



Friday 1 September 2023

Kia ora koutou Muritai whānau,

We've had some very cool and crisp mornings over the past couple of weeks but it has been great to have some still days and sunshine to enjoy the outdoors!

We could not have asked for better weather last Friday as we moved our termly Mihi Whakatau outdoors to welcome our new students, families and staff to the Muritai whānau. It was also a nice opportunity to gather together as a school in the afternoon to award our Principal Certificate recipients - the first time we have been able to do so all term due to the hall being out of action. We also had the Muritai Meerkats netball team take over the assembly to announce the winners of their raffle. I think the highlight of the day for the school was seeing yours truly get a cream pie in the face from a lucky winner - nice work Albie! I'm pleased I was able to 'take one for the team' to help the Meerkats get to Tauranga next week! This is quite an achievement for Muritai as it is the first time we have registered a team for the AIMS Games. With over 10,000 intermediate aged students attending from across the country, it is quite an event to be a part of. I commend the players and their families for all their incredible mahi over the past couple of months to make this happen. Loads of admin, fundraising and logistics have all been coordinated by the team and parents. We wish them well for next week as they represent Muritai at this national event.

In amongst the action from last Friday, we also hosted a group of teachers and their principal from Matamata Primary School. They were keen to learn more about our kura - how we used our environment to enhance the learning, how we engaged our boys in learning and how we personalised the programme to suit the needs of all our ākonga. We left a great impression on them all, they were particularly impressed with our Year 8 Learning Ambassadors and Head Students who toured them around the classrooms - they were a credit to our school! Personally, it was a nice opportunity to celebrate the positive things that are happening around our place.



Last Thursday also proved to be quite an exciting day! We were lucky to receive a full day dance workshop with Mark from Dance Engagement. Each syndicate had their own session with Mark, learning a funky dance. In the afternoon we gathered together to showcase all our learning. To conclude, the whole school learnt a dance to perform together. Mīharo!



For Kororā's 'I AM' Inquiry, they have been learning about keeping themselves safe. Last week they had a visit from the local fire department, including the fire engine to learn more about keeping themselves safe if there is a fire and learn more about the job of the fire officer.

This week we had 8 Kāhu students representing Muritai at the annual NIWA Science Fair at Victoria University - Zach Neilson, Elliott Halman, Izzy Longson, Elodie Dent, Daniel McDonald, Peira Dent, Alex Curwin, George Dent and Isla Gellatly. These students were the finalists from our own Science Fair in Term 2. Well done to you all with results below:

- Alex Curwen - Plane Manoeuvrability - Highly Commended (2-40), Engineering New Zealand (2-40), Royal Aeronautical Society Bernard Weinstein Aerospace Prize (2-40), and Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington School of Engineering and Computer Science (2-40)
- Izzy Longson - Do Different Situations Affect Boys and Girls Differently - Highly Commended (2-44)
- George Dent - Forces on bridges - Engineering New Zealand (1-31)
- Elodie Dent - How drinkable is our water? - Stantec New Zealand (2-42 and The Institute of Environmental Science (ESR) 2-42



We are excited for these students to take the next step in their science excellence.

We also have two teams representing us at the Mathswell competitions this week (1 team from Kererū and 1 team from Kāhu).

Our Kererū team of Lara Binnie, Keegan Field, Georgia Gellatly, Leila Grenside, Leon Hotop, Xolani Lynskey, Agnes Noergaard, Delon Perera, Sofia Water, Eleanor Wilkie, Eve Wyatt and Dylan Zhang represented the school last night. We should receive results in the next few days.

Well done to our Kāhu team consisting of Miriam Water, Izzy Longson, Elodie Dent, Tim Prebble, Sophie Males, Sienna Chapman who finished in the first quartile on Thursday night!

Today we had students from Year 4 - 8 participate in the InterZone Swimming Sports. Congratulations to all the students who stepped up for this challenge too - competing against other swimmers from across the Hutt Valley.

It is wonderful to see all these additional opportunities on offer for our ākonga to showcase their talents and passions in a particular area. Ka rawe!

Staffing Update

For those that missed the communications at the end of last week, after many years of dedicated service, our Deputy Principal, Maureen Buckley, has decided to resign from her position. Her last day at our school will be at the end of this academic year.

