



Muritai Beacon

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

Rāhina 7 o Here-turi-kōkā,

Kia ora Muritai whānau,

I hope you have all managed to keep warm over this particularly chilling week. There was excitement on Tuesday with snow flurries around Eastbourne - brrrr!

With the cold weather comes the inevitable season of winter illnesses. We currently have quite a few bugs making the rounds through the classrooms.

To help us keep our school community as healthy as possible and protect our students and staff, **please keep your child at home if they are showing any signs of being unwell**. Rest and recovery at home is the best way to prevent the spread to others. Thank you for your cooperation!

Thank you to everyone who attended our **Learning Conversations** last week. It was wonderful to see our classrooms buzzing with discussion and to feel the strength of our school-home partnership in action.

These face-to-face catch-ups are such a valuable way for us to connect. They offer a dedicated space to celebrate your child's learning journey, look through their work samples together, and discuss their social connections and everyday work habits. Paired with your child's written report, these conversations should give you a clear picture of how they are tracking toward curriculum end-of-year expectations. We hope the specific home-support suggestions in the reports give you practical, valuable ideas on how to keep that momentum going! As always, if you do have any questions about your child's learning and achievement, we welcome you to contact your child's classroom teacher for more information.

Our new **Muritai Run Club - Lighthouse Legends** is officially underway! Every Thursday lunchtime, an enthusiastic group of students is hitting the trails and pounding the pavement around our beautiful local environment.



A massive thank you to all the wonderful parents helping to keep our runners safe and motivated—with a special shout-out to **Nat Blair** for leading this fantastic initiative. You are true legends!

Universal Design for Learning

This term our teachers commence a new professional development journey, learning more about UDL - Universal Design for Learning. UDL is a framework to improve and optimise teaching and learning for all people based on scientific insights into how humans learn.

The goal of UDL is to use a variety of teaching methods to remove any barriers to learning and give all students equal opportunities to succeed. It's about building in flexibility that can be adjusted for every student's strengths and needs. That's why UDL benefits all learners.

Our teachers already incorporate a variety of UDL approaches into their daily learning programmes but revisiting this initiative is incredibly important particularly since we have implemented a more structured approach to learning over the past couple of years. We are looking forward to continuing this learning over the next 12 months with the local RTLB service.

Book Week is approaching!

We are pretty excited to celebrate Book Week with the rest of the country from August 15th to 21 August. Keep a look out on Hero for more information on how we will engage in this celebration in Week 5. One day you can start planning for now is our Book Character Dress Up day on Wednesday 19 August because who doesn't love a dress up day!?!

INTENTIONS FOR 2027

Although it may be hard to believe, in Term 3 our Senior Leadership Team will start the process of planning for 2027. A key part of this process is firming up our student numbers for the year. This includes students arriving at school and also students departing. We always appreciate having advanced warning of students moving either in or out of our school so if you have plans for the year ahead, please let either myself or Jo Bentley know:

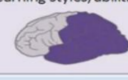
principal@muritai.school.nz

or

bentley@muritai.school.nz

Our **Out-of-Zone Enrolment Ballot for 2027** is now officially open!

3 Principles of UDL

Multiple Means of Engagement Stimulate motivation and sustained enthusiasm for learning by promoting various ways of engaging with material. 	Multiple Means of Representation Present information and content in a variety of ways to support understanding by students with different learning styles/abilities. 	Multiple Means of Action/Expression Offer options for students to demonstrate their learning in various ways (e.g. allow choice of assessment type). 
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Students are ...

Purposeful and Motivated

Resourceful and Knowledgeable

Strategic and Goal Directed

NEW ZEALAND CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

15-21 AUGUST



Muritai School
'Be the BEST we can be'






JOIN OUR SCHOOL FOR 2027

Muritai School Board now invite applications from parents of out of zone students to enrol at Muritai School for Term 1 and 2 in 2027. Application for enrolment must be made on the official form available from the school office.

If the number of out of zone applications exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot, to be held on **Monday 21 September 2026**.

The Muritai School Board has determined that Muritai School is likely to have some places available for out of zone students.

Closing date for applications is:
 Friday, 18 September 2026 at 3:00pm
 Ballot Date is Monday 21 September 2026.



CONTACT US NOW

(04) 562 8409

office@muritai.school.nz

If you know of any families living outside our school zone who are keen for their children to join the Muritai community in 2027, please pass this news along. Interested parents should contact our school office directly to obtain and complete the ballot application form.

