



Muritai Beacon

'Be The **Best** We can be'

Haratua,

Kia ora Muritai whānau,

What a busy week it has been! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined the **ANZAC Day service** recently. It was wonderful to see such a strong turnout from our community. I would like to specifically acknowledge our Muritai students who represented the school with such dignity and pride during the ceremony. I received plenty of wonderful feedback on their performance from many sectors of the community. You truly embodied all our school values.

A big congratulations to Lauryn Bullock who was awarded Runner Up at the annual Eastbourne RSA ANZAC Day Art Competition too! Her work 'Safe and Sound' made a strong impression on the judge, Matt Gauldie.

Tuesday saw our **Year 3-8 Cross Country** take place across the Eastbourne Rec and along the beach. The weather played its part, but it was the grit of our students that really shone. Well done to everyone who participated and congratulations to our top runners who have qualified for the upcoming Zone events. We know you'll represent Muritai with pride! Check out results from across the year groups further down the newsletter.

A huge well done to the **over 50 students** who headed over the hill to Wainuiomata for the Tough Guy and Gal challenge. By looking at the photos from the day, everyone certainly got muddy, stayed determined, and most importantly, had a total blast!

Our **Planet Earth and Beyond** inquiry unit truly came to life over the last week for our Kererū students as they reached for the stars! On Wednesday, the team headed to **Space Place at Carter Observatory**. It was a stellar experience where they explored the scale of our solar system and delved into the stories of the constellations. The planetarium show was a particular highlight, providing an immersive look at the night sky. The excitement continues next week as our Kororā students prepare for their own journey to the observatory. They will be investigating how the Earth, Moon, and Sun interact, and we look forward to seeing how this hands-on experience fuels their classroom inquiry.

It is fantastic to see our tamariki connecting their classroom learning with world-class exhibits right here in Wellington!



Property Update

Over the past fortnight, we have successfully moved all Kererū and Tū classes into their permanent classrooms for the remainder of the year. It is fantastic to have all our syndicates situated close together again—the hub is buzzing with energy! Below is an updated list of our teachers and room numbers so you are aware of the changes:

Penny Orbell: Year 3, Room 7
Kristi Field: Year 3, Room 8
Hilary Bevin: Year 4, Room 10
Carmen McDonald: Year 4, Room 11
Elena Forlong: Year 5 & 6, Room 12
Phil Rodley: Year 5 & 6, Room 13
Joey Cassar: Year 5 & 6, Room 15
Rachael Wilson/Lisa Allen: Year 5 & 6, Room 16

The work on the back of the two story block and around our hall continues throughout the month of May. We are hoping to have use of our hall again for assemblies once the work is completed around the PE Shed and storage rooms.

Supporting our precious Kororā

Last week we had a small group of students who were asked to talk with a film crew who are creating an educational video from Wellington Museum Trust. The video is focused on efforts to safeguard the kororā in our local harbour and will be projected in the Museum gallery space in the future. The crew were impressed with the knowledge demonstrated by our students along with their passion for the Kororā.

Today the Kororā syndicate also had a visit from members of MIRO and East Harbour Regional Park to learn more about the Kororā. The syndicate have also asked to be official kaitiaki of the kororā nesting area at William Shortt Park. Our junior classes decorated 4 new kororā houses which will be placed in the area very soon. Awesome mahi Kororā team!

Raising Responsible and Respectful Tamariki - Parenting Workshop

We are thrilled to be working in partnership to host a parenting workshop with Eastbourne local, Dr. Sola Freeman. This session focuses on practical strategies for "Raising Responsible and Respectful Tamariki." Over the two evening sessions the content covers:

- Learn practical strategies and every-day actions that develop independence in your tamariki.
- Learn to set and keep expectations and routines that foster their self-responsibility.
- Choose from parenting styles and ideas that encourage self-discipline and guide tamariki to be respectful and contributing members of the family and community.
- Create clear parenting principles that will guide your own decisions as new situations and challenges arise.
- Gain tips for negotiating the teen years.
- Have the opportunity to discuss and resolve your own specific parenting challenges.
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Tickets are available now. We highly encourage parents and caregivers to attend this insightful evening. Click the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/raising-responsible-and-respectful-tamariki-tickets-1988449642408>



RAISING RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL TAMARIKI

Muritai School invites you to parenting workshops facilitated by Eastbourne-based educator Dr Sola Freeman.

LEARN

- Every-day actions to foster your child's independence
- How to set and keep expectations and routines
- Create your own principles to use as challenges arise



DETAILS

Where: Muritai School Library

When: Two Tuesday evenings on the 2nd and 9th June 2026. From 7-9pm.

Price: \$50 (\$80 for a couple - recommended)

Only 30 tickets.

Course description and details available from Muritai School office

Dr Sola Freeman



Background

Dr Sola Freeman is an educational consultant. She has raised four children – two sons and two daughters, with her husband Mark, in Eastbourne. She has been a mother, teacher, University lecturer, playgroup coordinator, and policy advisor.

PINK SHIRT DAY!

As is tradition, Muritai School will be joining in on Pink Shirt Day on Friday 15th. All ākonga/learners and kaiako/teachers (and parents, if they wish!!) are encouraged to wear pink and bring a gold coin donation. All money raised will be donated to the Mental Health Foundation NZ. We encourage as much pink as possible to spread the message that we are anti-bullying, and pro-Muritai School values! It is cool to be kind and to encourage each other!