For over 20 years, Maureen has been an integral part of our Muritai family, contributing significantly to our students' growth, the success of our academic programs, and the overall positive environment that we strive to uphold. Her commitment, passion, and hard work have been invaluable for both students and staff alike.

I would like to express my gratitude for her outstanding contributions and the positive influence she has had on our school. She will be incredibly missed around our kura but we are equally happy for her to put her feet up and enjoy retirement.

Soon we will commence the process of recruiting a new Deputy Principal to ensure we have plenty of time for a smooth handover of responsibilities. I will keep you informed about any updates related to the selection of a new Deputy Principal.

In the meantime, it is business as usual at Muritai.

Lockdown/ Shelter in Place Drill - Monday 4th September

Every term at Muritai we endeavour to practise one of our emergency drills to ensure everyone has a good understanding of what to do when an emergency arises.

If there is a threat to student and staff safety, Muritai School may follow procedures for a lockdown or shelter in place. This usually means we move everyone at the school indoors and we remain there until the "all clear" is given. Our actions may differ depending on the situation, or recommendations from authorities.

On Monday 4th September our school will carry out a short drill to get more familiar with our processes in the event of a situation like this happening. It is important we take time afterwards to review what works and what doesn't so we can make refinements to our plans.

Health/PE Consultation

Thank you to everyone who has completed our Health and PE survey. We keep this open until Monday 4th September. We would really value your feedback on this important component of the New Zealand Curriculum. Please click on the link below to share your thoughts: <https://forms.gle/v3mPDTtbWGHUaCAf8>

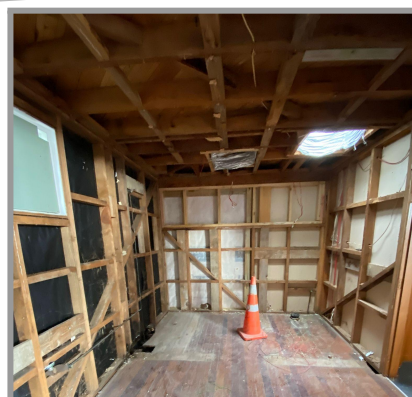
Māori Whānau Hui

Part of our annual review we endeavour to connect with our Muritai Māori whānau to gather feedback on how we can further enhance our environment and learning programmes to reflect our bicultural society. We want to ensure that the content of our te reo Māori teaching and learning programme is relevant and appropriate, acknowledging that te reo Māori is a taonga for Māori under the Treaty of Waitangi. In order to do this, it is important to build strong connections between home and school to ensure whanau have a voice in some of the strategic decision making in our kura. Check your inbox for an invitation for **Thursday 7th September**.



Property update

Our hall improvements project is progressing well. The old bathrooms and kitchen have been completely gutted and new framing is being constructed. Scaffolding has recently been erected along the footpath of Muritai Road and next to the school foyer to enable contractors access to the roof of the bathrooms.



National Hip Hop Championships

Finally, I want to acknowledge a talented group of girls who are heading off to the National Hip Hop Championships in Dunedin. It sounds like they have had to work incredibly hard and perform at a very high level to qualify for this weekend's event. Congratulations to Sofia MacDonald, Jorja Chunga, Molly MacIntosh, Erinn Houston, Lucy Sherwin and Olive Day and best of luck!

Nga mihi,

Stu Devenport

Win a Hei Tiki for our Kura!

The Reo Maori recruitment competition is underway for Māori Language Week which is coming up this term.

Three years ago Reo Māori made history with the biggest Māori language event, with over one million people signing up to celebrate te reo Māori on the same day, at the same time. Help us get even more people on board by joining the movement and sign up to Te Wā Tuku Reo Māori 2023 - Māori Language Moment 2023!



The top 10 group recruiters (groups like our school Muritai!) will win a Reo Māori prize pack including a hoodie and other goodies. These will be used as prizes for tamariki showing great Te Reo at our kura! The group at the top of the leaderboard by the end of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (17 September - Week 9 of this term) will win a hei tiki neon lamp (as seen at Te Matatini) to put up in our school! How great would that be for Muritai!

How to join in?

