



Eltham School Newsletter

*Learn by Doing - Knowledge
is Power*



24th November 2016

Term 4 Week 7



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Kia ora Whanau, Community Members and Friends of Eltham School

Final weeks of the year!

Wow! This term has flown...It is so hard to believe we only have 3 more weeks of school for 2016!

Last week we completed our end of year testing, and it has been comforting to know that most of our students have shown good progress in their learning, throughout the year. Our teachers are currently writing end of year reports (years 4-8) and these will be available to take home on the 14th December. We have changed the format for end of year reports this year, making them more visual and less wordy. Hopefully they will be easier to understand, but we also want to make sure we are providing you, as parents with all of the information you would like. We would value your feedback/comments about the report format so we can update/improve/tailor it to our parent's requirements. Please let us know what you think when you get the reports.

Uniform Survey

We (Eltham BOT) are currently looking at introducing a school uniform, as it seems there is a lot of interest from our parents about this. We will be posting a survey about uniform shortly. Please respond, as we NEED your feedback for the uniform to go ahead.

End of Year Prize-giving Assembly

We have begun planning for this event. Our final assembly (prize-giving) will take place on Thursday 14th December, starting at 11.00am. We look forward to having you join us, to farewell our current year 8's, to celebrate the successes of our students, and to reflect on what has been a very busy and progressive year.

Kathryn Pick
Principal

Whanaungatanga

Honesty

Empathy

Respect



Absent from the photo: Latore Daymond –Turei

Our Room 5 students recently wrote about the Kapa Haka group performing the haka at our recent Cultural Festival...

Arms moving back and forth slapping against their tensed chest making it as red as fresh blood.
 Legs pounding, making loud banging noise on the hard wooden floor.
 Eyes wide open as if they were full moons.
 Voices echoing down the large wooden hall making everyone feel small and afraid.
 Girls in the background like trees, silent and still.

Luke Moyle

As I see my brother and his group enter the stage I am excited to see them perform on my school stage. I can smell the scent of hangi flowing through the crowded room. I was getting hungrier and hungrier. I heard the harmonising of the boys at the back of the girls and when I saw them walk out for the haka I got excited. After the haka finished I had goose bumps all over my body. I'm thinking, when is this festival going to be over but I didn't want it to be over. I heard the harmonising between the boys and I wonder if I am ever going to be in that group with my brother and sister. I wonder if Kapa Haka connects Maori and brings them all together?

Hemi Witeri

As I look in front of the stage, I see the group of boys and girls singing with big loud furious voices. The look of their eyes staring deep down at your soul.
 I can hear their voices echoing through my body. I hear the banging of their feet like a firing gun, over and over.
 I felt scared. As I kept watching, my heart started racing, like a blood thirsty wolf.
 I was thinking, how many hours did this group practice and memorise all the moves and songs? **John Garabillo**

Congratulations to our "Learners of the Week"...

Room 1 – **Ashah Lawson** – For a fabulous effort in reading.

Room 2 – **Latore Daymond - Turei** – For having a positive attitude towards his reading and writing and making excellent progress.

Room 3 – **Tetahi Ratahi – Burgham** – For working super hard in reading and always being helpful in class.

Room 4 – **Destany Robinson** – For showing maturity and initiative during our cultural festival.

Room 5 – **Sandra Mose - Tuiloma** - For showing great organisational ability with showcasing Room 5 talents.

Room 6 – **Carlyn Jones** – For his focus on learning and amazing technical drawing.

Room 7 – **Tawera Brewerton** – For working hard in all rotations and encouraging others to do the same.

Room 8 – **Grant Ngatai - Turahui** – For having a great attitude and trying hard in literacy.



They smash their hands against their chests. As I was watching them, I noticed their chests turning red but not once did they seem phased. It's so loud and powerful, it's awesome. They shook the stage as they stomped their feet.

As their haka was at last finished they all sang one last song, they took a bow and leaped off the stage with their heads up high as the audience applauded happily. It was a great experience watching them perform for us. As I was watching, I wondered how they got it all so sharp and on point. But that is a mystery left for myself because as they leapt off stage, they left straight away without actually saying anything. But there is one thing I know was that they were awesome and had a very powerful performance.

Bachelor Kahui-Hiroa

Community Award

The community award this week goes to Mrs Birdsall for being so reliable, and flexible, as our most regular relief teacher.

You do such a great job working with our lovely students, most regularly in our senior classes. Thanks Mrs B for being such a great support to our team.



Cool Choices

Ahrahnia Van Kuijk Moffat – Room 7 – For keeping our school beautiful.

Matthew McCallum – Room 8 – For tidying up all the sandpit toys after school on Friday.

Justin Salisbury – Room 8 – For helping to solve problems in the playground.



Birthdays this week

Ricky Ward – Room 3 – 7yrs

Penilee Mose-Tuiloma – Room 6 – 12yrs

Welcome to our new students...

