



Friday 12 May 2023,

Kia ora koutou Muritai whānau,

Brrrr! We've definitely noticed a change in the weather over the past couple of days - A sign that winter is on its way!

Fortunately the weather did come to the party over the past couple of weeks so we were able to complete several outdoor events from our calendar. Firstly, it was brilliant to see so many of our ākonga from Years 3 to 8 take part in our annual Cross Country at Howard Shortt Park. Well done to everyone who 'gave it a whirl', many of whom set personal goals to achieve on race day and who should be very proud of themselves! A special congratulations to our top runners in each year group who were selected to represent Muritai at the South-East Zone competition on Tuesday. You did have to battle the elements at times throughout the day. Congratulations to many of our students who finished in the top group once again (see details below), therefore qualifying for the Interzone race later in the month. What was very pleasing to see and hear about from both events, was the wonderful Muritai spirit that was on display, our students supporting each other and cheering each other along to help them cross the finish line. Ka rawe!

Another highlight from the start of the term was seeing the whole school take part in our Fun Fitness event last Friday. We were lucky with the break in the rain, with the earlier downpours providing an extra mud station for our circuit. That 'give it a whirl' philosophy was on display again and it was awesome to see some of our students who were reluctant at first, get stuck in and thoroughly enjoy themselves. Thank you to our senior students who supported our younger ākonga and provided assistance with running the stations during the afternoon.

As always, thank you to all the parents and caregivers who attended our events over the past couple of weeks - it is always lovely to have you join us and support your children!



Kupu o te wiki

At our kura we were encouraging everyone to build their knowledge and confidence in speaking Te Reo Maori on a daily basis. Since last term, we have focused on a new phase/word to learn each week - kupu o te wiki! This week is 'KARAWHIUA' - Give it heaps! / Go hard! / Be a Doer! This was definitely an appropriate kupu for the past couple of weeks! Check out some of our tamariki in action, sharing this word of the week! Check it out [here](#).

Kapa Haka Rōpu - Preparing for HuttFest

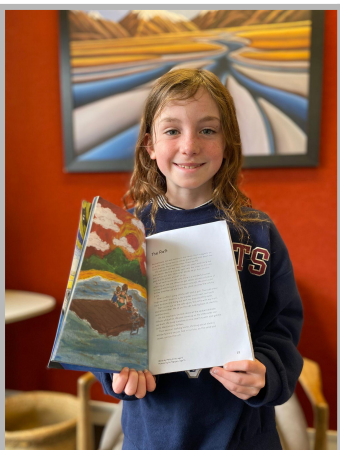
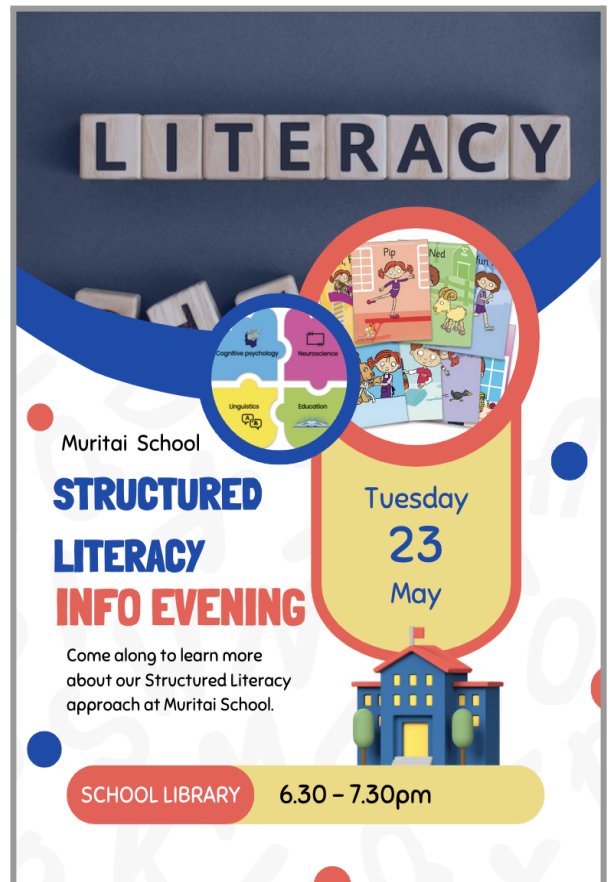
Our Rōpu is currently preparing for the annual HuttFest extravaganza at the end of the term. This is always a highlight on the cultural calendar where schools from across the Hutt region showcase their Kapa Haka to the wider community. This year our rōpu has exploded in size with membership that equates to about a third of the school! This is fantastic to see BUT it has recreated a bit of a problem for us... we don't have enough uniforms for everybody! Whaea Hilary is currently working on a plan and we have a team of crafty parents that have volunteered to sew new dresses. The cost of making and buying new outfits is considerable and we need your support to raise some funds for our ākongā. Keep a lookout for an important message with more detail next week.

