



Friday 3rd February 2023,

Kia ora koutou, Guten tag, Bula, Nǐ hǎo, Mingalaba, Namaste, Greetings, Sàwātdee, Hallo, As-salām 'alaykum, Min-ga-la-ba, nín hǎo, Néih hóu, Konnichiwa, Chôm rab suôr, Tālofa, Hola!, Kumusta, Vaṇakkam, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana and Welcome to Muritai School in 2023!

It is wonderful to see all our tamariki and whānau back at school. Everyone is looking well rested and there is a great energy around the place - we are all looking forward to an exciting year of teaching and learning ahead!

It is important to acknowledge our Auckland counterparts who once again are having an interrupted start to their school year with the recent nasty weather. It is definitely not ideal after several years of Covid disruptions.

We officially start the year with a roll of 370. We welcome a number of new students across the school who are joining our Muritai whānau. A special mention to our new students who have made the move from San Antonio School after its recent closure. I can imagine it is quite a transition moving to a very different environment where your new class may have more children than the total roll at your previous school. We hope you are all enjoying your first week at Muritai.

Our Muritai kaimahi (staff) have had a couple of great days together earlier in the week, shaping our plans for the year ahead, including how we want to grow as a team and as a school. We also kick started our professional development journey on the Zones of Regulations. This is an initiative that will assist us in responding to the emotional needs of all our tamariki at Muritai School. It weaves in nicely to our existing PB4L framework we have been embedding for the last couple of years.

What a great bunch of practitioners we have at Muritai for 2023!

We have a number of new teachers and teacher aides joining the team this year. They all bring a wealth of experience and are already settling in well. Below is an overview of our staffing structure for 2023.

# Muritai School Structure 2023

## Senior Management Team

**Principal:** Stu Devenport

**Deputy Principal & SENCO:** Maureen Buckley

**Associate Principal:** Jamie Power

**Associate Principal:** Jon Mackie

**Team Leader:** Lisa Allen

### Korora Team (Y1&2)

Maureen Buckley (TL)  
Nicolette Fisher  
Nadia Henderson  
Emma Gill  
Sheldon Wilson  
Gabrielle Heath  
Felicity Lovell



### Tūi Team (Y3&4)

Jamie Power (TL)  
Elena Forlong  
Kate McLean  
Carly Stanford  
Jess Davidson (Release)



### Kereru Team (Y5&6)

Lisa Allen (TL)  
Holly Williams  
Phil Rodley  
Carmen McDonald  
Hilary Bevin (Release)



### Kāhu (Y 7&8)

Jon Mackie (TL)  
Kea Maritz  
Ama Newman  
Max McAlpine  
Eve Owen (Release)



**Office:** Carole Lowe & Jo Bentley

**Library:** Sue Fieldes

**Caretaker:** Dan Hewson & Kevin McRobbie

**Sports Coordinator:** Trish Theobald

**Learning Support:** Brenda Nisbet

**Teacher Aides:** Romy Anderson, Hilary Beadle, Narelle Ferrier, Felicity Maxwell, Tracey Quirke, Karen Tattersall, Jeanne Dear, Jasmine Clout, Kim Lowe, Chloe Brown, Carolyn Littlefair, Dan Hewson

## Communication

The best way to get in touch with any of our staff is via email. You can find a full list of contact details on the staff page of our website: <https://www.muritai.school.nz/staff>

Please be mindful that as a general rule, classroom teachers will not reply to emails during teaching time as they are, of course, busy with the children. Our office staff are regularly checking their emails throughout the day so if there is an urgent message during learning time, it is best to send it to Jo or Carole in the office on [bentley@muritai.school.nz](mailto:bentley@muritai.school.nz) or [lowe@muritai.school.nz](mailto:lowe@muritai.school.nz)

At Muritai we use a variety of platforms to communicate important information between school and home. We believe in keeping you updated with up and coming events along with celebrating our successes.

