

Eureka Express

Vol XLIV No. 10 Circ 305

www.eurekaexpress.co.nz

Nov/Dec 2023

eitor@eurekaexpress.co.nz



**LOCAL RURAL AGENT
SERVICING YOUR
LOCAL AREA**



Kevin **DEANE**
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great sheds, done right!





Eureka Christmas Editorial

The decision to move here a little over two years ago was undoubtedly the best one we've ever made. Our lifestyle block may be small, but it's filled with so much fun and laughter.

Eureka holds a lot of memories for Warwick and me.

The hall is where I had learnt to play badminton, a passion I only recently set aside, and Warwick owned a farm on Waverly Rd. These memories add to the charm that makes Eureka a place to call home, our own little piece of paradise.

Now in his retirement, Warwick indulges his passion for golf, while I balance part-time work with pursuits like fishing, walking our dog, gardening, and various creative projects. Our love for small adventures led us to a four-year ownership of a Spyder motorbike, but time constraints led us to part with it. Now, we embrace the freedom of spontaneous trips in our pop-top named Shelbee, relishing the rare days of sunshine wherever our mood takes us.

Caring for our two grandchildren, a role we've cherished during their pre-school years, has been a heart-warming chapter of our Eureka experience. As February approaches and our last grandchild prepares for school, we find ourselves with more time to spend for our trips and gardening that we adore.

Life here is a constant source of fun, we enjoy it and our beagle, Sherlock, adds his own unique touch. He enjoys greeting everyone who walks, runs, or bikes along the road. We seem to always know when school kids are walking past. We suspect our neighbours might occasionally be exasperated by his enthusiastic antics. And then there are the liveliest additions to our small paradise – Rabbits! Sherlock absolutely loves to pursue and catch the little buggers. Despite Warwick's efforts to control their population, one hole under our front deck remains, providing a stage for morning antics as the rabbits pop their heads out and cheekily nibble on my plants during breakfast. Even now, as I write, I can visualise Warwick hurrying to the garage window with his slug gun in hand. The battle occurs, he'll take his shot... the bunnies are still here.

It's like our own version of ground-hogs day.

Sometimes we have no rabbits, and we believe we finally have gotten rid of them... and then they reappear. It led us to playfully dub the hole as the "maternity ward." As the cycle, restarts, Warwick grabs his gun, and the ground hog day starts once again. The amount of laughter we have shared around the dining table as we reminisce the times, we had rabbit holes big enough that, when chasing rabbits down it, only Sherlock's tail could be seen wiggling about have made our home, feel like home.

As the holiday season approaches, we would like to extend our thanks to the neighbors who have helped us in moments of need and graciously endured the occasional chaos brought about by Sherlock.

Wishing everyone a warm and merry Christmas, filled with the joy of the holiday season from The Thomas Family – Warwick, Marilyn, and our niece, Jenna.



HALL UPDATE

Hello to you all.

Hard to believe we are now at the end of another year. The weather is finally looking promising, but I guess that by the end of January we will all be complaining about the heat.

We are still on the look out for a person to review our books. If you are interested please contact the treasurer Shaun Bartlett at shaun.bartlett@outlook.com.

Also, if you have a bit of free time and would like to volunteer to help us paint the inside of the hall and the toilet areas, we would love to have your help. Everything will be provided. Maybe you may like to clean out our trophy cupboard. It could do with a fresh look, once again we would appreciate your help.

On behalf of the Hall Committee, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. We have so much support from the community during the year, in so many ways that it is hard to thank everyone personally. However, I would like to thank our District Councillor Crystal Beavis for all the hard work she has put in this year to get us the upgrades we have received from the council or organised the help from the council. A lot of the work we have completed this year we wouldn't have achieved without your help. Also, the wonderful committee we have. Only a few of us but we get the work done. If you would like to help us out in any way next year, we would like to hear from you. It isn't a full-time job, it is fun meeting other people and knowing that you are making a difference in and for the community.

We look forward to continuing to keep the hall maintained and well used next year.

Contact Gayle Orr for any bookings or any other enquiries. 0272917150

Usage	Residents	Non - Residents
Hall per day	\$ 50	\$100
Social function	\$150 - \$300	\$250 - \$500
Children's party	\$30	\$75
Bond	\$400 Secretary's Discretion	\$500 Secretary's discretion

EUREKA EXPRESS - ADVERTISING RATES 2023

Classified adverts Free

Small business advert x 10 insertions \$10 per month \$100 per year
Third of a page x 10 insertions \$15 per month \$150 per year
Half of a page x 10 insertions \$20 per month \$200 per year