We have finalized our dates for the 2027 school year so you can start planning ahead:

- **Term 1 Start Date:** Tuesday, 2nd February 2027
- **Term 4 Finish Date:** Wednesday, 16th December 2027

(Full term details and holiday breaks will be updated on the school website shortly.)

Ngā mihi nui,

Stu Devenport



In January 2024 Jonny Claridge, a former student of Muritai School, was fortunate enough to be involved with filming all around Wellington as Tom's Picture Double in the movie I, Object. Tom is played by Bentley Storteboom and Ali

is played by Skywalker Hughes (from Canada). These kids are hugely talented and we are keen to celebrate their efforts.

We are hosting a special viewing of this film as a fundraiser event. We'd love you to come to the movies with us. We'll be at Event Cinemas Queensgate on Wednesday 29th July from 6pm. We'll start the movie just after 6.30pm. We'll share some behind the scenes stories and we'll do a raffle prize draw.

Tickets are \$20 standard, or \$25 for recliner seats. Let Kathy Claridge know how many seats you'd like to book by texting 0273551950.

We have chosen to support the **Eastbourne Toy Library** with the proceeds of this fundraiser viewing.

Here's a bit of a synopsis about the film and who's in it:

<https://www.rova.nz/articles/nz-made-film-i-object-trailer>

Thanks for coming along to support and enjoy this fun, family movie! 🎬

LUCKY BOOK CLUB

Issue Five of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club, for 2026, is now available. Orders will be closing at Noon on Friday **the 7th August**. 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.

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

2026 Dates:

Term 3 Monday 20 July to Friday 25 September
Term 4 Monday 12 October to Wednesday 16 December

2027 Dates:

Term 1 Tuesday 2 February to Friday 9 April
Term 2 Tuesday 27 April to Friday 2 July
Term 3 Monday 19 July to Friday 24 September
Term 4 Monday 1 October to Thursday 16 December

Important Dates	
Date	Event
20 July	First day of Term 3
28 July	Learning Conversations 2-6pm
30 July	Learning Conversations 2-6pm
3 Aug	Pizza Monday
11 Aug	Pizza Monday
12 Aug	BOT meeting
14 Aug	Whole school assembly - Tūi
17 Aug	Pizza Monday
17 Aug	Strike Performance
18 Aug	MathsWell comp - Year 5/6
21 Aug	School Disco 3-9pm
26 Aug	Mihi Whakatau
27 Aug	NIWA Science Fair
28 Aug	Daffodil Day - Dress in yellow
28 Aug	Whole school assembly - Kororā
3 Sept	Dance Curriculum day
3 Sept	Wellesley Exchange Year 7/8
4 Sept	Interschool Swimming
7 Sept	Pizza Monday
11 Sept	Boostrix 2nd Dose Y7
11 Sept	Whole school assembly - Kāhu
14-18 Sept	Māori Language Week
14 Sept	Pizza Monday
16 Sept	WOW dress rehearsal - Kāhu
16 Sept	BOT meeting at 6.30 to 9
17 Sept	Interzone Swimming
21 Sept	Pizza Monday
23 Sept	WOW Performance
25 Sept	Last day of Term 3 (normal finishing time).
12 Oct	First day of Term 4

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.

The
Final Clue

SOME SECRETS ARE BEST LEFT BURIED...
OTHERS ARE SERVED WITH DINNER.

2 COURSE MEAL & LICENSED BAR
FROM 7PM - 4TH & 5TH SEPTEMBER

O'MALLEYS BAR & KITCHEN
EASTBOURNE, WELLINGTON

BOOK NOW
www.thefinalclue.co.nz

**Māori Language
Learning
Playgroup
in Naenae**

For parents and tamariki aged 0-7,
Whether you're total beginners or have spoken Māori all
your lives!

9am — 11.30am, 22nd & 29th Aug, & 5th & 12th September
Te Mako Community Centre, Hillary Court, Naenae.

Tamariki and parents can choose from play-based language
activities while small group sessions target specific ages
and levels.

From 9am: Play-based language-learning
9.30am: Music and movement session
10.30am: Kai & Korero
11am: Story and movement lesson

Utu/Cost per term:
\$45 for one child & caregiver/s.
\$60 for two or more siblings & caregiver/s

Please register your interest by sending an email to Michaela
by scanning the QR code or at MaoriPlaygroup@iCloud.com

