



# MURUPARA COMMUNITY BOARD NEWSLETTER

## Water sports day a blast



The seventh annual Water Sports Day was a huge success, attracting many first-time participants. Crowd favourites included the watermelon blast, water slide and a variety of competitions that meant everyone went home with a prize.

Event organiser, Tahlia Horne-Parekura, said it was a fantastic day for everyone involved.

“It was really rewarding to see whānau spending quality time together, and we’re already looking forward to next year’s event.”

## MURUPARA WATER TREATMENT UPDATE



The Murupara town water supply system was dosed with a one-off shock dose of hypochlorite on Tuesday, 2 February to reduce the level of coliforms (bacteria). Sample results following this dosing suggest that the chlorine was used up by the contaminant and the levels returned to within the acceptable range.

Whakatāne District Council staff are also working with iwi representatives and the Ministry of Health to make sure the Minginui water supply is safe, following several ‘boil water’ notices this year.

## Communities now connected

Te Aka Toitu Trust Chair, Lesley Immink, reports that 2020 ended on a great ‘connected’ note with news that the isolated community of Pāpueru has been connected, and whānau now have free WiFi access.

Plans are in place to connect Ruatāhuna and Rūātoki early this year, with assistance from the COVID-19 recovery funding. Te Whāiti, Minginui, Ngaputahi and Murupara have already been connected.

This level of connectedness is indicative of what can be achieved with commitment and support from iwi, whānau and a team of people who believe in the kaupapa of bringing digital equity to all.

If you are not yet connected in your home via the Murupara Area School’s system, please contact your school for assistance.



## Library hums with activity

More than 30 children registered for the Murupara Library ‘Read for Plenty’ Summer Programme during the school holidays. The team was thrilled to see the library humming with children reading their favourite stories.



Rawiri and Shayden Rangiaho loved the ‘Read for Plenty’ programme.

## Recognition for dedication to te reo Māori



The annual Whakatāne District Council Kotahitanga celebrations took place in December 2020. The awards acknowledge staff members who deserve special recognition for their contribution to the council and community. Mere McLean from the Murupara Library and Service Centre received an award for her dedication to, and passion for, te reo Māori. E mihi ana ki a koe e te mumu reo o te hapori!

## REGISTER YOUR TAMARIKI FOR SWIM LESSONS



Last-minute registrations are still open for term one swimming lessons at the Murupara Aquatic Centre, with classes available for children aged six months to seven years. Babies and pre-schooler lessons cost \$66.50 for the term, and \$73.50 for school-aged children.

For more information or to register, please contact Louise Allen, Learn to Swim Coordinator, on learn2swim@whakatane.govt.nz or 07 366 5896.

## Wahine Hauora programme a success

The Murupara Medical Centre team, led by Dr Britta Noske, recently held a series of Wāhine Hauora Days in Minginui, Ruatāhuna and Murupara. A hui was held to discuss how to best take the service to people in remote communities that have limited access to health services.

In a collaboration between Murupara Medical Centre, Te Ika Whenua Hauora, Ngāti Whare, Hinepukohurangi Trust, Eastbay REAP, Support to Screening Service providers, Family Planning and Lakes DHB, with support from the National Cervical Screening Programme (NCSP) and Cancer Society, approximately 150 wāhine were screened over three days.

Dr Noske says it was a great result for the community, by the community.

## Medical Centre update

Although the reality of COVID-19 remains, patient co-payments waivers for those who hold Community Services Cards at the surgery finished at the beginning of 2021. As a reminder, our current fees, which have not changed in the last six years, are:

ENROLLED PATIENTS	
Children under 13 years	Free
Children 13-18 years	\$11.50
Adults	\$17
ACC	No charge
CSC and HUHC holders or payment on the day will be discounted as follows:	
Children 13-18 years	\$9.50
Adults	\$15

If you'd like to receive other important information from the Murupara Medical Centre, please join the e-newsletter list by contacting [Britta.Noske@raphs.org.nz](mailto:Britta.Noske@raphs.org.nz), or asking the friendly reception staff at the surgery.

**Story ideas to:**  
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## Rohe snapshot

### OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY



1. 'Kōrero with Council' morning tea with Mayor Judy Turner and elected members at the Murupara Service Centre last year.



2. Waiohau stage 2 footpath improvement project. The fantastic Tracks contractors crew – Bas, Matt, Mark, Freedom and Tihema – are back after the festive season with a mission to complete the Waiohau pathway for the community to enjoy.

3. Te Kura Māori a Rohe o Waiohau Deputy Principal, Kathy Tinsley, and Board of Trustees Chairperson, Hinerangi Hare, met with Whakatāne District Council Project Engineer, Tania Brown, to discuss the **taniwha school crossing** for the kura and community.

4. Waiohau kaumātua, Mr Kalan, watches as Bockman contractors **clear the privet** near his property, which has acted as a sound buffer to traffic over the years. Whakatāne District Council, in collaboration with Minginui Nursery, supplied Rautawhiri and Kōhuhu (Pittosporum), which was chosen by Mr. Kalan as an alternative planting to the privet.



## Kōhanga reo whānau devastated

The community was devastated to hear the He Maungarongo Kōhanga Reo shed was broken into over the Christmas and New Year period not once, but twice. This is hugely upsetting for the kohanga reo whānau, and we encourage anyone who has information to contact Pouako (head teacher) Pouaro Tawhara on 07 366 5665.



## WHAT'S ON



### Murupara Community Board meeting

**WHEN:** 10am, 23 February 2021 **WHERE:** Te Tii, Ruatāhuna

### Community Market Days

**WHEN:** 9am to 12pm, every second Saturday from 13 February 2021  
**WHERE:** St Mark's Presbyterian Church - corner Oregon Drive and Matai Street, Murupara.  
**Stalls available – contact Ron Koroo on 027 359 9536 for more information.**