A HUGE THANK YOU

The Eureka Express Committee would like to thank you for the help, support, and assistance we have received this year. The Express cannot exist without your support. The delivery team, you go out in all weather to complete your deliveries. Some of you we don't see at all. You collect your bags from the garage and do your deliveries. Colin and Edie and Rose at Gull Eureka. Your support is amazing. We leave the bags for collection for delivery with you for distribution, and you collect the empty bags for us as well, ready for the next printing and delivery . Waikato Sheds. What can we say. You are amazing. So much support, and now you are printing the front cover for us in colour. Cathy, you always greet us with a smile when we pick up the print. Our advertisers. Your support is needed as we need your payment to help with the production of each issue. Many of you have been supporters for many years, thank you. We hope you continue to support us for many more. The people in the community who write the editorial. I know you all hope you never get the call from Lin Buckley asking you to write an editorial for us. The editorials are interesting, so nice to learn about the people in the community. Please don't be shy, it all helps us be part of an amazing community. Also, a huge thank you to the people who provide regular articles. Its not an issue without these articles. The Express Committee would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe holiday. We look forward to continuing to print the Express next year.



DONATIONS ACCEPTED.

We are all aware that the cost of everything is going up all the time. The printing of the Express is also costing more. If you would like to make a small donation, we would be very grateful. We will send you a receipt for your donation so please put your name as a reference. Our bank account number is 03-1559-0042660-00. The name of the account is Eureka Express. We would also like to thank everyone who puts their loose change in the box at the Gull Station, all donations are gratefully received and help towards the rising costs.

SNIPPETS

We are looking for someone to write a gardening article for the express each month. Is this you? If you love gardening and want to share your knowledge, we would love to hear from you. It doesn't have to be long, just seasonal, and full of helpful hints. Contact us and have a chat.

The Hall committee are still looking for someone to help us out and review the books. If this is something, you could do please contact our treasurer Shaun Bartlett at shaun.bartlett@outlook.com.

The Express committee are still looking for someone to deliver the express on Friendlander and Schollum Roads. It isn't a bit job once a month, and it isn't a lot of papers, but we do have a vacancy to fill. Please give us a call or email editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz.

NEW JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR EUREKA

Eureka finally has a JP. Kevin Deane now officially has the job. Congratulation Kevin from us all. Please call or text to arrange an appointment.

Kevin Deane JP m 021 281 0068, Kevin is located in Eureka.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Josh McCarthy and Simone Deverson who were married at their home on Hooper Road on 8th December 2023. We wish you all the very best for your future together.

Donna and Brian Verryt announce the wedding of their son Jaden on the 8th December 2023 to Alice Walker of Christchurch at the Red Barn at Hinuera. It was a beautiful day.

REMINDER

CHRISTMAS MARKET THIS SUNDAY 17TH DEC.

EUREKA HALL 9AM UNTIL 12PM.

LOTS OF STALLS, GIFTS, AND BARGAINS

COFFEE AND A MUFFIN.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE.

IT'S THE LAST ONE FOR THIS YEAR.



TAMAHERE-WOODLANDS COUNCILLORS'

UPDATE DECEMBER 2023

District News

Navigating national changes

The new coalition Government has announced a flood of major changes that will impact local government. Waikato District Council is watching for opportunities as details emerge over the next few months.

Changes announced include:

- Establishing a National Infrastructure Agency to coordinate government funding, connect investors, and improve funding, procurement, and delivery.
- Developing long-term city and regional deals for infrastructure. These are partnership arrangements between central and local government focussed on creating economic growth by giving local government the resources to deliver on priority projects.
- Repealing the Natural and Built Environments Act 2023 and the Spatial Planning Act 2023, and introducing a new legislative programme to reform the Resource Management Act.
- Issuing stop-work notices on Three Waters, with assets returned to council ownership.
- Introducing a \$1.2 billion Regional Infrastructure Fund

As we work through the changes – especially Three Waters reform – and as inflation continues to bite and the Capital Goods Price Index (that tracks construction costs and capital assets) soars well above the Consumer Price Index – Council rates will continue to come under strong pressure and are likely to rise. Waikato District Council is reviewing future works plans and budgets to seek savings, but also needs to spend on infrastructure to support growth and to fulfil legislative requirements. Maintaining the right balance is a challenging task.

Local government reform?

As the local government association of New Zealand, LGNZ, says, current funding models for local government are unsustainable, debt is increasing, and so are infrastructure deficits.

Responding to the *Review into the Future of Local Government* which was released earlier this year, LGNZ supports building a new system of government that's fit for purpose; rebalancing the country's tax take between central and local government; creating stronger relationships between local government and iwi; aligning central and local government priorities; and strengthening local democracy and leadership.

It's a bold vision but worthy of support since councils have a critical responsibility for our local communities and their wellbeing.

Construction season – a message from the Mayor

The construction season has started with the advent of good weather. Road works are frustrating, but fixing our roads is vital for keeping our communities connected and supporting our economy. So please don't take out your frustrations on our frontline workers. Please give them a friendly wave or smile as you drive by, and pass a word of kindness to these people working in the heat of summer on our behalf, as we want them to arrive home to their loved ones safe and supported. They're simply doing their jobs to the best of their ability. (For details of major roadworks in our district see the 'Current Roadworks' page on the Council website.)