Structured Literacy Parent Evening

As part of our strategic plan this year, our teachers are taking part in intensive professional development on implementing the Structured Literacy approach in our classrooms. This year we are continuing to work alongside facilitators from Learning Matters to support us with this initiative. On Tuesday 23rd May we are hosting a parent information evening about this approach and Jill Symonds from Learning Matters is joining us for the session. We invite you to come along to learn more about the Why, What and How of Structured Literacy at Muritai School.

Seesaw

Have you checked out your child's Seesaw profile yet? Most of the classes in Years 1-6 either have this up and running now or are in the process of doing so. This is a great portal for you to see what your child gets up to between 9am and 3pm each day. There are some wonderful examples of learning on offer! If you are having trouble accessing your child's Seesaw account, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher.



Well done Molly!

I had a published writer visit me this week to share her fabulous writing! Congratulations to Molly in Room 12 who had her clever piece of writing selected for the latest Toitōi publication. Brilliant work Molly! Your writing painted a very vivid picture in the reader's mind - it was just like being there!



Muritai School Spotlights

Muritai School is a place that is focused on our vision of Being The Best We Can Be. We embrace research and evidence to ensure the best teaching and learning approaches for our learners. Our focus for this week's newsletter is **PB4L** [Click here](#) to learn more about our 'Why' 'What' and 'How' of our learning programmes at Muritai.

Spotlight on Muritai School
PB4L (Positive Behaviour For Learning)

What does it look like?

What is PB4L?
PB4L (Positive Behaviour For Learning) aims to provide a positive school climate and to create a supportive environment for personal, social and academic growth for students and staff. It is an instrument to enable goals of the school to be achieved, especially the goals of student achievement. Specific behaviours are taught, behaviours are acknowledged and behaviours are celebrated.

Why is it Important?
It is important that all students are able to be their own personal best, in an environment that is conducive to promoting self belief in their worth as a learner. Students perform at their best when they learn and grow in an environment that is fair and equitable, where they can succeed and where they understand that their strengths are valued more than their needs. We look out for the best behaviours in learning and recognise them and teach students how to attain these best behaviours.

Links to Research

Positive Behaviour For Learning
01

Ministry of Education PB4L
02

NZCER Findings
03

Explore
Children are asked to consider what defines personal best, they are acknowledged for positive behaviour.

Connect
Our students understand that we have strong and learning values that define how we interact in our learning and with each other.

Contribute
Student voice is important to the implementation of PB4L. We like to see students acknowledging others successes and strengths.

Links to our Learning Dispositions
Teachers will design and implement units of work around identified needs. These will include explicit lessons on expected behaviours in these. Discussions will focus on agreed ways of working that are consistent across the school. If a child does not know how to read we teach, if a child does not know how to write we teach, if a child does not know how to swim we teach, if a child does not know how to behave...we teach.

Caregiver App

Speaking of apps, we will be launching our Caregiver App in the next week or so and hope this will make communication between school and whanau even easier. The App is easy to set up and use and will give you all the latest information from school, including alerts/messages, newsletters, reports on your child and links to our facebook page, calendar, etc. You will be sent a login which is specific to your child to ensure full confidentiality. Further information will come out to you all soon.

eTAP
SCHOOL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Caregiver App
Info for Whānau and Caregivers

Communication between school and home all in one place

- My Child**
See your child's data, e.g. up to date contacts
- Absences**
Submit your child's absence and see absence history
- Newsletters & Notices**
No more paper notices & missing the school news
- Messages**
Group or individual messages from staff
- School website & calendar**
Easy access to school event dates
- Accounts***
Download statements & tax receipt
- eTAP Student Reports***
- School Interviews***
Book your time at your fingertips
- Permission Slips***
Submit permission for trips through the app
- School Docs***
View school policies, etc.
- Sickbay***
- School Facebook Page***
- Kindo***
- Spotlight Evidence***
- Blogging***

Notifications for sent messages & publications

To download:
Wait for the email from your school to receive your log in details

* You may not see all these icons. Your school will customise the app to suit.

Scholastic Lucky Book Club

Issue three of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club, for 2023, is now available. Orders will be closing at Noon on Monday **the 15th May**. Your order can be done on the following website <https://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz/Parent/Login.aspx>.

The whole school order is processed on the closing date and it usually takes approximately a week for orders to be delivered.

We greatly appreciate your support as the school is able to gain rewards through purchases you make which enables us to add books to our school collection.

PRINCIPAL AWARDS - Term 2 Week 3

Congratulations to the following students who received a Principal Award at our last assembly. We are so proud of you all!

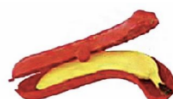


Room 1	Finn Dicraprio, Margot Ancelet
Room 2	Ted Easton, Ngahuia Barker
Room 3	Florence Mackintosh, Josh Grigg, Jack Davidson
Room 5	Emily Peterson, Wade Brooker
Room 6	Jack Phipps, Helena Sauri
Room 8	Lara Binnie, Jed McMahon
Room 9	Poppy Kvale, Tiago Meikle Rodriguez
Room 10	Frankie Duffy-Searle, Jonny Claridge
Room 11	Quinn Forde, Tessa Hayward
Room 12	Poppy Bonifant, Romeo Meyer Westfeld
Room 13	Harrison Rand, Olivia Dawson
Room 15	Lucy Young, George McIntosh
Room 16	Sophie Bleier, Emma Gellatly
Room 21	Tilly Enge, Freddy Sclater
Room 22	Isla Gellatly, Neo Skelton
Room 23	Elliott Halman, Isabella Le Roux
Room 24	Oscar Bull, Billie Holmes

The four lucky children having fish and chips with Stu later this term are: Emily Peterson Finn DiCaprio, Poppy Kvale and Oscar Bull

Nude Your Food!

