

# 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:

**Thursday 20 March:** Cyber Safety Evening @ 6:30pm - Video Presentation  
**Friday 21 March:** Celebration Assembly @ 2:15pm - Hāmua to host  
**Monday 24 March:** Teacher & Parent Meetings for Rongomai  
**Wednesday 26 March:** Technology @ Pahiataua for Year 7 & 8 students

**Wednesday 26 March:** Teacher & Parent Meetings for all classes  
**Thursday 27 March:** Teacher & Parent Meetings (except Rongomai)  
**Friday 28 March:** Celebration Assembly @ 2:15pm - Hukanui to host  
**Friday 28 March:** School Wheels Day  
**Friday 4 April:** Celebration Assembly @ 2:15pm - Nireaha to host  
**Sunday 6 April:** Eketāhuna School Golf Tournament - Fundraiser

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura Ekētāhuna! What a great week it's been, despite the sudden change in weather - where did summer disappear to?! Our classrooms have been full of engaged learners, and it's been fantastic to see so much focus and enthusiasm across the school. We're also looking forward to welcoming parents and caregivers tonight for the Cyber Safety Video Presentation—an important conversation in keeping our tamariki safe online. See you there!



## HOUSE TEAM LEADERS SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

Last Friday, our House Team Leaders had the wonderful opportunity to help out at the St. Cuthbert's Community Lunch. Lana Hanson, Lucy White, Chelsea Spring and Ariki Wihone were outstanding representatives for our school, enthusiastically pouring drinks, serving meals, and even tackling the dishes! The event organisers were full of praise for our students, saying: "They did a great job as per usual and were quite busy too! They are always polite and helpful, and we couldn't do it without them." The lunch raised an impressive \$470, with \$232 going towards an oxy/pulse meter for the ambulance and the remainder supporting the foodbank with new shelving—a fantastic contribution to two very worthy causes! Ka pai, team. What a great way to give back to our community!

## PARKING SAFETY REMINDER - PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR STUDENTS SAFE

A friendly reminder to park safely and legally around the school, especially during pick-up times. We've noticed an increase in cars parking on dotted yellow lines and grass verges, which is a serious safety concern. This not only blocks visibility for our road patrol but also puts students and pedestrians at risk. The local Police have raised concerns and will be doing random drive-by checks to monitor parking. Please be mindful of where you park to avoid any issues. What you can do to help:

- Park in designated areas and avoid stopping on yellow lines, grass verges, or footpaths.
- Be patient and considerate to ensure a safe and smooth pick-up process.
- Keep clear visibility around the Kea Crossing so our road patrol can do their job safely.

We appreciate your support in keeping our students and whānau safe. Thanks for your cooperation!



## 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 our Year 2 & 3 students from Hāmua.

We look forward to seeing you!



### Week 7 - Principal Award:

**Maclane King**  
 RESILIENT - gaining excellence at Tech  
**Rylan Carrington**  
 RESPONSIBLE & RESPECTFUL  
 Role model during assembly practise

### Week 7 - In Class Star Student:

**Hukanui:** Lukah Hoera-Bengston  
**Hāmua:** Kaius Morgan  
**Rongomai:** Litarah Taiaroa  
**Nireaha:** Piper Neilsen  
**Pūtara:** Maclane King

### Week 7 - Duffy Book for Values:

**Hukanui:** Tangaroa Taipapa-Hohaia  
**Hāmua:** Freddie Algie  
**Rongomai:** Hugo Algie  
**Nireaha:** Renee Dennison  
**Pūtara:** Braxton Carrington

# WEEKLY UPDATE

## HUKANUI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,

A great week in Hukanui. We have been busy creating, building and working together. Wet lunchtimes are the best place to practise these skills. For Maths, we are working on recognising our numerals, and making sets to 5, 10 or 20. The next learning step to this is pulling them apart. Asking them questions such as If I have 3 apples how many more do I need to make 5 apples? Is a great way to make their learning practical. Please remember to book in for Parent Interviews next week. This is a fantastic time to see how your children are tracking. Thanks. Marilyn.

## HĀMUA:

**Cead mile a fáilte**, a hundred thousand welcomes. I couldn't miss the opportunity, in the week that St Patrick's day falls to welcome you all in Gaelic, to Hāmua's assembly. The children are very excited to be performing for you and have had a lot of fun practicing their moves for their song. Unfortunately Mrs Morgan can not be there to enjoy it with the children but, for those of you that can make it there, I am sure your children will be thrilled to have you watching them. Their enthusiasm is infectious. I hope you are all booking in to meet with me next week at the parent meetings. I am really looking forward to sharing your child's progress with you, and discussing how we can work together to get the best outcomes for your child.

