

Te Totara Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 13th March, 2014

WEEK 6

Kia Ora (Maori/NZ), **Hello** (English), **Bula** (Fijian), **Welkom** (South African), **Huān yíng** (Chinese-Mandarin)

Ayubowan, Vanakkam (Sri Lankan), **Namaste** (India), **Bem-vindos** (Brazil), **Marhaba** (Arabic), **Hallo** (Dutch), **Choum Reap Sour** (Cambodia), **Geiá sou** (Greek), **Mbote, Jambo** (Congolese), **Konnichiwa** (Japanese), **Hola** (Spanish), **Annyeonghaseyo** (South Korea)

TOI MANA WHAKAHAERE - SELF MANAGING

In last week's newsletter I outlined that this is a focus for our school this year. We are working with our children and families on this aspect of one of the Key Competencies of the New Zealand Curriculum.

What is self-managing?

The New Zealand curriculum defines this as...

Managing self

This competency is associated with self-motivation, a "can-do" attitude, and with students seeing themselves as capable learners. It is integral to self-assessment.

Students who manage themselves are enterprising, resourceful, reliable, and resilient. They establish personal goals, make plans, manage projects, and set high standards. They have strategies for meeting challenges. They know when to lead, when to follow, and when and how to act independently

Over the year we will share with you readings, focus areas and articles that may be of interest around this important competency.

You may be interested in article I found from Huff Post to support self-managing as a parent...

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/kari-kubiszyn-kampakis/10-common-mistakes-parents-today-make-me-included_b_4753451.html

LEARNING PLAN DISCUSSIONS

Learning Plan discussions will take place on **Wednesday 2nd April & Thursday 3rd April, 2014.**

To make an appointment time for your child/ren, please use our online booking system www.schoolinterviews.co.nz – our school code is

AS5ZY. You can also access this site via our school website www.tetotara.school.nz

If you are unable to access the internet, please phone the school **(07) 853-0039 ext. 858** and leave a message with the time slot that you would prefer and Marise will collate these.

We will endeavour to give you the time as close as we can to your preference. If we unable to assist we will go by first in first served.

Please **do not** make arrangements direct with learning area teachers.

WHO SHOULD COME?

We encourage the student, and family members who have an interest in learning, to come along and discuss this with the teacher.

WHAT WILL THE FORMAT BE?

The discussion is a general one about how the learner is progressing, areas of strength and also discussing next steps in learning and how this will happen.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN THEN?

There will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress on:

Wednesday 2nd April, 2014

2.15pm, 2.30pm, 2.45pm, 3.00pm, 3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm, 5.00pm & 5.15pm

Thursday 3rd April, 2014

2.15pm, 2.30pm, 2.45pm, 3.00pm, 3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm (break between 5.00pm-5.30pm), 5.30pm, 5.45pm, 6.00pm, 6.15pm, 6.30pm, 6.45pm & 7.00pm.

We have arranged **15 minute time slots** for the discussion, there will be changeover bell so that everyone is aware of timings. To ensure the smooth running of our Learning Plan Discussions, we would be grateful if all our parents/caregivers kept to the timetable. If you have more than one child, you might like to have a break between each interview.

HOW DO I BOOK A TIME?

Please book a time through the online website www.schoolinterviews.co.nz - our school

code is **AS5ZY** If you have more than one child attending school, please use the **"Add Student"** key for additional children to be displayed at the same time.

An electronic confirmation note will automatically be sent via e-mail upon completion of your booking, don't forget to include your e-mail address.

Bookings open **Monday 17th March @ 9.00am**
Bookings close on **Friday 28th March @ 3.00pm**

We will not be able to accept bookings after 3.00pm on Friday 28th March, 2014.