Local projects update:

- **Tauwhare sculpture** – thanks to artist Marti Wong for the design and Tauwhare Hall chair Lockie Verner for the construction, an iconic sculpture representing Tauwhare, 'house or place of rest', has been installed next to the Tauwhare War Memorial Hall. Standing several metres tall, it's the realisation of a vision that was first set in motion with the availability of a Waikato District Council arts grant in 2016, and kept alive by the ongoing support of a group of local people. Plantings and a plaque will complete the setting for the work which is expected to be formally celebrated at an on-site function in the New Year.
- **Tamahere Park toilets upgrade** – opening set for 10am, 21 December.
- **Jack Foster Reserve carpark, Matangi** – expected by June/July 2024.
- **Hukanui Park playground, Gordonton** – a concept plan is being costed.
- **Flagpole for Eureka cenotaph** – flagpole now raised!

Some of these projects, and others, are listed on the 'Projects Directory' page on the Council website so you can follow progress.



New phone app for requesting Council services

Download the **Antenno app** from the App Store or Google Play to your mobile phone so you can tell the Council more easily about things that need attention, like potholes, graffiti or broken streetlights. Open the app, select 'Report it' and follow the on-screen prompts. You can even provide a photo if you want. For urgent matters please phone our Customer Services Team on 0800 492 452

Christmas holiday season

Warm wishes for the Christmas holiday season and a happy New Year. Keep safe on the road by giving yourself plenty of time to get to your destination. Enjoy your time with friends and family, and give thought to including someone you know who might be on their own. **Waikato District Council offices will close from midday Friday 22 December until Monday 8 January**, but on-call staff will be available to attend to urgent matters if you phone 0800 492 452.

Contact your Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors:



Crystal Beavis, mob 0275 957 927, email crystal.beavis@waidc.govt.nz

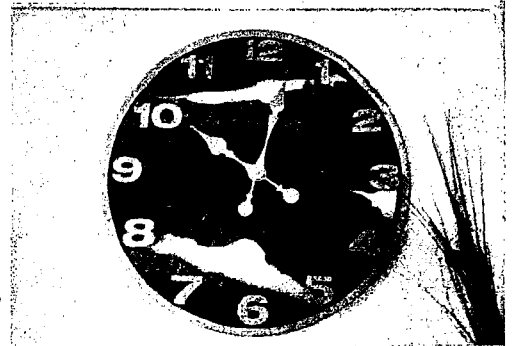
Mike Keir, mob 027 449 3012, email mike.keir@waidc.govt.nz

INTRODUCING ACE WOODWORKING STUDIOS

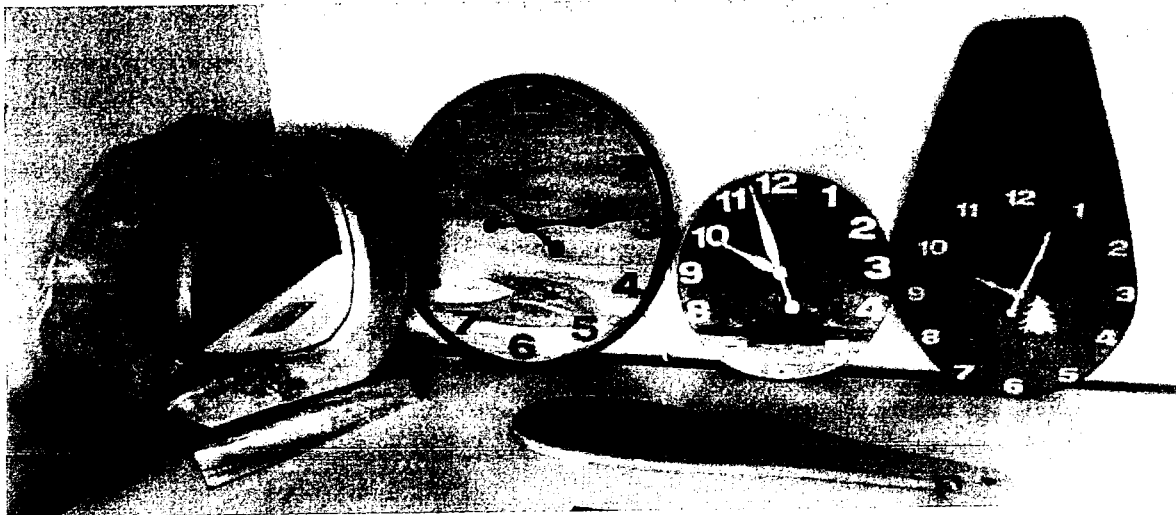
They call me Ace, I've lived in the Taupiri Eureka area for 70 years.

I spent my working life as an engineer in Heavy Transport Industry but now I've retired to my studio recreating my passion for creating all things wood and resin.

