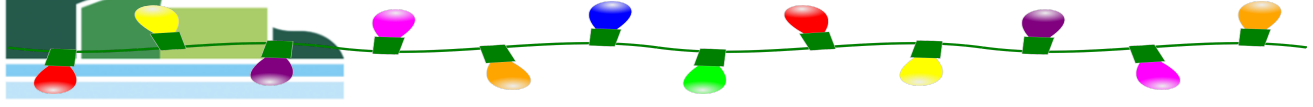




Muritai Beacon

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



Rāpare tekau ma whā o ngā rā o Hakihea,

Kia ora koutou Muritai whānau,

Phew! We are nearly at the end of an action packed year! The last couple of weeks have certainly been exciting across the school - field trips here, there and everywhere, christmas carol singing, swimming at the pool and loads of other learning happening outside the classroom. A big highlight from the past week has been our Year 4's sleeping over at school for the night. This was a great opportunity to build confidence in sleeping away from home in preparation for Makahika Camp in 2024!

Another awesome highlight was of course our Year 8 students heading down south on their Abel Tasman adventure - I had the privilege of attending too! We were thrilled to have this end of year celebration back on the school calendar after a number of years being cancelled due to Covid. We were incredibly fortunate to have **OUTSTANDING** weather for the week, meaning we had uninterrupted activities with glorious sunshine. Our Year 8 students were remarkable. Stepping up for challenges, facing their fears and supporting their friends. No doubt some special memories made that will be remembered for a long time to come! A special mention to our hard working group of parents who joined us on the adventure. We can only do these experiences with your support so we really appreciate you giving up your time to support our Year 8s... hopefully you had plenty of fun too! Also a big thank you to Jon Mackie, Kea Maritz, Carole Lowe and Narrelle Ferrier who made up the staff team for the adventure. Excellent organisation and preparation made the week a real success.

FAREWELL TO OUR YEAR 8s

The final week of the year is an important one for us at Muritai as our focus is on ensuring we celebrate our Year 8 graduates and farewell them in true Muritai style.



Last night we held our Year 8 formal in the school hall where we presented cups and trophies to some outstanding students who have achieved great things over their time at Muritai. This is always a special occasion to not just acknowledge excellence of individuals but also the collective achievements of the group. Regardless of whether you were presented with a cup or not last night, be proud of the achievements and the growth you have made over your time at Muritai. You are all wonderful human beings who are destined for great things!

Congratulations to all our cup recipients for 2023. Check out who got what further down the page.

Tomorrow is another special day, where we give our Year 8s a final send off in their final school assembly for 2023. You are all welcome to attend this final assembly but please be aware we'd like to prioritise seating for the parents of our Year 8 leavers - over 50 of them this year! **Assembly starts at 11am sharp.**

FAREWELL MRS BUCKLEY

Not only are we farewellling our Year 8s but also the Marvellous Mrs Buckley who is hanging up her hat as Deputy Principal after 21 years at Muritai and over 47 years of teaching service! Quite remarkable achievements! On Tuesday we held a special assembly for her to honour all her work and her contributions to our kura. Although we are all very sad Maureen will be leaving us this week, we are all very excited for you for the next chapter in her life. I know it will be hard for you to say goodbye but I also know she has many plans afoot and she won't be resting for long before her next adventure! She'll be leaving with the knowledge she has had a significant impact on many, many Eastbourne families.

STAFFING UPDATE

Just a couple of last minute staffing changes for the end of the year. Due to a significant reduction in learning support funding in 2024, we unfortunately have to say goodbye to 3 incredible teacher aides who have been working with us this year. Chloe Brown has a job with the Ministry of Education and will continue her studies to become an Education Physiologist next year. This was always the plan but we have really valued the wonderful work she has done supporting some of our complex learners. Kim Lowe joined us at the beginning of the year and quickly settled into our teacher aide team. We will miss her calm, gentle approach with our tamariki. Nicola Tod joined us in Term 3 working mostly with our youngest learners in Kororā. Nicola quickly settled into the team too. We have really appreciated your flexibility to 'go with the flow' as much as possible.

It will be very hard to say goodbye to these amazing teacher aides as they all work so hard with our children with complex needs.



THE SWING IS UP!

Our brand new swing is finally installed and up and running! I had to test it out myself first and I can confirm it is glorious! Once the children finally got to have a go, we quickly established some rules for safety and equity. It is already hot property at break times!



**REAL
STEEL**



Once again, we are incredibly grateful for the teams that were involved in this collaborative project to make it happen; **Real Steel** for constructing the swing frame, **Willy Davies Builders** for setting the frame and place and of course the Muritai tamariki for raising the funds for the actual bucket swing through the Muritai Market in 2022. Happy swinging everyone!

STAFF VS STUDENTS NETBALL - WHAT A GAME!

Phew! I've just come off the court from a very physical game of netball versing our Muritai Meerkats! Wow! They certainly made us work for it - impressive passing, shooting and defence (especially seems many are the same height as us!) Fortunately the staff managed to keep their 7 year winning streak - staying undefeated. The score may differ depending on who you talk to but netball was definitely the winner on the day!

THANK YOU!

What an incredible year it has been in 2023! It has been wonderful to get back to some kind of normality after a number of years interrupted with Covid. The opportunities to gather, celebrate together and utilise our beautiful environment to learn in have been a real highlight for me. Thank you for all your contributions over the year, whether you have helped on school trips, delivered pizzas, been a member of the home and school team, a board member, coached sport teams, volunteered in the classroom or simply read with your child every night... thank you for everything!

On behalf of all the Muritai staff, we wish you all a safe and merry Christmas and a restful summer break. Looking forward to seeing all the children back on board on **Thursday 1st February!**

Ngā mihi nui,
Stu Devenport

YEAR 8 CUP RECIPIENTS FOR 2024

Class of 61 Cup

~ *“Outstanding Contribution to Muritai School”*

Awarded to that pupil who has consistently excelled in a variety of activities and challenges during their time within Muritai School

Elodie Dent



<p>Kirsty and Isabella Clarke Cup ~ "Positive Contribution to Muritai School" Awarded to the child who has consistently made a <u>positive</u> contribution to the peer group to ensure a positive environment at Muritai School.</p>	Isla Gellatly
<p>Newton family Cup Service to the School Awarded to the pupil who in their time at Muritai School has continuously served the school to the highest quality - taken on challenges, volunteered their time, helped others, been noticed for their quality conduct and used their initiative.</p>	Isabelle Longson
<p>Beck Family Cup -Leadership and contribution to sport and Sporting Successes - Girl Acknowledging sporting success throughout the year.</p>	Elodie Dent / Charlie Halford
<p>The Mills Cup for Contribution to the Arts Awarded to the student who has shown commitment and dedication to involvement across all areas of the arts including, visual, music, Kapa haka, movement/dance, singing and throughout their integrated studies.</p>	Dilyan Kusnadi
<p>Swain Family Cup for Leadership and Contribution to Sport-Boy</p>	Guy Marshall
<p>Debbie Bertaud Memorial Cup for Commitment to Science and Technology A cup in memory of Debbie Bertaud, pupil, parent, tutor, mentor, awarded to the student who has made the greatest commitment to science and technology during her or his time at Muritai School.</p>	Alex Curwen
<p>Stotter Family Cup. An all round student who is committed and dedicated to contribute and perform with excellence to new challenges in the environment, sporting and cultural life of Muritai School with a smile and positive attitude.</p>	Isla Gellatly
<p>Jacobsen Cup for excellence in Mathematics Girls & Boys Awarded to that pupil who has consistently excelled in the area of Mathematics.</p>	Alex Curwen Miriam Water
<p>The Broadbent Cup for excellence in Literacy. (New for 2011) Awarded to that pupil who has consistently excelled in the area of Literacy ~</p>	Isabelle Longson
<p>Kyle Sturgess Cup - Music Awarded to that pupil who has consistently excelled in the area of Music, both in exhibition and leadership.</p>	Elliott Halman
<p>Academic Prize Awarded to those students who worked hard in their academic studies and have consistently shown academic excellence across a wide range of subject areas BOY & GIRL</p>	Elodie Dent/ Isabelle Longson Alex Curwen

<p>Nicholas Bahler Award Empathy <i>Given to the student who has shown care, empathy, consideration and kindness to other students who have physical, mental or social challenges.</i></p>	Lucia Jurgens
<p>The Malama Cup – <i>The inspiring Visionary This award acknowledges someone who is a true asset to Muritai School. A person who strives to be the best person they can be through hard work and determination.</i></p>	Rory Maxwell-Lamb
<p>Kapa haka- for inspirational leadership of Kapa haka.</p>	Molly Carroll Charlie Halford
<p>Pointin Cup - Speech For speeches or debating</p>	Lars Meyer-Westfield
<p>Abel Tasman Cup ~ <i>“Awarded to that pupil who has risen to the challenge of the Abel Tasman Experience and made the most of the opportunity to show teamwork, optimism, enthusiasm, and to be inspired by the challenge</i></p>	Shared between Theo Longson and Bailey- Jade Ngaronga

Regional Athletics

Congratulations to our athletes who qualified at the Inter-Zone Athletics to attend the Regional Athletics last week - 22 children in all! Our year 8 students were away on Abel Tasman camp and unable to attend.

