



Muritai Beacon

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

Rāmere 14 o Whiringa-ā-rangi,

Kia ora Muritai whānau,

It's hard to believe we are in the final month of the school year! It'll be all hands on deck as we approach the final few weeks, preparing our tamariki for their new year level for 2026 while also providing a fond farewell to our Year 8 graduates who will be heading off to high school.

This week we welcomed our final cohort of 5 year olds for the year, with 14 new entrants in Room 1. We welcomed all our new students and whānau to school with a Mihi Whakatau on Wednesday. We are so excited to have you join us to start your learning journey at Muritai.

Over the past two weeks we have seen students from across the school shine in many areas both inside and outside of the classroom. On Tuesday we had close to 60 students from Years 4-8 compete in the Interzone Athletics Competition at Hutt Recreation Ground. Congratulations to all the participants that represented Muritai - this is an amazing achievement in itself! We are also thrilled to have several students who qualified for the Regional Athletics in Masterton in a couple of weeks. Congratulations to:

- Georgia Gellatly
- Freya Davidson
- Harri Hayes
- Cashel Cross
- Sadie Scott
- Blake McCorkindale
- Paddy Keenan
- Joey Holmes
- Skylar Filamu
- Plus our Year 6 and Year 4 Girls Relay Team!

This morning I also had the pleasure of judging our Year 7 and 8 Speech Competition. This certainly was a tough job as the quality of our speakers was outstanding! Congratulations to:

- Year 8 Winner & Overall Winner: Georgie Gallatly
- Year 8 Runner Up: Liliana Hilton
- Year 7 Winner: Otto Schollum
- Year 7 Runner Up: Betty McDonald

Last Friday a keen group of Enviro Students made a special trip out to the Pencarrow Lighthouse. They were joined by



Parker Jones from MIRO, Robert Ashe GWRC Park ranger and Vince Robertson from Taranaki Whanau. During the day they learned more about sustainable practices in the park, including protecting the precious Dotterals. They even got the rare opportunity to visit inside the historic lighthouse!

Earlier last week, the students in Kererū took part in an amazing initiative to raise money for the charity Nourish. Each student made a set of cupcakes to then sell at lunchtime to their fellow students and teachers. Well done Kererū you raised close to \$1300 for this wonderful cause!

Muritai 'Make It' Market is coming!

Classes across school are currently in preparation mode for our Muritai 'Make It' Market, scheduled for Friday 21st November. Every student is following a technology design process to create something special to sell at the market. There is going to be a huge variety of items for sale, many based around students' passions and interests. The school courts will be transformed into a community market for the afternoon and we will also have our two Kapa Haka rōpū performing to open the event. We encourage whānau to join us for this exciting afternoon too!

Muritai "Make-It" Market

Friday 21st November 2025

Muritai School Courts

11.30am - 12.30pm: Early Lunch
12.30pm - 1.00pm: Setting up the Market
1.00pm - 1.20pm: Welcome and final Kapa Haka performance
1.20pm - 2.20pm - Market is open
2.20pm - 2.40pm: Market Pack up
2.40pm - 2.55pm: Debrief in classes

Don't forget your bag, wallet and gold coins!

Please join us to for the afternoon. We would love it if you could be here for the final performance for this years Kapa Haka Rōpū - this will begin at 1pm.

If weather isn't looking good we will postpone until Thursday 27th November

New additions to the playgrounds

If you've popped into school recently you may have spotted some new additions around the place. Firstly, our basketball hoops on both school sites have been updated with some very slick and sturdy ones. They are already proving to be a hit during break times with our students and will no doubt be well appreciated by members of the community out of school hours. We are hugely grateful to the Renner family who has funded this project for us all!

The last of our murals from our Term 3 art project has also been installed in the playground. A huge thank you to our amazing Kororā kids for contributing to this cool installation!

Looking down, we also have some new additions at the entrance ways at Oroua Street and on the Kāhu site. Some very cool zooplankton have been designed and painted by our senior Enviro students. This was a follow up action from their presentation to the Eastbourne Community Board to create a safer pathway for our students to travel to and from school via active transportation. The future plan is for zooplankton to roll out onto the footpath to guide us to and from school. They are looking super cool!