Taking a log of wood and changing it step by step into the items I have made to date, such as Lazy Susans, chopping boards, clocks, ornaments and mirrors. I have a lot of these items made all ready to buy.



I can also do custom made items to your requirements.



Bring me your idea then let's see what transpires.

Please feel free to contact me on 021 0288 9247.

This Christmas you can give a gift for eternity!

Robert Dance

Thanks to the Eureka Community – the Book Fairs are ending

I have recently lost my storage facility for my books and turned 70 so I have decided to transition my business into a book shop – with a lot less moving of heavy boxes in a short time frame. Unfortunately, the only shop I could find which suited my requirement to be on SH 1, is in Levin, north of Wellington. Strangely enough this is where I came from when I moved to Waikato fifteen years ago.

I would like to thank the Eureka community for all the support you have given me and my book fairs over the last seven years or so.

My last book fair at Eureka Hall is starting on Friday 1st December and going through to Sunday 10th December with the usual trading hours of 9am to 6pm daily.

Best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas to you all.

Trudi Gray



Weather for Oct. 2023		
Rainfall total	80.5 mm	
Rain Total for year	1626 mm	
Rainy days	12	
Most daily rainfall	16 mm	8 th Oct
Highest wind speed	56.2km/hr	30 th Oct
Temp high	26.4°C	19 th Oct
Temp low	-0.2°C	4 th Oct



Weather for Nov 2023		
Rainfall total	112.5 mm	
Rain Total for year	1738.5 mm	
Rainy days	10	
Most daily rainfall	34 mm	17 th Nov
Highest wind speed	38.5 km/hr	24 th Nov
Temp high	26.3°C	21 st Nov
Temp low	6.3 °C	6 th Nov

Who's the driver?

In computing terms, a driver is a little bit of code which sits between the hardware of your computer and the operating system (ie. Windows, MacOS, iOS, Linux, etc). The operating system says to the driver, "do this" and the driver talks to the hardware and says, "do this" and the hardware does that. Simple, right? But easy to get wrong. There's a million buggy drivers out there, for the same reason that there are bugs in programs; computers are predictable but humans are fallible.

So every so often you'll see a program come along and say it can help optimise your computer by keeping your drivers updated; that is to say, it'll check the internet to see if there are newer versions of the drivers you have, and if there are, install them. Leaving aside for a moment the fact that most of these programs are scams, designed to take your credit card or login details, let's focus on the bigger picture. A newer driver isn't necessarily a better driver, just like a newer operating system isn't necessarily a better one; the best driver or operating system is the one that's had the most testing.

With Windows, you don't need a driver updater because Windows does that for you. And it'll only roll out new drivers for hardware when it's gone through their extensive testing process. Most hardware manufacturers don't have access to the resources Microsoft have, so generally the drivers they put out don't have the same level of testing. And hence the newer drivers are often the ones with the most bugs. So basically, what I'm saying here is that you should just let Windows do the updating and leave it at that, with some small caveats for items such as 3D graphics cards.

The fact that some bigger firms like Avast offer programs which do driver updates for you, should leave you sceptical about those firms. If a service isn't needed, and is likely to cause issues, why would you pay money for it? The only good driver utility I've used is called Snappy Driver Installer, and I only use it for installing drivers on fresh installs of Windows. Why? Well, it saves you going to the manufacturer websites and doing a bunch of downloading (Snappy creates a local repository of drivers on your hard drive/flash drive).

But there's no cost to Snappy. It's operated by volunteers, and though you can donate if you want, it's a not-for-profit institution. If some software is charging you to update drivers, it's a scam, pure and simple. If you're at the point where you're scrolling through the internet, looking for solutions to your problem, and you're tempted to click on a link to some magical piece of software which promises to fix that problem? Call a professional instead. Those things cause more harm than they fix.

Not sure who your driver is? Phone Matt at 0211348576 or email: info@homepcsupport.co.nz
\$80 per hour, or \$70 for drop-off-to-workshop services.



Bentley Home PC Support

**THE TAUWHARE COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS PROJECT**

Live Nativity Experience
Christmas Display & Walkabout
Come along for Carols & Fun Together
Food Truck if you want to buy dinner

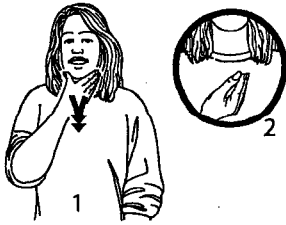
17th December 2023
First live play 5pm - Carols at 7pm
Tauwhare Community Church
1133 Tauwhare Road, Tauwhare
Parking at Tauwhare Hall

COME ALONG FOR FESTIVE FUN

IT'S THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY THEY SAY,

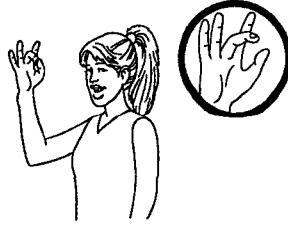
**BUT WE ALL NEED TO BE SAFE. PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE SURE
YOUR HOMES ARE SECURE IF YOU ARE GOING AWAY, THAT YOUR
ANIMALS ARE LOOKED AFTER AND DRIVE CAREFULLY ON THE ROADS.
IT IS THE BUSIEST TIME OF YEAR FOR OPPORTUNISTS AND STUPID
DRIVERS.**