- **The Muritai Beacon:** This newsletter will be distributed fortnightly on a Friday afternoon. As we are an Enviro-School we distribute this via email. We are happy to include community messages in the newsletter. We would appreciate it if all messages could be shared with the school office by the Wednesday afternoon before the Beacon is distributed.



- **Email:** We regularly utilise email for reminders and other important messages. Please contact the school office if your email address needs updating from last year.

- **School Website & Calendar:** On the 'Noticeboard' tab of our website: <https://www.muritai.school.nz/calendar> there is a Community Calendar, which we will be continuing to utilise in 2023. All important dates for families will be included on this calendar, so it is useful to visit this regularly to keep up to date with the latest events.



- **Facebook:** Have you 'liked' our School Facebook page? We utilise this page for reminders, but more importantly, to celebrate the wonderful things that happen at Muritai School. Just search Muritai School on Facebook to find our page.



- **Google Forms:** We will continue to use Google Forms for permission and newsletters that require responses from parents. If you ever need assistance with completing these, please contact the office.



## **The term ahead**

In the next couple of weeks, you will receive a syndicate leader newsletter from your child's Team Leader which will give you a run down of specific systems that may be unique to their team along with a breakdown of what the learning focus will look like for the term ahead. Below are a couple of key elements to our Term 1 programme that are important to note:

- The first few weeks of the year is **'Get Set, Go!'** This time is dedicated to reviewing our school's Learning and Living Values and for the classes to establish their ways of working to ensure they are set for success for the year ahead. This is a wonderful opportunity to reinforce expectations and grow relationships between classmates and teachers.
- **SCHOOL PICNIC!** On Friday 10th of February we are all heading to Days Bay for a whole school picnic! We will be exploring the beach, bush and Williams Park. In order to make this happen, we will require plenty of parent volunteers to help with supervision and our activities. Please keep an eye out in your inbox today for additional information on this special day. Everyone is welcome to join us as it will be a wonderful opportunity to connect.
- Our **Swimming** programme commences at Eastbourne Pool from Week 2. Please ensure you are aware of what day your child's class is swimming so they come prepared for their sessions. How lucky are we to have this community resource on our doorstep to utilise!
- Our **Learning Partnership meetings** will be held on February 15th and 16th. This will be an opportunity for you to make a time with your child's classroom teacher and share key information about your child. This is always an incredibly useful process for our teachers. Keep a look out for booking information at the beginning of next week.
- One of the highlights for Term 1 will be our **125th Celebration** on March 24 and 25. This will be a special community event with plenty of opportunities for whānau to get involved. Keep a look out for additional communications for these two days over the next month. Of course, the students and teachers will be making this a key part of the learning programmes where each syndicate will be inquiring into a different era from the last 125 years. We will be keen to draw on experts from the local community who will be able to share their history with us.
- Our Kererū Syndicate will be finishing the term with their annual trip to **Camp Makahika** from 28-31 March. Again, there will be loads of additional communications that will come your way as your child prepares for this experience, including a parent information session held at school.



Phew! It's shaping up to be a pretty action-packed term! How exciting!

## **Sun Smart**

Muritai is a SunSmart school. This term it is compulsory for all children to wear hats when outside at playtimes, lunch or undertaking sport. Please ensure your children have their named sun hats at school every day to enable them to play outside freely. Children without sun hats will be restricted to the shade sail area. You may also like to apply sunblock to your children before school. Children also need to wear shoes at school to protect their feet, and clothes that are suitable for sun protection and sports activities.



**LOST PROPERTY** - We have relocated our lost property station under Room 12 stairwell. (On the left as you enter the two-story block). If your child is missing an item, this will be the place to go to hopefully find it again!

**Can you help?** We are looking for one or two parents who can help with managing our lost property. The key idea is about keeping the lost property station neat and tidy and putting it out on display once or twice a term. If you'd like to offer some of your time, please contact Jo or Carole in our school office. Thanks in advance!