PLEASE NOTE:

- If your child is in **Earth 19** with Mrs Fletcher, Learning Plan Discussions will be staggered over 4 days:
Wednesday 2nd April
Thursday 3rd April
Wednesday 9th April (from 3.15pm)
Thursday 10th April (from 3.15pm)
To book, please follow the above instructions

The whole school will finish at 2.00pm on Wednesday 2nd April & Thursday 3rd April; students will need to be collected by parents/caregivers at 2.00pm please. After School Care will begin at 2.00pm, for those children enrolled at After School Care.

LATE ARRIVALS AT SCHOOL

Have you ever arrived at a meeting late, everyone is settled in their chair, the presenter has welcomed them and is now outlining what the day has in store..... and as you walk in they all turn and look at you?

That is what it can be like for your child when they arrive late at school and their class is all settled. So please, we ask parents to ensure their children arrive at school with at least five minutes to spare, for them to organise themselves by hanging up their school bag and sorting their book bag independently.

Our school starts at 8.55am

2014 ICAS EXAMS

We would like to give your year 4-6 child the opportunity to compete in the 2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) run annually by Educational Assessment Australia with the University of NSW. If your child has ability, interest or aptitude in any of the subjects below, he or she may enjoy this challenge.

The 2014 ICAS dates and costs are listed below:

- Computer Skills, English, Mathematics and Science \$8.50 per test
- Spelling \$10.50
- Writing \$19.50

Te Totara Primary School

SUBJECT	SITTING DATE
Computer Skills	Tuesday 20 May
Science	Wednesday 4 June
Spelling	Tuesday 17 June
Writing	Wednesday 18 June
English	Tuesday 29 July
Mathematics	Tuesday 12 August

Permission Letters including the above information are going home with your child/ren this week and next week. As you will notice from the ICAS Dates above, the first exam is Computer Skills on Tuesday 20 May. **In order to ensure all exams arrive in time we would ask that student registration and payment be in by the Friday, 11 April, 2014.**

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Paula Wine.

TE TOTARA TRACKERS



On the **5th of April** the **Te Totara Trackers** are representing **Te Totara Primary** and walking 100km in the **Oxfam Trail Walk** in 24-28 hours (without sleep!) The team is made up of two teachers from our school: **Mr Mitchell** and **Mrs Kirkham**, and a parent: **Mr Pilkington**. The fourth 'go getter' is a teacher from Hamilton Boys High School,

Nicky Bryant. They have the talented **Mr Roger** (another teacher of our school), **Mr Mitchell** (Mr Mitchell's dad), and **Mrs Pilkington** (another parent of our school) as support people. They are hoping together to raise **\$2,500** for Oxfam from their efforts.

We need your support!

Donations for this great cause can be made at the front office in the provided drop box and/or by clicking on the link below and following the instructions. We would love your help support.

<https://www.oxfamtrailwalker.org.nz/cart/checkout/7668>

**** IMPORTANT ** IMPORTANT ** IMPORTANT ****

CHANGE OF HOUSEHOLD DETAILS/ADDRESS

If you have changed any of your household details i.e. phone, address, e-mail etc. please advise the School Office accordingly.

We encourage our families to check that their contact details are correct through the parent portal at www.atschool.co.nz. This can be accessed using the User ID and Passwords that were provided with your child/rens previous Learning Plan. If you have recently joined our school, you will be issued with User ID and Passwords with Learning Plans, which are due home in Term 2.

If you do not have access to a computer, you are welcome to check your details with the School Office on (07) 853-0039.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE RELIEVERS POSITION AVAILABLE

We are currently seeking relievers for our programme at Te Totara Primary School. Before and After School Care provides a safe, secure, friendly environment for the care of children aged 5years – 11 years through a structured, well-balanced programme.

The ideal applicant will have

- A fun "can do" attitude
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Empathy for children and their development

All enquiries and CV's can be emailed to afterschoolcare@tetotara.school.nz or can be left at the office attention Anna Herbert.

GALA SATURDAY 29TH MARCH WHITE ELEPHANT STALL

We need your good condition pre loved items e.g. Toys, books, puzzles, baby gear, plants, furniture, electrical items in working order please.