The Muritai Kahu Enviro Group would like us to reduce the waste in our playground, and as part of this, they are encouraging us all to bring Nude Food lunches from this term to help reduce this waste. Nude Food means bringing food to school that doesn't have any packaging such as wrappers, packets, foil, and glad wrap. Baking, packing fruit and veges, buying in bulk and using reusable containers and bento box lunch boxes can help. The Enviro group would love your support in this! Nude Your Food!



Pack

- Snacks in reusable containers
- Drinks in a reusable bottle
- Reusable utensils when needed
- A reusable lunchbox or backpack

Avoid

- Lunches packed in plastic bags, cling film or foil
- Disposable drink boxes, cans, cartons and bottles
- Disposable forks and spoons
- Pre-packaged lunches or single serve items



Pink Shirt Day

On Friday 19 May, Muritai School will become a sea of pink as we join the Pink Shirt Day movement together with other schools, workplaces and communities. Children

are encouraged to dress in pink and bring a gold coin donation.

By taking part children are helping to stamp out bullying by celebrating diversity and promoting kindness and inclusion.

Kōrero Mai,
Kōrero Atu,
Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora!

Speak Up,
Stand Together,
Stop Bullying!



Cross Country Regionals

The Regionals were held this week with approximately 60 of our best runners competing. They ran incredibly well despite the cold, wet and windy conditions and a LOT of these children ran so well they now go through to the next round of competitions. Several of the students came in the top 5 for their age group. Well done to everyone who competed.



Gardeners needed!

Are you a keen gardener and have time to volunteer to support and guide our super keen Kahu



Senior student gardeners in their Kahu garden on a regular basis - perhaps once a week or once every two weeks? It doesn't have to be for longer than 20 mins and can work around you. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please email Carmen McDonald at cmcdonald@muritai.school.nz

LOST PROPERTY

We're still looking for some helpers to ensure lost property gets back to students and to keep it all tidy. If you have a few minutes for a day or so a week then we would love to hear from you. Please call Jo or Carole in the office.

Hutt Valley High School - Open Evening

Hutt Valley High School's Open Evening is on Tuesday 23 May from 6-8pm. Guided tours start from the hall and give parents, caregivers and students interested in attending in 2024 an opportunity to walk around the school, see learning areas on display and hear an introduction from our Principal. No registration is required for the event. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Important Dates	
Date	Event
15 May	Pizza Monday
17 May	BOT meeting at 6.30
18 May	Kererū - Whitebait Connection visit
19 May	Kererū - Whitebait Connection visit
19 May	Pink Shirt Day
22 May	Pizza Monday
23 May	National Young Leaders Day Y8's
24 May	Starting School at 5 mtg at 7pm
24 May	Starting School at 5 meeting from 7pm to 8pm
26 May	Whole School Assembly at 1.30
29 May	Pizza Monday
2 June	Mihi Whakatau at 10am
9 June	Whole School Assembly at 1.30
12 June	Pizza Monday
13 June	Inter Zone Cross Country
14 June	BOT meeting at 6.30
15 June	PP for Inter Zone Cross Country
19 June	Pizza Monday
23 June	Whole School Assembly at 1.30
27 June	TBC Regional Cross Country
29 June	TBC PP Regional Cross Country
30 June	Last day of Term 2

School Dates for 2023:

- Term 1 Wednesday 1 February to Thursday 6 April
- Term 2 Monday 26 April to Friday 30 June
Teacher Only Day: Monday 24 April
ANZAC Day: Tuesday 25 April
- Term 3 Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September
- Term 4 Monday 9 October to Friday 15 December

Public Holidays 2023:

- Monday, 6 February: Waitangi Day
 Friday, 7 April: Good Friday
 Tuesday, 25 April: ANZAC Day
 Monday, 5 June: King's Birthday
 Friday, 14 July: Matariki
 Monday, 23 October: Labour Day

COMMUNITY NOTICES - Please Note - the following notices have been requested to be published and are not necessarily endorsed by us as a school. In the spirit of community we include these digitally for you to peruse.

Would you like to play the drums this year at Muritai School!!

You can be taught with a current professional working musician!!

We need year 7 and 8 drummers especially!! Please contact Peter Elliott, as spaces are limited.

Contact: peterelliott.drums@gmail.com



BIG BANG SERIES
DIRT DUATHLON
 NAVIGATE ON FOOT AND BIKE, DAY & NIGHT

Join us for the Dirt Duathlon adventure race series 2023.

Race 1: June 18th - Horowhenua
Race 2: July 23rd - Greater Wellington
Race 3 (in the dark!): - August 19th - Kapiti
 Grab your team and enter now!

www.dirtduathlon.co.nz