



# Muritai Beacon

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

Rāmere 4 o Paenga-whāwhā,

Kia ora koutou Muritai whānau,

Wow, it is hard to believe we are nearly at the end of Term 1!  
It has certainly flown by!

An important reminder that the last day of the term for students is Thursday 10th April as school is closed for **Teacher Only Day on Friday 11th April**. This is a dedicated professional development day, allocated by the Ministry of Education for unpacking the new Maths Curriculum. Our teachers will be working off site, at Hutt Central School, working with other teachers from across the Lower Hutt cluster of schools.

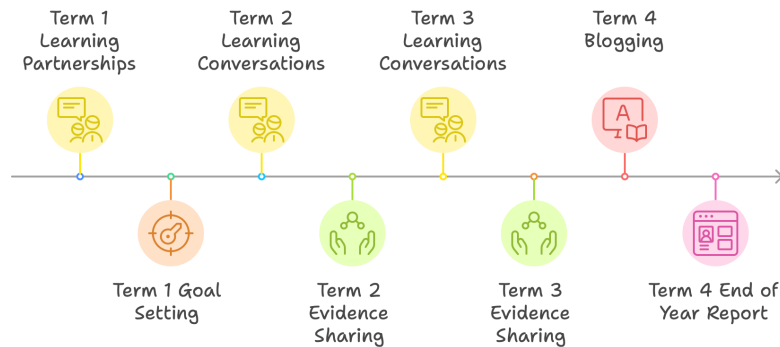
As you are aware, our Associate Principal Jamie Power will be leaving Muritai at the end of this term to take on the Deputy Principal role at Raumati South School. I am pleased to announce that we have a wonderful teacher for our Room 13 learners. Mary Heath will be joining the Tūi team from the beginning of Term 2 through to the end of the year. Mary has relocated from Auckland, where she previously taught at St Mary's Northcote. She possesses strong literacy and numeracy knowledge and has a calm, inclusive approach to her teaching. She also knows Muritai and Eastbourne well, as she was a previous student at Muritai and is Gabrielle Heath's daughter!

At the end of next week you'll be receiving your child's Goal Setting summary via the Caregiver App. Keep a look out for this next Thursday. These goals have been set by the teacher and student, using assessment information that has been gathered over the first term of school. Please take the time to read these goals and discuss them with your child at home. Early in Term 2, we will be hosting Learning Conversations meetings with you. This will be an opportunity to discuss the learning goals more and share progress in your child's learning over the first term at school. Throughout term 2 you will receive updates on your child's learning via the Caregiver App, giving you a snapshot of some of the learning they have been doing at school.

A reminder that these learning updates and additional Learning Conversations replace the mid year written report at the end of Term 2.



## 2025 Parent Report Sequence



### Kererū Camp.

Our Kererū Syndicate returned from their recent camp adventure with beaming smiles and a treasure trove of memories! From conquering challenging hikes to mastering new team-building skills, our students truly embraced every moment. The teachers saw incredible displays of resilience, cooperation, and kindness. A huge thank you to all the teachers and parent helpers who made this unforgettable experience possible. A special thanks to Lisa Allen for coordinating and leading this successful experience for our Year 5 and 6 students. We're incredibly proud of our Kererū Syndicate and their achievements!



### Celebrating Kindness

To celebrate our key Living Value of Kindness, we hit the streets yesterday with our buddy classes to decorate the pavements with urban graffiti. It's great to share positive messages and pictures of how to be KIND at our kura!



### Orchard Developments

At assembly today we had James Marsh share more information about our Māra Muritai development in the school orchard. James shared more information about how we plan to prepare the soil, ready for more planting in this area. As reported earlier, James has built collection bins by the orchard for community donations of organic material, including:

- Cardboard, newspaper
- Compost, worm castings
- Leaf mulch, grass clippings, straw or hay, comfrey, seaweed
- Pea straw, wood chips, shredded paper or cardboard
- Coffee grounds, eggshells, wood ash (untreated)

Please ensure all materials are bagged and tightly secured. We also welcome donations of vegetable plants, fruit trees, grape vines, berry canes, native trees and shrubs, or bee-friendly perennials. It is exciting to see this initiative take shape!

Are you keen to help out in our new garden space? Please come and join the working bee on Saturday, April 12th from 9 to 12pm to prepare gardens and build some gates.





## Celebrating the end of Movin' March.

We had hoped to host a Wheels day at school today to acknowledge another successful Movin' March at Muritai. Unfortunately the weather was not on our side so we will try to find another date to make this happen soon!

## Muritai School - Kōrero Paki

Last year you'll recall one of the Muritai students' Inquiry initiatives creating pukakau (stories) about our local area - Eastbourne. At assembly today the wonderful people from Tupua Horo Nuku presented the school with a very FAT book, containing all the wonderful stories created by the Muritai students in 2024. It is filled with wonderful adventures and artwork. We have a copy for our school library and another will be kept at Eastbourne Library. Ka rawe everyone!