Elias Marino – Room 1

Renee Wanakore – Room 5

Selah Wanakore – Room 6

Feet crashing as the chests of the young men turn a vibrant red from the repeated slapping and smashing that they are putting their body through in this performance.

As these Maori youth go far back in time for this performance, most members of the crowd are holding up their iphones, catching this for their live streams and snapchat.

The ground is shaking like an earthquake from the muscular boys stomping, jumping and thumping on the stage.

Kurt McFaull

Services to the School Assembly – 9th December

On Friday 9th December we will be holding our final school assembly starting at 2.15pm. This assembly will be a ‘normal’ school assembly; with songs, celebrations and Room 8 will be presenting their ‘showcase’. However, during this assembly we will also be giving out certificates and recognizing the students at Eltham Primary who have given up their time during the year to do tasks and services for our school in some capacity. Parents are welcome to attend, as always, but we ask that you make a special effort on this day to help us reward those students who help us out in so many ways.

It takes a community to raise a child...

Our amazing team of teachers and support staff do such an incredible job to teach and care for all of our students. It is upsetting for us all when we hear about incidents that take place outside of school, that lead to our students being hurt and/or not feeling safe.

Every community has a small element of people that don’t respect others, hurt others and generally behave in inappropriate ways. Please keep an eye out for our children as they walk home from school, or local community places such as E-Town, the library or our local parks. Please don’t hesitate to ring us at school if you witness bullying behaviour towards our children, or see messages on Facebook that concern our children that could be potentially harmful.

We are the eyes and ears for all of our students during school hours, but we cannot be that once our children leave the school gates. We expect our community to be the eyes and ears for them outside of school hours. Please take this role seriously. It is better to inform someone about something disturbing/unusual/strange, than to do nothing. If any of our children are behaving in an ‘unusual way’ we want to know about it. Please help us keep our children safe.

Board of Trustees Information

We would like to acknowledge Murray Bain for all of the hard work he has committed to Eltham School as our Board Chairperson for the last 5 months. Murray has given up hours of his time to support the Eltham School staff, and has in particular been an invaluable Board Member in helping to address and progress some of the property issues and developments at school. We wish you all the best Murray with your new job in Thames! We will be advertising to fill the vacant position on our Board soon. Last month we co-opted Barb Frey onto our Board. Barb works as a veterinarian in Eltham and comes to us with previous School Board experience in Australia and NZ. Welcome aboard Barb. We will be selecting a new Board Chair at our first Board meeting next year, which is on Thursday 23rd February.

Parent Notices

Changes to Year 8 School Based Immunisation Programme for 2017

Following recent changes to the National Immunisation Schedule the school based immunisation programme will be offering Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to boys as well as girls in Year 8. This is a two dose vaccine programme with a 6 month gap between the doses.

Information on the vaccine and consent forms will be sent home with your child in early 2017, for you to fill out and return to the school. If you would like more information on this important Immunisation programme please go to <http://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/conditions-and-treatments/diseases-and-illnesses/cervical-cancer/hpv-immunisation>.

Donation of clothing

Rooms 1 and 2 need more small sized children's underpants and pants. It is not unusual for our 5 and 6 year olds to have 'accidents' at school. Our teachers change our children into our spare clothing supplies, and often those items are not returned to school. Please bring your donations of clothing to either Kirsty in Room 1 or Heather in Room 2. Thank you. This would be much appreciated!

Summer Reading Programme

The Summer Reading programme is for children aged from 5-12yrs old! Children read as many books as they like, report into the Eltham Library 3 times and they will be invited to the Finale Party! They also get rewards, entertainment, and activities to participate in if they join up! It's totally FREE!

You join at your local library (Eltham Library). Registrations are open between 5th – 16th December. There are limited spaces so get in quick!

Eltham School endorses this programme, because we know that if children don't read over the long holiday period they will slip back in their reading levels, when school starts up again in February. We encourage our children to join, and read, read, read, read, and read!!

From the PTA

The PTA would like to give all of our children a sausage in bread and an ice-block after our end of year prize giving assembly. (14th December) We would like to appeal to any parents who could be responsible for organising this BBQ. Please ring Maria in the school office if you are able to help.

The PTA are organising a grocery Xmas Raffle as a fundraiser. Could each family please donate an item or 2 for this. Please drop your items off to Maria in the school office.

Calendar of Events

December

- 1st – PTA Meeting – 3.15pm – Staffroom
- 2nd – Room 2/Room 5 – Trip to Rotokare
- 5th – Road Patrollers Reward Day
- 9th – “Services to the School” presentation
Assembly
- 14th - Prize-giving Assembly – Starts at 11.00am.
- 14th – End of Year Reports to parents go home.
(Years 4-8)
- 15th – Last day of School – School finishes at
12.45pm



Thanks to our Sponsors...

E.P.S. would like to thank Stanners' Motors for their assistance in producing this newsletter



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