again received a $1,000 donation from the E.L. Herbert Memorial Trust, administered through our local St Cuthbert Church. This funding is specifically designated to support children in Eketāhuna who may need a helping hand. Thanks to this generous support, we can again provide more class stationery items in 2026, reducing costs for students and families. Contributions like these make it possible for our school to enhance educational experiences and create a welcoming, supportive community for all. Our heartfelt thanks to St Cuthbert Church and the E.L. Herbert Memorial Trust for this thoughtful gesture that will benefit all children!





EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL SURVEY



A reminder to our school whānau that our Community Survey is now open! The link was emailed out by the school office, and we would really appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts.
Your feedback is important and will help guide our Board's strategic planning & future direction for Eketāhuna School.
Please complete the survey by Monday 23rd November.
Thank you for taking the time to have your say.
We value your input and look forward to hearing from you!

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS NIREAHA DOMAIN BOARD

We have been the lucky recipients of a $2,000 donation from the Nireaha Domain Board. The ongoing generous support from this group makes it possible for our school to offer great educational opportunities and to make the school community a great place to be. These funds have been donated to help with subsidising school stationery packs, learning resources & textbooks. All of our children will benefit from this very kind gesture - it is truly appreciated - thank you!!