## Kimberly Andrews Book Launch.

I had the pleasure of attending the launch of a new book by local author, illustrator and Muritai mum Kimblery Andrews yesterday. Her new book Giraffe the Gardener is a wonderful tale with engaging environmental and science themes. Her stunning illustrations bring the story to life! It was wonderful to see such a large crowd (young and old) supporting Kimberly and her whānau. I highly recommend this book for the book shelf and home!



## Kupu o te wiki

Check out our latest kupu movie created by the Kāhu team - its great to kōrero Māori!

Link: [📺 WEEK9 AND 10 T1.mp4](#)



## Rob Cope - 2 minute Parent Video

### PlayStation VS Cards?

Playing cards with your child isn't just a game—it's a powerful moment of connection.

While a PlayStation offers distraction, a deck of cards invites eye contact, laughter, and presence. It taps into a child's deepest psychological need: to feel seen and valued. Every shuffle, every shared win or loss, builds emotional intelligence, resilience, and trust. These are the moments that shape secure attachments and lasting memories—far more rewarding than any digital high score.

When you sit across the table, you're not just playing a game—you're saying, you matter to me.



Click below to watch:

<https://youtu.be/Ue87SeaQkUg?feature=shared>

Ngā mihi nui,  
Stu Devenport

## ARRIVAL TIMES

We have noticed that a number of students have been arriving quite early in the morning at drop off times. We ask that students do not arrive at school until 8.20am as teachers use this time for planning and preparation for the day ahead. Thanks for your support on this matter.

## Emergency Food Packs

If you have not already done so, can you please bring an ice cream container to school for use in an emergency. These can be filled with:

- 1 small meal (eg can of spaghetti/baked beans to be eaten cold)\*
- 2 small tins of fruit\*
- 3 snack items (muesli bars, chippies, etc)
- 6-10 barley sugar type sweets (need to be wrapped)
- 1 plastic/wooden spoon

\*tear top or easy opening cans are recommended

## KELLY CLUB

Friday 11th March 2025 - Teachers Only Day Kelly Club is running a programme based at Gracefield School in their school hall.

We have got an amazing programme planned, including cooking, crafts, games and more!

Kelly Club Hutt Central staff will be on this site for the day, so children will see some familiar faces throughout the day.

Book online at [www.kellyclub.co.nz/gracefield](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz/gracefield)

Join us for an unforgettable adventure these school holidays!

Don't miss our amazing Time Travel Day - it's going to be an exciting adventure!

You can also expect some other amazing themes that have been planned by our awesome Kelly Club team, such as our Easter Eggstravaganza, ANZAC Heroes, KC's Got Talent Day and our super fun The Letter "S" Day

With so much variety and creativity there is something for everyone, so be sure to visit our website [www.kellyclub.co.nz/muritai](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz/muritai) and secure you spot today

## PRINCIPAL AWARDS - Term 1 Week 9

Congratulations to the following students who received a Principal Award at our last assembly. We are so proud of you all!



Lulu Roff, Ollie Bond	Room 1
Monte Miskimmin, Marnie Te Whata	Room 2
Harry Easton, Vivien Williams	Room 4
Eliza O'Rourke, Charlie Marsh	Room 5
Olive Hall, Joe Keenan	Room 6
Molly Lenahan, Dylan Holmes	Room 8
Olivia Merten, Ted Fahey	Room 9
Emma Gellatly, Julian Males	Room 10
Theo McLean, Archer Coleman	Room 11
Leela Verhaeghe, Emerson Livingston	Room 12
Ari Dewilde, Tess Thomas	Room 13
Florence Mackintosh, Jack Dawson	Room 15
Alda McKelvey, Poppy George	Room 16
Will Christensen, Ella Peck	Room 21
Emilia Hunt, Tinokura Wong	Room 22
Lucy Sherwin, Georgia Gellatly	Room 23

The following children will be having a Fish & Chips lunch with Mr Devenport soon: Monte Miskimmin, Ella Peck, Poppy George, Olivia Merten

## 2025 Term Dates

**Term 1** Tuesday 4 February – Friday 11 April

**Term 2** Monday 28 April – Friday 27 June

**Term 3** Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September

**Term 4** Monday 6 October – Wednesday 17 December



Important Dates	
Date	Event
24 Mar	Pizza Monday
26-28 Mar	Kererū Camp Makahika
31 Mar	Pizza Monday
2 Apr	BOT meeting 6.30-9pm
7 Apr	Pizza Monday
8 Apr	Year 3-8 Cross Country
10 Apr	<b>Last day of term for students</b>
11 Apr	<b>Teacher Only Day</b> and our last day of Term 1
16 May	Fire Wise Visit for Korora
21 May	BOT meeting at 6.30pm
30 May	Teacher Only Day
2 June	King's Birthday
20 June	Matariki
26 June	PJ Day
27 June	Last day of 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.**



**It's time to channel your inner explorer and join the Staglands Treasure Hunt!**

Every correct entry wins a prize and

there are heaps up for grabs! To enter download the [Treasure Hunt Sheet](#) from our [website](#) or ask for one at the Ticket Office when you visit. Take your completed sheet to the Ticket Office to claim your prize!

Don't forget to enter our bonus draw too for the chance to win a Staglander Annual Family Pass valued at \$220!

\*Offer runs 12th - 27th April 2025 (\*excluding Easter Long Weekend 18th - 21st April)

**Get creative at Katherine Mansfield House & Garden!**

Are you a 10-14-year-old who loves writing? Find inspiration and learn new tools for getting creative at our April School Holidays creative writing workshop.

Morning session: 14 April, 9.30am to 12.30pm  
Afternoon session: 14 April, 1.30pm to 4.30pm

Or make a day of it and register for both! \$25 per session, includes snacks, writing materials and a qualified tutor.

Find out more and register at [www.katherinemansfield.com](http://www.katherinemansfield.com)

**EASTBOURNE COMMUNITY FITNESS - PILATES CLASS**

Eastbourne Community Fitness have spaces in their Pilates Class which is held on a Wednesday night above the Library. This class will make you feel stronger, leaner, and more flexible. This safe, effective system improves posture, tones muscles, and boosts balance.

If you want to have a free trial class, please contact Margo on 022 010 9592.

**Would you like to make Easter Hot Cross buns...**  
*with apple, raisins & cinnamon*  
for children aged 5-12

**Where and when:**  
St Alban's Church Hall Kitchen, Ngaio Street.  
Sunday 6 April 10.30am  
Book/enquiries email: [stuart@mossman.net.nz](mailto:stuart@mossman.net.nz)  
Koha

## Muritai School - Mindfulness for Children 8-week Programme Term 2 2025

We are delighted to be once again offering our Mindfulness for Children Programme at Muritai School for Term 2, 2025. This will be held at East Harbour Kindergarten just across the road.

Fun and interactive sessions! Learn valuable techniques and mindset strategies to reduce stress and anxiety, improve focus, and enhance well-being.

Is your child feeling overwhelmed, stressed, or struggling to focus?

Would your child benefit from learning some cool mind-set strategies?

Is your child finding it difficult to make friends or needing support dealing with relationships? Are you struggling with ways how to help your child deal with BIG feelings and emotions?

### DETAILS:

Sundays 11am-12pm

Commencing on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May - for 8 consecutive weeks.

Fee - \$185 including ALL resources, art materials and weekly parent module communication to work on at home.

Limited places available - contact Gemma NOW to secure your child's place!

Your child will thank you!

We also offer Tots, Pre-school sessions at East Harbour Kindy 10am - 10.45am!

### CONTACT:

Gemma Bunning / Kaleidoscope Facilitator - 021 154 9797

Email - [www.kaleidoscopesolutions.co.nz](http://www.kaleidoscopesolutions.co.nz)

Kiwi-Hoop Holiday Camps, which will be held at the Walter Nash Stadium from April 14<sup>th</sup> to April 24<sup>th</sup>. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to improve their basketball skills in a fun, engaging environment, and we'd love to have your school involved!

We offer four specialized camps designed to cater to different skill levels and interests:

- All Star: Years 6-8, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of April.
- Swish: Years 3-6, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of April.
- Bounce: Years 1-3, 24<sup>th</sup> of April
- Girls Got Game: 16 & 17 April, School years 3-8. A girls-only camp dedicated to empowering young athletes through basketball.



### Hutt Valley Fencing Club Holiday Programme



15 - 16 April 2025  
Upper Hutt College Gym 9am - 12 noon  
Open Bouting 1 - 5 pm (koha)  
Register now for a 2 day introduction to fencing.  
\$90 on the day or book before April 7 and save \$10.  
Best suits ages 7+  
Electric fencing mini competition at the end of the session. Give it a go!  
FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[www.huttvalleyfencingclub.com](http://www.huttvalleyfencingclub.com)  
[huttvalleyfencing@gmail.com](mailto:huttvalleyfencing@gmail.com)



### FUN French for children!

Boost your child's brainpower!

**FUN French language lessons after School in Eastbourne on Tuesdays - we speak French from the first lesson!**

Lessons in the village  
After school pick up available



For more information message me, Stefi on 021 178 2099 or email me [stefi@lcclubs.co.nz](mailto:stefi@lcclubs.co.nz)

Mindfulness for Children  
Muritai School

Sunday's Term 2 2025  
Sunday's starting 4th May for 8 weeks  
11am - 12pm  
Across the Road! East Harbour Kindergarten

Empowering Children - it's what we do!

Contact Gemma - 021 154 9797 to secure your place  
Email - [enquiries@kaleidoscopesolutions.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@kaleidoscopesolutions.co.nz)