Ngāmihi, Whaea Amanda.

## RONGOMAI NEWS:

Kia ora whanau,

Well done to our very own Lucas and Maia for participating in the Weetbix Tryathlon in Palmerston North on Tuesday. A great effort indeed! In class, we have been navigating our way into using Studyladder. This is a great way to support and scaffold new learning across literacy and maths. Thank you to Home & School for sponsoring this programme. The weather has not held us back from doing our small ball activities in the afternoons. We have been using our creative thinking hat to practise our skills within the classroom instead! I am very much looking forward to seeing you at the interviews next week. Until then, nga mihi, Miss Mac 😊

## A1 Standards Award Taking Pride in Our Work

We are introducing the A1 Standards Award 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: Mack Duffy, Sean Bartolome, Olivia Capes, Liam Giddens, and Riley Andrews



## 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 positive actions and leadership—a great way to build a strong, supportive school community! Congratulations to: Isla Doornbos Lamb and Brodie Braddick! Well done!



## 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.



## CELL PHONES

A REMINDER THAT STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO HAVE PHONES OR DEVICES OF ANY DESCRIPTION ON THEM AT SCHOOL. IF THEY DO NEED TO BRING A DEVICE OR PHONE TO SCHOOL, THEY ARE TO BE HANDED INTO THE OFFICE BEFORE SCHOOL. THANK YOU!



## 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. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.





**NIREAHA NEWS:**

It's been a very exciting and productive week in Nireaha! Students have been tackling new challenges, adding on to their current knowledge and thriving in both guided groups and independent tasks. I am looking forward to meeting and connecting with many of you next week at Parent-Teacher meetings as we work together to support your child's learning.

Tonight is our CyberSafety evening at 6.30pm as we gain valuable knowledge to support our students whilst online. I hope to see you there!

**PŪTARA NEWS:****Cyber Safety Evening – Tonight at 6:30 PM**

Navigating the challenges of the digital age is no easy task, and a little bit scary! —I know I have a lot to learn both as a teacher and as a parent of a 14-year-old. I'm looking forward to gaining valuable knowledge and practical tools to support our students. I hope to see you here too!

Meanwhile, Putara students are thriving! They are demonstrating fantastic leadership—managing a lunchtime sports gear system, organising the upcoming school discos, and taking care of younger classes during this morning's wet break. It's wonderful to see their responsibility and teamwork in action!

Thank you to the whānau who have already booked a meeting time with me for next week! If you haven't yet, I'd love for you to do so. 😊

**TOUCH RUGBY DRAW - FRIDAY 21st March**

This week sees the start of the quarter-finals for the under 11's and under 13's.

Good luck to all our teams as we get closer to the finish line

Under 9's  
Eke Thunder vs St  
Ants Magenta  
3.30pm Field 3A

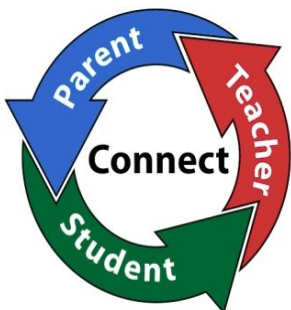
Under 11's  
Eke Flyers vs Toki  
1  
4pm Field 3

Under 13's  
Eke Chargers vs  
Pah Side  
Steppers  
4.30pm Field 2

**EKETĀHUNA SCHOOL WHEELS DAY**

Friday 21st March!

Next Friday, children can bring their scooter, bike, drift trike, skateboard, roller skates, or rollerblades to school! They'll be riding in the driveway, netball, and basketball courts. Helmets and safety gear are a must!

**TEACHERS & WHĀNAU MEETINGS BOOK ONLINE**

We are holding Parent-Teacher meetings next week.