### **WORKING BEE**

A big shout out to all the parents and children who came along to school last Sunday to help out with our garden working bee. It was great to make a dent with attacking the weeds around the place and sprucing things up after the summer break. We really appreciate your help! Keep a lookout for formation on future working bees as the term progresses.

Ngā mihi nui  
Stu Devenport, Principal



### **Scholastic Lucky Book Club**

The first order of the year, Issue one of the Scholastic Lucky Book Club, for 2023, is now available. The format has changed and is now in the form of a newspaper. It is full of their normal book offers and includes a free book giveaway. Orders will be closing at Noon on Friday the 24th February. 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.

### **School Dates for 2023:**

- Term 1 Wednesday 1 February to Thursday 6 April
- Term 2 Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June
- 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
- Monday, 5 June: King's Birthday
- Friday, 14 July: Matariki
- Monday, 23 October: Labour Day

### Important Dates

Date	Event
6 Feb	Waitangi Day
7 Feb	Swimming potentially starts
10 Feb	Whole School Picnic at Days Bay
15-16 Feb	Learning Partnerships Hui
17 Feb	Whole School Assembly
20 Feb	Pizza Monday
22 Feb	BOT meeting at 6.30pm
27 Feb	Pizza Monday
1 March	Kapa Haka starts
2 March	Tūi swimming sports
2 March	Kororā swimming sports
3 March	Postponement for Tūi and Kororā swimming sports
3 March	Whole School Assembly - Kererū
6 March	Pizza Monday
8 March	Mihi Whakatu at 10am
10 March	Year 4-8 Swimming Sports at Huia Pool
22 March	BOT meeting at 6.30 pm
24 and 25 March	125th Celebrations
28 to 31 March	Kererū at Camp Makahika
6 April	Last Day of Term 1
24 April	Teacher Only Day
25 April	ANZAC Day
26 April	First Day of Term 2

**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.**



#### **Guitar Lessons at Muritai School**

Do you want to learn to play guitar?

I am now accepting enrolments for Term 1 for pupils in years 3 to 8. The lessons are taken by Charles Hazlewood on Monday or Friday during school time. The tuition is held in small groups according to ability and age.

It is educational, and normally a lot of fun!

The school has guitars to use at lesson time, but you will need a guitar to play at home.

I am a very experienced music teacher currently teaching at several schools in Lower Hutt. The cost is \$12 per 30 minute lesson, payable per term. Usually there would be 8 lessons, so the term fees would be \$96.

Please call Charles on 04-934-2759 or 029-9392759 or

[charleshazlewood1@gmail.com](mailto:charleshazlewood1@gmail.com)

#### **Lunch time French for children at Muritai**

- Kids can experience French learning the fun way! Children speak French from the first lesson
- Ages 5-10, lessons once a week, lots of fun interactive activities: active games, drama, music, a bit of writing, quiet grounding activities
- Free trial lesson is available
- Contact Stefi 0211782099 or email [stefi@lcflcubs.co.nz](mailto:stefi@lcflcubs.co.nz)

## Mik's catering sushi lunches every Thursday

Dear Muritai parents,

Thank you so much for supporting my school lunch business. The sushi lunch every Thursday is back in 2023.

### Options

- \* Teriyaki chicken roll
- \* Chicken katsu roll
- \* Smoked salmon and avocado roll
- \* Tuna mayo roll
- \* Vegetarian roll
- \* Avocado roll

8 pieces \$8 ( \$80 for the whole term 10 weeks)

To order the sushi lunch for your children, please text or call Miki 0211819134

Look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards, Miki



## SPEAK AGAIN

Set your child up for success with our exciting drama programme!  
We cover:

- \*Enhanced Creativity
- \*Improvisation
- \*Presentation Skills
- \*Performance Development
- \*Acting Confidence
- \*General Silliness

After School Programme  
Small groups, one hour sessions  
For Years 3 & up

# Enrolments

NOW OPEN



TO REGISTER GO TO:

- WWW.SPEAKAGAIN.CO.NZ
- THE EASTBOURNE LIBRARY BOARDROOM  
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday