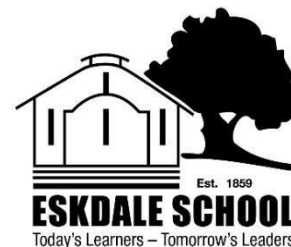


ESKDALE SCHOOL

March 2022 Newsletter

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Principal's Report

Welcome to the Eskdale School March Newsletter. It's hard to believe we are nearly through Week 5 of the school year and term. The year has started really well for our students, and we are keeping the focus on our school values and our core business as a school of teaching and learning. We are well aware of the Covid challenge and are making sure we meet all the different requirements, but our focus remains on our students, their wellbeing, and their learning.



Even with the red traffic light setting we are pushing ahead with as many student opportunities as we are able to do whilst meeting the different requirements. Over the past couple of weeks, we have had the Year 7 students doing Optimist Yachting, Year 3/4 students visiting the aquarium and Ruud Kleinpaste (aka the bugman) visiting our school. Next week we have a visiting puppet show for our NE- Year 2 students, and our Enviro group is heading off to do a beach clean-up.

Upcoming Dates to put into your calendar:

Friday 18 March - Teacher Only Day - *school is closed for students*
Wednesday 30 March to April 1 – Year 5/6 EOTC experience
Thursday 14 April - Last Day of term 1
Friday 15 April - Good Friday - School closed
Monday 2 May – First Day of term 2



Optimist Yachting: In Week Four, all the Year 7s went out to Pandora Pond to do Optimist Yachting. We learnt how to put our boats together and rig up our sails. Then we were able to sail our boats in pairs or by ourselves. It was a great challenge, and we learnt a lot about how to use the wind to sail and steer. We had two days sailing each, but unfortunately one group missed out on a day because of the bad water quality after some rain. Most of us managed to stay in the designated area, but one of our sailors managed to follow in the footsteps of the Great Navigator Kupe and see what lay beyond the horizon. Luckily Mr Jones in the speed boat, caught up to him after an epic battle with current and wind, and towed him back to safety. A huge thank you to Mr Stilwell, who gave us his expert knowledge on the activity and our parents who helped with transport and supervision.



Phoenix Rangihuna and Dylan Stanton Croom



Ruud Kleinpaste: On Tuesday we had Ruud Kleinpaste (aka The bug man) visit our school for the day. Many of you will recognise him from TV or would certainly recognise his voice from one of his regular radio spots. He is just so enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the environment and what lives among us. He worked with all the classes during the day and the students were captivated by him and the knowledge he was able to share. I know he also enjoys coming to our school and working in our environment. After school Ruud worked with the teaching team sharing a variety of new learning opportunities, we can explore further in our learning environment.



Term 1 Parent/Teacher learning conversations: In keeping with the red traffic light covid settings and managing risk the parent/teacher learning conversations in Term 1 will be via the telephone. These will take place during week eight at a time that works best for you as a parent. During Week 7 you will receive an email from your child's teacher asking if you would like a catch-up and asking some different times over the week that will work for you. If you wish to have a catch up with your child's teacher, please reply to the email with times that work best for you. This term the focus for these conversations will be around how your child has settled into the year, their initial learning strengths observed and areas to further develop.

Omicron Phase Three guidelines:

These have come to the fore this week with our first confirmed case within our school community. The school will continue to follow all requirements set out under the CPF Red setting. The key change at this stage comes from what happens with a close contact. Only household contacts, confirmed positive cases, or contacts exhibiting symptoms need to self-isolate.

Under this phase of the outbreak when we get a confirmed case at Eskdale School we will:

- Advise the parents of all children in the class of the confirmed case and the need for parents to monitor symptoms in your child.
- - If they exhibit symptoms they will need to isolate and get a test.
- - If they exhibit no symptoms they should continue coming to school as normal.

Under this phase we need you to:

- Let us know if your child tests positive.
- Isolate your child if they are positive or a household contact of a positive case.
- If your child is unwell- Keep them at home.
- Get your child tested if they are exhibiting symptoms after being in contact with a confirmed case.



Community working together: We have recently installed a defibrillator at school. It is located on the wall just outside Kuaka room as once the school redevelopment is completed this will be our administration block. This is accessible 24 hours a day and if you need to use it when you dial 111 you will be given the code to open the box it is contained in. This defibrillator was courtesy of our local community volunteer fire brigade and we certainly appreciate their support with this.

Year 3/4 Aquarium Trip: On Wednesday our year 3/4 classes travelled by bus to the aquarium. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about the different fish and reptiles on display. As well as a tour of the

Aquarium they completed the Life at the Boundary - East Coast LAB programme where they all had a chance to become a scientist and do experiments about tsunamis, liquefaction, and earthquakes.

I know the children enjoyed themselves, learnt a lot and they were also excellent representatives of our school out in public.



School Fees/Donations: Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who has already paid these this year. The school fees/donations for 2022 are set at \$40.00 per term. These form an integral part of ensuring we can provide all of the resources we want for our students. The funds provided by the Ministry of Education do not cover all of the resources we believe are essential for every child to experience success.

Over the past 12 months we have used the school donations for increased teachers in classes (reducing teacher to student ratio), increased reading recovery time and bought some additional devices, robotics, science, and technology resources.

2022 Recommended School Fee/Donation: \$40.00 per term or

- Individual Child \$160.00 per year **discounted** if paid in term 1 to \$140.00.
- Two Children \$320.00 per year **discounted** if paid in term 1 to \$280.00.
- Three or more children \$480.00 per year **discounted** if paid in term 1 to \$420.00.

Online Safety: This month's focus is Online Gaming. Gaming is everywhere. Many mobile games are played online and can have a multiplayer option where gamers can interact with their friends, as well as strangers all over the world. Many also have private messaging features.

Here are Netsafe's top tips for parents wanting to keep their children safe while they play online games:

1. Set up parental controls:

Both mobile and traditional gaming platforms offer parental control features or apps which require you to okay any game your child tries to download. If the game needs to be linked to an email address, it is recommended you provide your email address so you are aware of any correspondence.

2. Check ratings and reviews:

Before your child downloads any game, check the age rating and read reviews from other parents.

3. Set boundaries:

Talk to your child about the game before they get started and set some boundaries about how many hours you think it is appropriate for them to play the game each week.

4. Make a plan for if something goes wrong:

Make sure they know how to use any blocking and reporting features and let them know that they can always talk to you if they encounter something that makes them feel uncomfortable or upset.

5. Check in:

Check in with your kids when they're playing games and show interest in their progress. Ask how they are going and if they have any concerns about other players. Note any changes in behaviour or sleeping patterns, or if they start talking a lot about a new friend they met in the game.

For more information on online gaming advice visit netsafe.org.nz/gaming/

Thanks for helping ensure the start to 2022 has been such a positive one. It is probably the smoothest beginning to a year I can remember and all this while under the red setting.

Tristan

Dates to Remember*

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8 March 2022 | New Entrant – Year 2 Puppet Show |
| 18 March 2022 | Teacher Only Day – school closed |
| 30 March – 1 April | Year 5/6 School Camp |
| 7 April 2022 | Switch Sport Day |
| 14 April 2022 | Easter Dress Up Date – bring a gold coin donation for the SPCA |
| 14 April 2022 | Last Day of Term 1 |
| 2 May 2022 | First Day of Term 2 |

*See also Eskdale School Website Calendar: www.eskdale.school.nz

Principal's Certificates

| Recipient | For ... |
|------------------------------|---|
| Alison Gale | For being brave and giving everything a try. So proud of you. |
| Daniel O'Leary | For showing me what a terrific problem solving person you are. |
| Archie Stevens | A fantastic start to Tui class 2022 |
| Fern Borrie | Our first Tui manager for the year Ka pai! |
| Robert Jensen | Settling into Kea Class quickly and setting a great example with his awesome manners and work habits! |
| Azareah Hancox-Rahui-Allison | What fabulous manners and focus! Tino pai Azareah! |
| Reagan Scott Semple | A superb start at Eskdale School! |
| Reid Kersley | A fantastic start at Eskdale School! |
| Ric Smith | for being brave and asking for help when needed. |
| Millie Berkett | for showing enthusiasm in your learning, awesome way to start the year Millie! |
| Evie Kersley | An awesome start in Kereru class! We are so happy to have you back at our school. |
| Colton Bennett | A fantastic start to Year 5 - tino pai Colton! |
| Tarow Maeda | Showing us what a respectful young man you can be. Terrific listening ears. Well done. |
| Greer Winter | being so kind and caring towards others. |
| Jamie Gale | being a fabulous helper and thinker ka pai! |
| Cooper Pell | sharing his great knowledge when we need information or new ideas. |
| Abel Appleton | Showing great focus and being willing to share his maths thinking |
| Freddie Lee | Including great details in your holiday writing. You have had some great fishing adventures and delicious dinners. |
| Damon McDonald | Great holiday writing. I really enjoyed reading about the disastrous leak in your boat. |
| Karlien Barnard | showing great listening skills and asking really interesting questions of others during their sharing time. |
| Jonah Longdon | being a great helper in PE for Mr James, thanks heaps Jonah! |
| Toby Ross | being a fantastic helper and leader in Kereru class. |
| Ruby Roberts-Kirby | giving 100% effort in all of her schoolwork - way to go Ruby! |
| Josh Ranapiri | showing perseverance and a positive attitude |
| Rico Harrison | showing perseverance and a positive attitude |
| Axel Smith | showing me what a brave and determined young man you are. You are giving everything a go and if it doesn't sometimes work out you carry on until it does. Awesome Axel. |
| Sienna Retallick | working hard with your learning and always do your very best. Ka pai Sienna. |
| Kane Thorne | A great caring role model who always does his best. |
| Seth Wood | always willing to help others especially at community pack up time. What a guy! |
| Iyla Kohlis | For always doing your best, being on task and helping others. |
| Holly Verry | For being a super helper, on task and always giving it a go! |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Millie Jardine | Settling in to Hihi and Year 5 brilliantly! |
| Lochlan Jordin-Tinker | Settling in to Hihi and Year 5 brilliantly! |
| EI-lae Bush | fantastic start to kereru class - thank you for being a role model! |
| Hayley Brain | Great attitude and effort in all school subjects - way to go Hayley! |
| Martha Longdon | having such a positive can do attitude towards your learning. Ka pai Martha. |
| Keira Munford | being such a kind and respectful member of Kotare class. You're a star. |
| April Bower | Working hard with your story writing, carefully sounding out the words. Ka Pai! |
| Lilly Dudding | writing a long story by using your super sounding to help . Ka Pai! |
| Florence Lee | Being a patient and kind librarian teacher! |
| Lucas Tainui | Helping new class members when they are stuck. Keep it up Lucas! |
| Sophie Jensen | Trying so hard and settling in well to her new syndicate - we are impressed Sophie! |
| Reeve Fan-Robertson | working well in a group to produce an interesting STEAM project |
| Henry Lee | Showing great independence at writing time. I love the way you sound out your words Henry! |
| Peata Harrison | Wow what a fabulous writer you have become Peata! I love how you sound out your words and check your full stops and capitals all by yourself! |
| Jensen Jordan | Goodness how neat and tidy your printing has become! I especially love how you are putting all your letters on the line. Tino pai Jensen. |
| Leela Agnello | For awesome work with your reading tasks, keep it up Leela! |
| Harper Paterson | For being an amazing help to Mr James. |
| Sam Verry | What an awesome role model you have been in our class Sam. Beautiful manners and focus. Outstanding. |
| Devin Doyle-Solly | Thank you for your beautiful manners and for showing whakaute to everyone in Kea Devin. |
| Emily Fisher | For writing an amazing crazy poem, well done Emily! |
| Sophie Demanser | For your wonderfully creative ideas in your writing. |
| Ryder Pollock | You have settled into Kea so quickly Ryder! I am so impressed with your marvellous mat manners! |
| Summer Cave | Goodness you are becoming so independent Summer - following instructions and looking after all your gear so well. Tino pai! |
| Josh Bicknell | Showing great focus on your work and being an excellent role model to others in Ruru. |
| Harry Tester | For staying on task in group work and keeping others on track also, great role modelling Harry! |
| Joel Tester | Working hard in reading and making good inferences. |
| Liam Hellyer | Mastering his goal of solving a rubiks cube! |
| Taj Kohlis | fantastic group work in STEAM time! |
| Luke Newall | being a respectful, patient and helpful member of our class - thank you Luke! |
| Lacelle Sumner | Showing whakaute to his peers and always be there to support his classmates - Keep up the great work Lacelle. |
| Mia Kersley | showing excellence when completing her English Tasks, especially with her pronunciation of Māori kupu. |

Enviro News

The Enviro Squad has had a busy start to the year with a number of project groups getting into their mahi. It is exciting to have a record number of students keen to be involved.

The Lions' Club kindly donated a number of swan plants to the school and we have a Butterfly Project team who have researched the best places to plant them and are working on an education programme to share with the classes.




With the new car park being developed we need to move the Peace Garden up behind the Year 5 and 6 classes. We have a team working on mosaic tiles which will be added to the area.



Sea Week is coming up next week and we have a team planning some fun and educational school wide activities. We hope to continue with our annual community Beach Clean up at le Quesne Road. Meet us there at 1pm next Wednesday if you are keen to help!

We also have a group of senior boys working on pest identification and trapping in and around the school grounds.

With a number of projects on the go and in the pipeline, we always welcome help from adults with a passion for the environment and / or skills they could share. Please let us know via the office or your child's teacher if you think you could help.



TIME TO UPDATE!

Our school uses **The Skool Loop App** to communicate and send important information. **Please check** your app store to ensure your phone is running the latest version and receiving **all school news**.

The app undergoes regular maintenance and updates throughout the year. **Check your app store** to ensure your phone is running the latest version!









List and sell your home with me and I will personally donate **\$500** to Eskdale School*

Sam Hutchinson

Harcourts

Residential & Lifestyle Specialist Sam - 021 0239 3856

EASTER FUNDRAISER TERM 1 2022

**BRING A
GOLD COIN
DONATION
FOR THE
S.P.C.A**



**DAY: THURSDAY
14 APRIL 2022**

**DRESS UP IN
AN EASTER
THEMED
COSTUME**