Lara Binnie	Y6 - 800m
Lennox Carroll	Y4 - Quoit
Freya Davidson	Y4 - 100m; Y4 - Quoit
Noah Delaney	Y7 - Shot; Y7 Vortex
Sam Delaney	Y4 - Vortex
Elodie Dent	Y8 - 1500m, Y8 HJ
Peira Dent	Y7 - 1500m
Archie Evans	Y6 - Quoit
Ruby Fenwick	Y7 - LJ
Keegan Field	Y5 - 800m; Y5 4 x 100m; Y5 - HJ
Fraser Halman	Y5 - 4x100m
Harri Hayes	Y4 - 100m; Y4 - HJ
Jagger Lissette	Y8 - LJ
Xolani Lynskey	Y6 - HJ
Jed McMahan	Y5 - 4 x 100m
Lily Phipps	Y4 - LJ

Harry Sellars	Y5 - 80m; Y5 - 150m; Y5 - 4 x 100m, Y5 - HJ and Y5 LJ
Toitu Singh	Y7 - HJ; Y7 - LJ
Murphy Theobald	Y5 - Vortex
Hugo Thompson	Y6 - 80m; Y6 - 150m; Y6 - 800m; Y6 - LJ
Eleanor Wilkie	Y5 - HJ
Eve Wyatt	Y5 - HJ

HOME AND SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

This year, with your support (and a lot of pizza!) the Home & School Committee raised \$24,750 and donated \$21,972 to Muritai School for the following:

- \$3,420 - teacher discretionary classroom fund top-up
- \$6,000 - Athletics
- \$2,000 - towards Kapa Haka uniforms
- \$9,300 - new sun shade
- \$1,252 - 3 new tents for year 8 camp

Thanks for all your support!

Next year we are raising funds for the following:

- teacher discretionary classroom fund top-up
- maths classroom equipment
- literacy decodable readers
- hall sound system
- junior basketball hoops
- hall curtain track repairs
- house / school teardrop flags
- basketball singlets
- senior school climbing equipment / slack-lines

Have a fabulous summer break - see you in 2024!

The Home & School Committee team...

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

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.

We are a family of 4 (2 adults and 2 children aged 8 and 10) wanting to move to Eastbourne in 2024. We are looking for a rental home from January 2024, for 12 months at least. Ideally we would be looking somewhere fully furnished. We own our own home in Wellington city and we are extremely house proud and responsible. If you'd be keen to chat further, please feel free to call me on 021 1905915.

Youth Group is having 'open nights' this Friday for the Year 6's who may wish to try out Youth Group before they become eligible to attend as Year 7's in 2024. Youth Group continues to operate upstairs in the Rec, taking the stairs up beside the sports changing rooms/Croquet Club entrance.

The first night is free and then the cost reverts to the standard \$4 cover charge. We still offer basketball, football indoors, pool, air hockey, table tennis, x box, skateboarding/scootering, a small canteen offering reasonably priced treats and great company.

Has your child ever wanted to learn another language?

Fun French lessons at Muritai school in 2024
once a week at lunch time



For more information go to
[Classes - Lower Hutt and Eastbourne](#)
[- Fun Languages \(lcclubs.co.nz\)](#)
or contact Stefi on 021 178 2099 or
stefi@funlanguages.co.nz

Speak Again

We are thrilled to announce that we will be welcoming new students to join the fun at Speak Again Drama Classes! Our vibrant community is growing, and we invite any families whose children may be interested in unleashing their creativity and building lifelong skills through drama.

Whether your child is a budding actor or taking their first steps into the world of drama, Speak Again is the perfect place to explore, learn, and grow. Our experienced and passionate instructors are dedicated to providing a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone can thrive.

Trial Classes: Newcomers are invited to participate in a complimentary trial class to experience the magic firsthand. It's a fantastic way for them to discover the joy of drama and see if Speak Again is the right fit for them.

See our advert for further information on what we provide.

 **SPEAK AGAIN**
PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT

ENROL NOW for 2024!

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

We cover:

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



- **At Muritai School**

Small groups, 30 minute sessions during school time. For Years 3 - 8.

- **After school classes**

Small groups, 60 minute sessions after school, at Eastborne Library board room.
Years 3-8

Register: www.speakagain.co.nz