1. Get our Muritai group's unique referral link here:
https://www.reomaori.co.nz/pledge?recruiter_id=126272
2. Make sure you click Group and add yourself to the Muritai group!
3. Please share it with your colleagues, friends or whānau so they join us too!
4. Our school group get a point for each person who signs up using your link
5. Watch the [leaderboard](#) to keep track of our Muritai school score

Karawhiua! Kia kaha te reo Māori!,
Hilary Bevin

2024 Term Dates

Term 1 Thursday 1 February – Friday 12 April (96 half days) - 11 week term

Term 2 Monday 29 April – Friday 5 July (96 half days) - 10 week term

Term 3 Monday 22 July – Friday 27 September (100 half days) - 10 week term

Term 4 Monday 14 October – Tuesday 17 December (92 half days) - 10 week term

Public Holidays:

Waitangi Day: Tuesday 6 February

Good Friday: 29 March

Easter Monday: 1 April

Easter Tuesday: 2 April

ANZAC Day: Thursday 25 April (falls within the school holidays)

King's Birthday: Monday 3 June

Matariki: Friday 28 June

Labour Day: Monday 28 October

Lucky Book Club

Issue six of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club, for 2023, is now available. Orders will be closing at Noon on Friday **the 1st September**. 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. Scholastic have been having a few supply problems amidst a move to a new Warehouse, but Issue 5 was complete and on time so it looks like they are coming to grips with their early problems.

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.

Nuts

We have an increasing number of students attending our school who are severely allergic to nuts. We are an inclusive school and want to provide all students with a safe school environment.

To support us with this, please could you consider the items that your child has in their lunchboxes for morning tea and lunch.

We ask that you do not send any peanut, cashew, brazil or obvious nut products e.g. peanut butter with your child. If your child has eaten these before coming to school, please ensure that their face and hands have been thoroughly washed before they arrive at school.

These precautionary measures will help us ensure that the students with these allergies have less of a chance of exposure to nuts thus avoiding a life threatening reaction and meaning all of our students are able to be safe

Important Dates	
Date	Event
4 Sept	Pizza Monday
5 Sept	Floorball Year 5-8
6 Sept	BOT Meeting at 6.30
7 Sept	Whanau Hui 6.30 in the Library
11 Sept	Pizza Monday
12 Sept	ArtSplash at MFC
13 Sept	DanceSplash at MFC
18 Sept	Pizza Monday
18 Sept	Kororā visiting Little Theatre
21 Sept	Mask Parade
22 Sept	Last day of Term 3

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

**ARTS
EVENT**
 Thursday
 21st Sept

MURITAI SCHOOL

2023

'I AM'

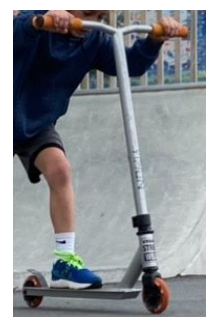
MASKED PARADE

We would like to let you know that we are having a Muritai School Masked Parade on Thursday 21st September from 2:00pm – 2:55pm.

We will be wearing our masks and walking around our school block, leaving by the ANZAC gates heading North on Muritai Road, left through the village on the left side footpath, South along Oroua Street, left on to Makaro Street past the fire station, left on to Muritai Road and back to school. We are asking parents to line the streets to view our Masked Parade and celebrate the learning from our I AM inquiry. The children have created masks showing their understanding of their Wellbeing.

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.

Missing: Kids scooter, make is VISION, silver with orange hand grips and wheels, Denver and a contact number are clearly printed on the bottom. Left in the scooter park by the library Wednesday and was removed sometime between 3 and 5pm. Owner would dearly love it returned. Thanks





for your support!

Eastbourne-Bays Community Trust,
Annette Sliper, Eastbourne Swim Club,
Placemakers, Pak'n Save Petone, Clip'n
Climb & Jumperama Hutt Park, Burger Fuel,
Lighthouse Cinema Petone, Whittakers and
our amazing Muritai School Community!



♥ From the Muritai Meerkats.
Heading to The AIMS Games in Tauranga this week!



WELLINGTON BRICKSHOW

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16th Sept
9am - 5pm

17th Sept
9am - 4pm

\$10 Adult / \$7 Child
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Walter Nash Centre
22/26 Taine Street, Lower Hutt

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Eastbourne Scout Group

Compost Fundraiser

Eastbourne Scouts Annual Fundraiser is back for Spring 2023!

100% BioGro certified organic, weed free and locally sourced



\$13/bag or
3+ bags \$11.50/bag
(40L bags)

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on Saturday 14th October



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