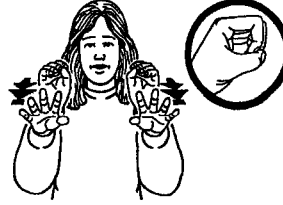
Christmas

Kirihimete



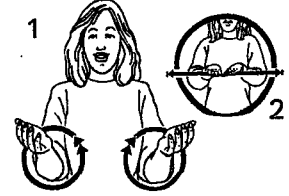
star

whetu



magic

tūmatarau



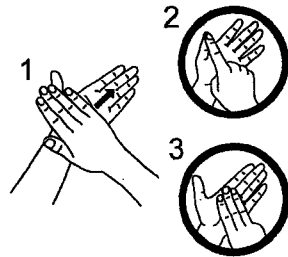
playground

papa tākaro



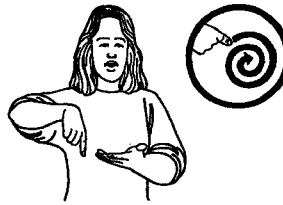
gift, prize,
wrap

koha, perehana



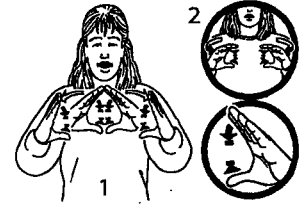
ham

poaka tauraki



pavlova

*purini kahu
tāhungahunga*



pavlova

*purini kahu
tāhungahunga*



cream

kirīmi



barbecue

rorerore



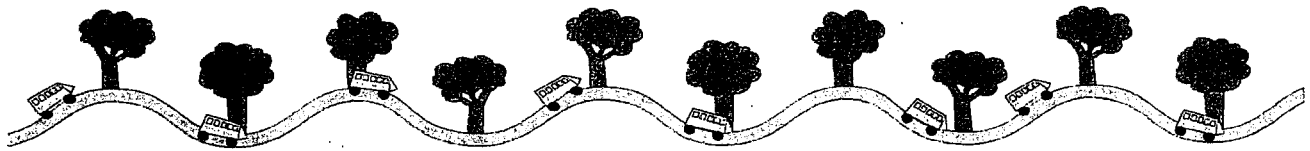
summer

raumati



ice-cream

aihikirīmi



Motumaoho School

2101 State Highway 26, RD2 Morrinsville 3372 | office@motumaoho.school.nz | p. 07 8897597

December, Term 4 – 2023

Duffy Theatre

This year Motumaoho School became a Duffy school to encourage our students to read more and develop a love of reading. Students have received new books every term and last Wednesday was our turn to have Duffy Theatre visit us for the first time. How exciting! Here's a little bit about the show: *This year's Duffy show saw Duffy and his alter ego get into all sorts of trouble in outer space, while their love of books and reading helped them to find their way home.*



Rural Schools Athletics Day

This term our students went to Tauhei Combined School to participate in a Rural Schools Athletics Day. For our five year olds, this was a big occasion as in some cases they have only been at school for a few weeks. The feedback was really positive as our students all competed to the best of their abilities, modelled our school values, achieved well and had a great experience. Thank you to all our parents who helped with transport and supervision.



facebook.com/motumaoho.school Website: www.motumaoho.school.nz



Pukeko Preschool Newsletter

November 2023

Kia ora and welcome!

You can expect a newsletter every month which will provide you with updates about what is going on in the Preschool and any other information that we need to share with you.

Jo Morris



Pukeko's Notes

Thank you all for your understanding about the Centre having to close on the 2nd and 3rd of November. Our teachers and children were hit with the D&V bug that has been sweeping through the country and with no staff, we had no way of running the centre. Thanks again!

It feels like we cannot catch a break with illnesses. We now have Hand Foot and Mouth going through the Centre. Watch out for temperatures before any spots show. If you see any spots/blisters around your child's Mouth (including inside their mouth), Hands, Feet and Groin area, please keep your child home until all blisters have scabbed over, their temperature has cleared and they are happy within themselves.

Thank you to the few who ordered the Oxford Pies. We raised a little bit more money for our Centre. Our goal is to fundraise enough for a new Playground for our tamariki to enjoy.

Thank you for your Calendar orders. These will be processed in the next couple of days so that they are back in time for Christmas!

The Centre will be closed for Christmas break from December 22nd 5:30pm and we will re open on the 8th of January at 7:30am

Pukeko Christmas Party Invite below! Please come and enjoy our Christmas performance on Wednesday the 20th of December at 4:30-6pm. Talk to one of the kaiako if you have any questions.