Property Update

Work is progressing well on our school hall and we are on track for the contractors to be returning the hall interior for us to use by the end of November. This is perfect timing as our hall is a critical part of our end of year celebrations.

The next stage of this roofing project will commence at the beginning of December and involves roof and window replacements across Rooms 4, 5 and 6. This will require these classes to relocate for the final 2 weeks of the school year. It is not ideal but by starting this stage early we can guarantee these classroom spaces will be available to us at the start of 2026. Thankfully, we have spare classrooms available for these classes to work in:

Room 4 will move to Room 7

Room 5 will move to the STEM Room (Green room by the field)

Room 6 will move to Room 14 upstairs.

For the students and families in Rooms 4, 5 and 6, we will keep you posted with updates on this move, closer to the time.

During the summer holiday, work will also move onto the two story block. This is likely to extend through to the end of Term 1, 2026 and will impact on our use of some of the upstairs classrooms. Again, I will keep you informed regarding classroom relocation closer to the end of the year.

Staffing update

Last week we successfully appointed a new teacher for Kāhu. Next year we welcome Logan Managh to Muritai School who has had several years experience in the Year 7 and 8 area, working at Brandan Intermediate and most recently working as a PE specialist teacher in Sydney. His passions are Maths and Te Reo Māori. We are very excited to have Logan join the Kāhu team.

Our Commitment to Te Tiriti

Earlier this week legislation was passed that removed the obligation for school boards to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Our School Board will be writing a letter to the Ministry, and Minister of Education Erica Stanford to state our disagreement with this direction.

Our commitment remains strong. As a crown entity, we have a legal and moral duty to give effect to Te Tiriti. Embedding Te Tiriti principles leads to improved engagement, achievement and well being for all students, especially Māori.

At Muritai School we have worked incredibly hard over the past 3 years to ensure these principles are visible at our kura. I am proud of how far we have come and acknowledge there is further work to be done in this space.

Please refer to the letter from the Board which confirms this commitment coming home today also.

Ngā mihi nui,
Stu Devenport

Muritai School 'Giving Tree'

Our Muritai Charity Ambassadors are keen to add a bit of sparkle to the lives of those tamariki who are doing it tough this Christmas. This year, we are hosting a 'Giving Tree' (an initiative run by 'The Kindness Collective'). We will be collecting **new** toys, books, board games and sports gear for children aged 1 to 16. Please choose quality over quantity. Many of the



PLEASE DONATE TO
MURITAI SCHOOL'S
Giving Tree
Our opportunity to add a little shine to a child's Christmas.

We are collecting
NEW TOYS OR GIFT ITEMS*
suitable for a child to receive this Christmas.
*Please note, used items cannot be accepted

Please place your **UNWRAPPED** item under the tree in the
Muritai School Office
on or before
Friday 12th December

 Online donation more suitable for your whānau?
Please scan our Muritai School QR code to make a financial contribution our Kindness Collective page!

 Kindness Collective

children receiving these gifts have never had something brand new, or just for themselves before.

Your items can be placed under the Christmas tree in the Muritai School Office. We will be collecting until Friday 12th December. Your donations will then be dropped off at our local collection centre.

If an online dollar donation is better for your whānau, we will also be collecting on our Kindness Collective page. Please scan the QR code, available on our posters and the Muritai School Facebook page.

Important Dates	
Date	Event
17 Nov	Pizza Monday
17 Nov	Swimming Programme starts
21 Nov	Muritai Markets
24 Nov	Pizza Monday
25 Nov	Regional Athletics
27 Nov	Muritai Market PP day
28 Nov	Colour Run
1-5 Dec	Abel Tasman Camp Y8's
1-5 Dec	Tui Camp
1 Dec	Y7 Capital E EOTC day
2 Dec	Y7 Pencarrow Bike Ride
2 Dec	Road Patrol Pool Party
3 Dec	Days Bay Y7 EOTC day
3 Dec	BOT meeting at 6.30pm
4 Dec	Y7 Adrenalin Forst
4-5 Dec	Tui Camp
5 Dec	Y7 EOTC Butterfly Creek walk
8 Dec	Kererū Leavers Assembly
9 Dec	Kereru Youth Town & Mr Whippy
9 Dec	Kororā Library Christmas singing
10 Dec	Kororā Wheels Day and Mr Whippy
11 Dec	Graduation evening Y8's
12 Dec	Kororā R4L dress up day
17 Dec	Leavers Assembly 11am
17 Dec	Last day of Term 4 - School closes at 1pm