✓ **Wednesday 26th March** ✓ **Thursday 27th March**

(except for Rongomai – see below)

🕒 **Time:** 3:30 pm – 6:15 pm (15-minute appointments)

📱 **Bookings:** Available on Skool Loop

🔴 **Important Update – Rongomai Bookings** 🔴

Parents & caregivers of Rongomai students can book appointments for:

✓ **Monday 24th March** or ✓ **Wednesday 26th March**

.....  
If you need help booking a time, please contact the school office, and we'll be happy to assist. We look forward to connecting with you and working together to support your child's learning journey! 😊

**Sausage Sizzle**

**NO FREE SCHOOL LUNCHES**

tomorrow

**FRIDAY 21 MARCH**

**FUNDRAISER**

**FOR CALLUM McNIEL**



## KEEPING OUR SCHOOL GATES CLOSED DAILY

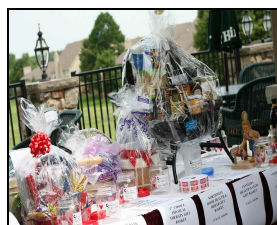
For the safety and security of our students, it is crucial to keep the school gate closed at all times during normal school days.

- Parents are requested to park in the car parks on Albert Street.
- Drop off, and pick up your children at the gates.
- Please enter via the pedestrian gate beside the letter box.
- Please avoid driving into the school grounds unless absolutely necessary.



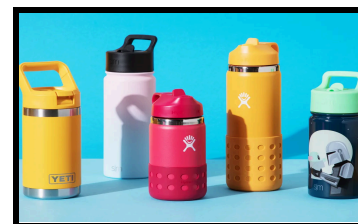
## EKETĀHUNA GOLF TOURNAMENT – GET INVOLVED!

Planning is well underway for our annual Golf Tournament on **Sunday, 6th April at Eketāhuna Golf Club** – our biggest fundraiser of the year! Our Home & School Association is seeking support from our school community. They'd love donations of baking for morning tea and prizes for the prize table. More details on baking will follow, but in the meantime, please drop off any prize donations at the school office. Thank you for your support – it makes a huge difference!



## PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE

At school we have a filtered water bottle filler for students to access for fresh drinking water. Due to Covid, 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.



## SPARE CLOTHES TO SCHOOL PLEASE

Heading into winter & wet weather it is really good to have spare clothes, such as track pants



T-shirts, tops, socks etc, here at school if children get wet or muddy. If you have clothes your children have outgrown please send them along to school to be used as needed.

Leona in the office would really appreciate them! Thanks very much.

## 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.

## Measles Update – Be Prepared & Stay Informed

There has been a rising number of measles cases in Auckland schools, prompting health officials to issue reminders about the importance of vaccination, early detection, and prevention. Measles is highly contagious and can spread quickly in school environments. While there are no reported cases in our school at this stage, we encourage all families to be aware and prepared.

**Know the Symptoms – Measles often starts with:**

- ♦ High fever
- ♦ Cough, runny nose, and sore red eyes
- ♦ A rash that begins on the face and spreads to the body

If your child shows any symptoms, keep them home and seek medical advice immediately.

**How to Protect Your Whānau**

- ✓ Check your child's immunisation status – two doses of the MMR vaccine provide strong protection.
- ✓ Be vigilant – if your child is unwell, do not send them to school.
- ✓ Follow health guidelines – enclosed in this newsletter are official guidelines on measles prevention and response.

We urge all families to take this seriously. Let's work together to keep our community safe and well.





EKETĀHUNA  
SCHOOL

EKETĀHUNA  
SCHOOL

# Eketahuna School Annual Golf Tournament Sunday 6th April 2025

Stableford Competition— Eketahuna Golf Club

\$25 entry fee — Includes morning tea —

Registration & morning tea from 10.30am

Tee off 11.00am — Shot-gun start — Longest Drive — Closest to the Pin —

— Haggie Hole — Great Prizes — BBQ and Beveridge's — Bring Cash —

Eketāhuna School presents:

## The Ultimate Parents Guide to...

Understanding our kids **Online World**  
and how to keep them safe.

Cyberbullying

Social Media

Gaming

Online Predators

Online Porn

Smartphones

Filters

Boundaries

Come and watch Filmmaker & Author Rob Cope in  
what promises to be a hilarious, straight talking  
Parent to Parent video talk

Watch the promotional video here - [Our Kids Online Parent Evening.](#)

THURSDAY 20TH MARCH AT 6.30PM

ALBERT STREET, EKETĀHUNA



# Made for Girls.

## Open Day

Friday 28 March, 10am

For full details and to register, visit  
[ngatawa.school.nz/openday](http://ngatawa.school.nz/openday)

P: +64 6 327 6429  
Calico Line, Marton

f /ngatawaschool