Please see [THE PINK SHIRT DAY WEBSITE](#) for further information on this great cause.



MURITAI TV

Finally, check out the link below to listen to the latest podcast episode by Muritai TV. This includes a recap on the week's events, what's coming up and also an insightful interview with one of our Enviro Ambassadors - Otto Schollum. What a great new initiative that is coming out of Kāhu!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qwrnPJUOOEsl9BHSXxdVmbWKeh1dAdsI/view?usp=sharing>

Have a lovely weekend.

Ngā mihi nui,

Stu Devenport



Cross Country Results

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
<p>Year 3 Boys Maca Blair Malakai Wilson Miles Faulknor Arty McVey Charlie Marsh</p> <p>Year 3 Girls Alys Hayes Stella Scott Olive Vaughan Eliza Tomescu Olive Hall</p>	<p>Year 4 Boys Taj Morwood Theo Thomsen Jack Davidson Abe Shaughnessy Aidan Dear Rohan Bailey- Rotman Arlo Andrews Raffie Gould Reserves: Matthew Nieuwenhuys George Coppell</p> <p>Year 4 Girls Annabelle Parker Sissy Martin Zorah Zandi Alda McKelvey Maggie Fahey Charlotte Ashe Charley Shields Peta George Reserves: Leela Verhaeghe Jeanie-Rose Stevenson</p>	<p>Year 5 Boys Teddy Innes Lachie Blair Ollie Riley Taylor Tout Jack Phipps Fraser Harris James Stewart Rowan McKelvey Reserves: Theo Samways Jack Dawson</p> <p>Year 5 Girls Juliet Bennett Skylar Filemu Emily Peterson Florence Taylor Emerson Livingston Eleanor Chalfant Rosie O'Connor Isla Barker Reserves: Poppy George Rose Sellers</p>	<p>Year 6 Boys Ted Fahey Paddy Keenan Frankie Gulliver Tamatia Barker Theo Morwood Nathan French Jeremy Machet Jasper McCulloch Reserves: Alexander Jamison Issac Nicholls</p> <p>Year 6 Girls Blake McCorkindale Sadie Scott Eva Te Whata Annika Bailey-Rotman Kaia McCabe Mia Moodie Zoe Cornforth-McGregor Olive Orbell Reserves: Mila Machet, Olive Wintringham</p>	<p>Year 7 Boys Liam Riley Schuyler Dear Eben Harris Sam Delaney</p> <p>Year 7 Girls Cashel Cross Emma Gellatly Freya Davidson Ondine Lidgard Olivia Dawson Lily Phipps</p> <p>Reserves: Mia Groves, Soraya Farndale</p>	<p>Year 8 Boys Fraser Halman Will Christensen Ben Neilson Hudson Bodden Reserve: Cooper Ellwood</p> <p>Year 8 Girls Mahina Barker Tessa Haywood Lilibeth Tomescu Lucia Lovell</p>

MURITAI SCHOOL HOODIES ARE BACK!

Dark grey with white graphics // \$55 or \$65 with surname // kids & adult sizes available

For all sizing and ordering information, visit:
<https://forms.gle/HsrWM3wqEEeguauE9>

Orders close: 5:00pm Friday 8 May
 Hoodies delivered: Monday 25 May
 Samples in the office from Wednesday 29 April

This year, your support is helping to fund the replacement of the junior playground.
 Any questions or problems, please email:
muritaihomeandschool@gmail.com

Important Dates	
Date	Event
11 May	Blake VR sessions for Kererū and Kāhu
15 May	Pink Shirt Day
19 May	Zone Cross Country
21 May	Zone Cross Country postponement day
29 May	TEACHER ONLY DAY
2 May to 1 June	Dental Van visiting
4 June	National Young Leaders Day Y8
16 June	Interzone Cross Country
18 June	Interzone Cross Country postponement day
30 June	Regional Cross Country
2 July	Regional Cross Country postponement day
3 July	Last day of Term 2
20 July	First day of Term 3

2026 Dates:

Term 1 Wednesday 4 February - Thursday 3 April

Term 2 Monday 20 April - Friday 3 July

Term 3 Monday 20 July to Friday 25 September

Term 4 Monday 12 October to Wednesday 16 December

Garden News:

Our Kororā tamariki are very excited to be harvesting the kumara they have grown in the garden. They will be digging them up in the new week or so.

Mid-term workshop planning is underway to make lizard and insect hotels which we are hoping to see occupied later in the year. We would like some old clay pots or concrete blocks as shown in this picture. Please drop off at the office if you have any spare.



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.

BROADWAY VIBES IN LOWER HUTT!

Wonderplay presents...
A brand new 6-week Musical Theatre
Taster series at Eponi Hall!

- **WHEN:** Mondays, starting May 11 (6-week block)
- **WHERE:** Eponi Hall
- **COST:** \$95.00 for the full series

SESSION TIMES
Teens: 4pm **KIDS 8+:** 5:15pm

Build self-esteem, make new mates, have a blast!
All levels welcome.

HOW TO ENROL: Spaces fill up fast!
<https://www.wonderplay.co.nz/register>

wonderplay