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

Sports Uniforms

You are probably aware that we have had a new sports uniform available for a little while now, featuring our new updated logo. We have been phasing out the old uniforms over the past 18 months and appreciate everyone who has already made the switch. As a friendly reminder, the new uniform will become mandatory for all sports teams and events from January 2026. You can purchase the new uniforms from Carole and Jo in the office.

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.

Youth Group Years 7-10: Chance for teenagers to be themselves without too much adult supervision

- Will be open the 14th, 21st, 28th of November and the 5th of December 2025.
- Open from 6.30-9pm in summer, each Friday night upstairs at the Recreation Centre
- Canteen sells soft drinks and lollies
- Entry \$5. **First night entry is free**
- Indoor basketball, Futsal, Pool table, Outdoor basketball, Air hockey, Skateboarding, Gaming room, Lolly pong, Couches and places for teenagers to hang out,



Eastbourne Garden Tour

St Alban's Church of England, New Zealand

Saturday 29 November 1-6pm

Explore 6 stunning private gardens | Tickets \$100 | Packages available including lunch, hors d'oeuvre, wine and live music | Support St Alban's earthquake strengthening
Tickets from <https://events.humanitix.com/eastbourne-garden-show>

Celebrate your connection to the Bays and come and see some hidden gems. The garden tour is a fundraising event for earthquake strengthening of the St Albans church and hall. There are a number of ticket options – or free entry to potted plants and raffle sales. See web site..

The Eastbourne community is invited to celebrate the launch of "Start Here: A Guide For The Overwhelmed" by Eastbourne local Dr Kerry Makin-Byrd. Published by Little, Brown UK, START HERE is an illustrated self-help guide for dealing with burnout featuring science-based solutions that will last a lifetime. START HERE was designed and illustrated by New Zealanders Katharine Hall and Catherine Adam of Wonderbird Design.

Friday 21 Nov 6 PM - 7:30 PM
Eastbourne Library & Neighbourhood Hub

(Including a reading, Q&A, and cookies)



JOIN US
FOR THE LAUNCH OF

START HERE
A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR THE OVERWHELMED
BY DR KERRY MAKIN-BYRD

FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 6PM - 7:30PM
EASTBOURNE LIBRARY & NEIGHBOURHOOD HUB
(INCLUDING A READING, Q&A, AND COOKIES)

RSVP TO PUBLICITY@HACHETTE.CO.NZ



Eastbourne Swim Club 2025/26

Eastbourne Swim Club will be back for the 2025/26 season at the Eastbourne summer pool! Thursday nights for swimmers aged pre-school to 13 years.

Register at:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjhTb89RbNyrLLnr121X2YQCEYFpdobXi2xz28lv0w4Eja7w/viewform>

Registrations close 14 November. The link is also posted on the Eastbourne Swim Club Facebook page.

We're on the lookout for coaches – if you have swimming skills you're keen to share with local children we'd love to hear from you. Please email: eastbourneswimclub@gmail.com



EASTERN HUTT SCHOOL
TWILIGHT XMAS GALA
COME AND JOIN US!

THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER
4PM-7:30PM

GIANT INFLATABLES
RIDE ON CARS

FOOD
GAMES
STALLS

SANTA'S GROTTO

FREE ENTRY

XMAS MARKET

Team Wilson

Kylie & Nick Wilson | 021 041 3562
Ray White Kemeys Brothers
kemeysbrothers.co.nz

Ray White
Kemeys Brothers
Kemeys Brothers Limited (Incorporated in New Zealand)
Ray White Kemeys Brothers Limited (Incorporated in New Zealand)

Vital Motors
MTE
AND architecture