We would like to offer our community businesses the chance to advertise their business in our Monthly Newsletters for a Term donation of \$100. Please see Jo if you would like to add your business.

There is a new email address for any admin enquiries. The previous email address is still current but will be slowly phased out. The new one is - pukekopreschoolnz@gmail.com

Our Fee Increase newsletter was emailed to all on the 6th of November. The new fee increase will commence as of the 4th of December. Thank you for your understanding of this increase.

You may have noticed that the invoices have been a little bit muddy lately - Kim has resigned from her role as Administrator for Pukeko Preschool, we wish her all the best for wherever life takes her next. This means I am currently learning the invoicing system, so I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your patience as I learn this system. All errors will be corrected; please email pukekopreschoolnz@gmail.com if there are any discrepancies that need attention.

We are on the lookout for a qualified teacher who can be our part-time admin superstar too. Please see Jo if you know of anyone who would fit this role:

We have run out of plastic bags so please provide your child with a wet bag.

Please do not park in the disabled car park as we do have families that require this park.

We ask that morning drop off with your child/ren happens in the room that they belong to. With our role growing, children being dropped in their own rooms ensures our ratios are being met at all times. This will also avoid children getting upset when they need to go back to their room.

Due to our policy stating we are to be sun safe (particularly) between 9.30am and 4:00pm we ask that you please sunblock your child before you bring them to Preschool. There is always a tub of sunscreen here that you can use if you forget. Thank you.

There will be a little bucket and a packet of wipes in the cupboard under the sign-in sheet; this is for you to wipe your child's face and hands if they have had peanut butter for breakfast. This is following our Peanut Free Policy. Thank you for understanding and following the procedure.

NEEDED - If you have any of these items lying around at home, Preschool would love to have them for the children to explore with:

1. Push bikes/balance bikes/scooters
2. Busy Board items - locks, push button, wheels etc. All items need to be weatherproof and able to be attached to the wooden fence.
3. Medium-sized paintbrushes
4. Tree Stumps (30cm rounds for example)
5. Napkin Rings
6. 3 Metal Pots without handles or 3 Metal Bowls
7. Little metal Teaspoons and Forks
8. Flannels

We welcome parent feedback on our policies and procedures. If you would like to read and write any suggestions/changes of wording on the policies, please ask one of our teachers to see the folder.

Although our website is still a work in progress it already looks amazing and is so much easier to read and use. Take a look <https://pukekopreschool.org.nz/>



RESPECT - RESILIENCE - RESPONSIBILITY

TAUWHARE SCHOOL

Term 4 - DECEMBER 2023

WWW.TAUWHARE.SCHOOL.NZ



TOP NEWS

• PORRIDGE AT THE TAUWHARE HALL

Our massive Term 4 production of Porridge has been all the talk around town recently. Our performances took place on December 6th and 7th, and we were incredibly thankful for the support from our community for each of the shows. Well done to all the whole team for putting together a great show.



Nature Group

Our nature group has been working very hard this year, and our garden area is starting to bloom. Elizabeth, Niyati and Amber are holding the giant cauliflower they grew, YUM!!!

Te Manawa

Our ambassadors have created a name for our multipurpose room. The noticed the younger children called it the 'mouldy purpose room' so they got their creative minds together to create the name Te Manawa – The Heart. The place we as a school all meet together to share experiences and learning.

Mr. Sampson – Principal

Miller took charge as Principal For The Day at the beginning of Term 4. He organised the whole day and led with purpose and diligence, setting fun activities for the whole school.



Ladies a Plate

Economical Meringues with Berry Coulis

Ready in 1 ¼ hours plus cooling

Makes about 20 recipe doubles easily

2 eggs whites

1 cup castor sugar

1 tsp malt vinegar

1 ½ Tbsp boiling water

1 tsp baking powder

Berry Coulis

2 cups fresh or thawed frozen raspberries, boysenberries or strawberries

2 Tbsp icing sugar

1 Tbsp orange Juice

Preheat oven to 150C fan bake and line two oven trays with baking paper for easy clean up.

Place egg whites in the clean bowl of an electric mixer with sugar and vinegar. When fluffy, add 1 1/2 Tbsp boiling water and beat until glossy and very stiff (about 15 minutes). Mix in 1 tsp baking powder. Drop rounded tablespoons on to a lined oven tray, allowing space in between. Bake at 150C fan bake for 1 hour until crisp. Makes 20.

To Make Coulis If using fresh strawberries, hull and coarsely slice them. Whizz berries or strawberry slices in a food processor or blender with all remaining ingredients till smooth. Pass through a sieve to remove pips. Store in fridge till needed

Super Easy Boysenberry Ambrosia

200g packet Tim Tam biscuits, roughly chopped

425 g can Boysenberries in syrup drained

8 Strawberries (optional)

12 marshmallows cut into squares

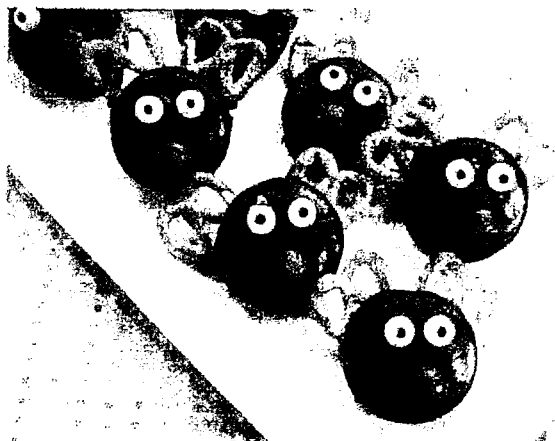
1 kg pottle Greek yoghurt with honey

Stir the chopped Tim Tam biscuits and marshmallows into the Greek yoghurt.

Carefully fold through the boysenberries. Spoon into a serving bowl. Garnish with fresh strawberries

Children's Christmas Cooking

Rudolph Oreo Cookie



2 Cups Chocolate Chips

15 Oreos

30 Pretzels

30 Candy eyes (or white small lollies)

15 Red M&Ms

Line a baking sheet with baking paper and set aside

Melt 2 cups chocolate chips in a microwave safe bowl

Once the chocolate is melted and smooth, use a fork to place oreos in melted chocolate Tap the oreos on the side of bowl to shake off excess chocolate. Place chocolate covered oreos on baking paper.

Place 2 pretzels on the top of the oreos for antlers, place 2 candy eyes beneath them, and finish by placing a red M&M beneath the eyes for the nose.

Easy Peasy Rocky Road

400g chocolate (white,milk,plain,or a mixture)

100g Digestive biscuits

100g mini marshmallows (ideally a mix of pink and white)

Line a 23x23cm tin with baking paper. Melt the chocolate in a glass bowl over a pan of just boiled water (Do not allow any water to touch the chocolate) If your bowl fits tightly over the saucepan this shouldn't be a problem. Remove the bowl from the saucepan when the chocolate is fully melted. Place the biscuits in a plastic sandwich bag (or similar). Bash into small chunks using a rolling pin and add to melted chocolate (you may need to transfer to a bigger bowl).

Add the mini marshmallows to the bowl and stir together thoroughly

Transfer the mixture to the lined tin spread the mixture out and then press down using the back of a spoon or similar (i use a potato masher to press the mixture flat, that works really well)

Chill for 1 hour in the fridge, then remove and cut into 16 squares



MERRY CHRISTMAS

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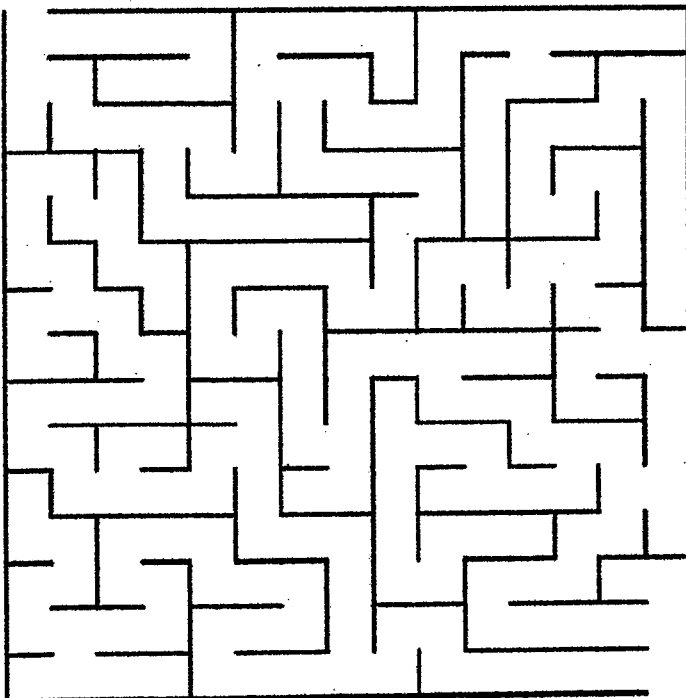
sleigh, winter, mistletoe, jolly, jingle bells,
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 , noel, reindeer, holly

CHRISTMAS MAZE

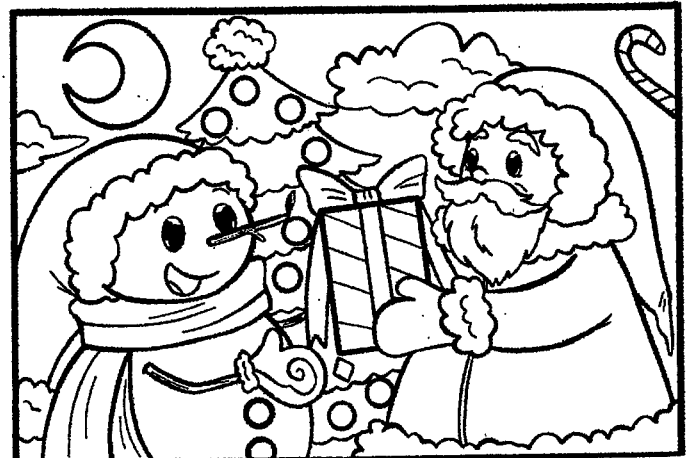
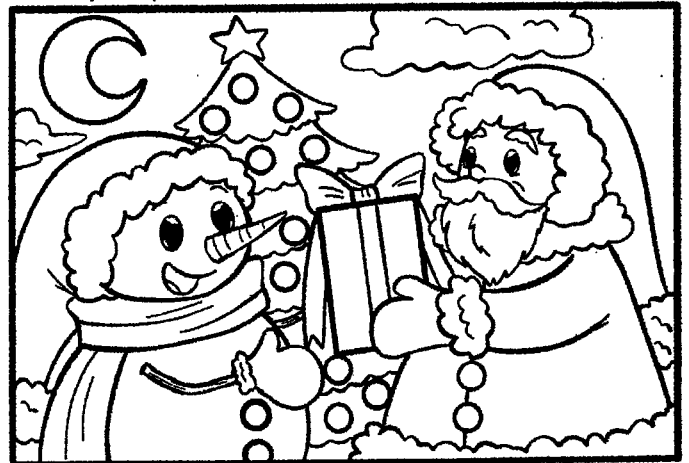
Can you help Santa find bag full of gifts?



START



FINISH



Moon, star, cloud, candy cane, tree
 bauble missing, snowmans - nose, scarf
 & mitten, present stripes, diamond
 bauble, santas hat and coat buttons



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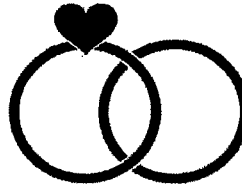
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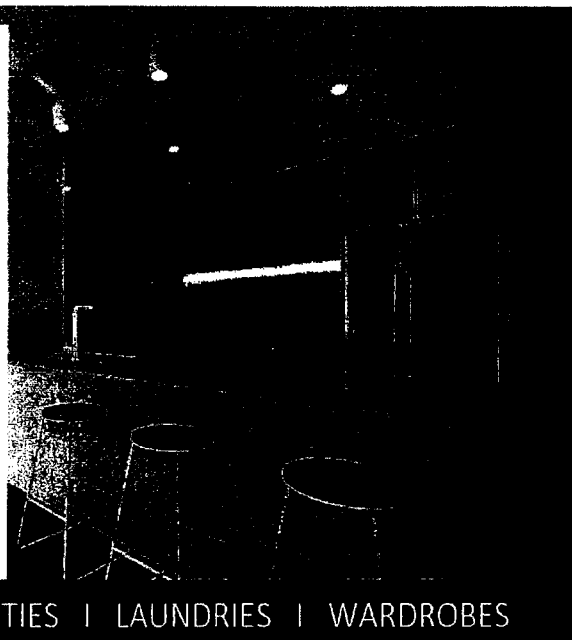
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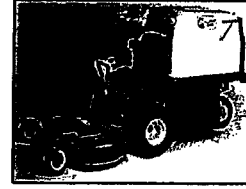


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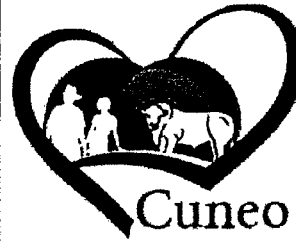
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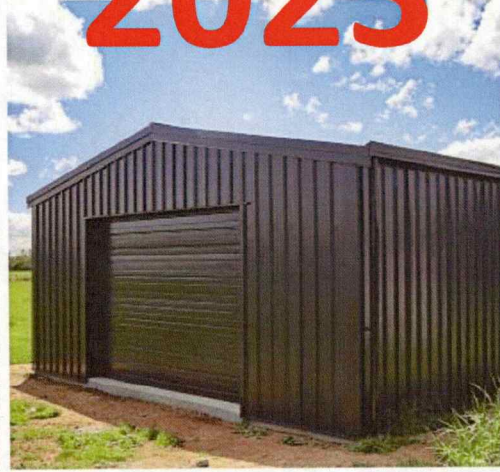
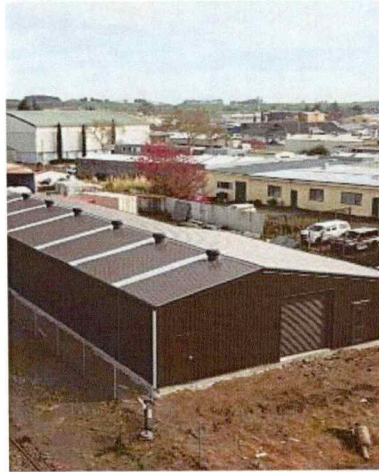
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