Te Totara Primary School



No Junk, No clothes/Manchester/Linen No weekly magazines

Items need to be working and complete.
Thank you!

DROP YOUR ITEMS OFF TO MATARIKI
8.00-9.00 or 2.00-3.00 Wednesday 26th March
8.00-9.00 or 2.00-3.00 Thursday 27th March
8.00-9.00 or 2.00-3.00 Friday 28th March

Helpers wanted to sort, price, sell and clear up
A sign-up sheet in Marama Pod, please help us make this event a success by giving us an hour of your time.

For more information contact:
Jolie Hopping and Lisa Clay
Caron Ace (Room 36) and
Jennie Brook-Watt (Milky Way Pod)

TE TOTARA PTA GALA & FOOD FESTIVAL SATURDAY 29 MARCH, 2014 10.00am-2.00pm



CAN YOU PLEASE HELP WITH GROCERY ITEMS FOR OUR GALA DAY RAFFLES!

We are looking for donations from families to help us put together some amazing raffles to be quick-fire drawn on Gala Day. Over the next few weeks leading up to the big day we will be asking each family to help us out by donating a non-perishable item to put towards this. **This week we are looking for non-perishable laundry and bathroom items such as washing powder, toilet rolls, rubbish bags etc.** Please bring these to the school office over the next week. Keep an eye on next week's newsletter to see what we're looking for next! We appreciate your help and support.

If you own or work for a company that may be able to offer a prize for our raffles, it would be much appreciated. Please contact Kalena on finfamily@xtra.co.nz

The more prizes we have the more money we can make for the playground. Any queries, please contact Kalena or Jackie via e-mail: tetotara.pta@gmail.com

WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR LARGE ACTIVITIES FOR OUR SCHOOL GALA!!!

Do you have or know anyone with a bouncy castle hire business, an old car we can smash up, horses/ponies for rides, Ferris wheel, or any other fun events that would be suitable for a gala? Are you able to help in running one of these activities??

Please email or phone Lisa Clay,

Growing and Learning Together

shaunandlisa@vodafone.co.nz (021) 133 3997 or
Jolie Hopping jolie.hopping@vodafone.co.nz (021)
117 9633 ASAP if you are able to help out in any
way.

COLOURING IN COMPETITION!!

Entries close Friday 28th March 2014, Children
will bring home their copy to colour in today.
Extra forms are available on our school
website, under newsletters.

FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TOMORROW

This week's assembly will be held Friday 14th March
2014 at 2.00pm in the Matariki Hall and stars our
Matawhero 17 children.

This week Marama, Kopu, Matawhero and our Earth
children will attend assembly. Everyone is welcome.

SPORTS

TE TOTARA PLAYERS OF THE DAY

CRICKET

Mystics Christopher Plank
Mini's Isaac Johnston & Callum Carter
Terrors Daniel Fitzgerald, Lukas Warren & Hayley
McEwen

TOUCH

Gunns Matthew Jessep & Ashton Spencer
Pacers Jordana Bremner & Kian Spencer

VOLLEYBALL

Setters Hannah Finlayson
Spikers Sian Trask
Volleys Anna Serafeimidou
Volleys Last week Emma Marsden

Brian Sheedy

Principal



DATES COMING UP

Mon 17 Mar Ra Team to Camp at Tui Ridge
Wed 19 Mar Earth Team to Camp at Tui Ridge
Mon 17 Mar Learning Plan Bookings
Open at 9.00am
Fri 28th Mar Learning Plan Bookings
Close at 3.00pm
Sat 29 Mar PTA School Gala & Food Festival

Wed 2 Apr Learning Plan Discussions
2.15pm – 5.30pm
Thurs 3 Apr Learning Plan Discussions
2.15pm – 7.30pm
Thurs 17 Apr **END OF TERM 1 @ 3.00PM**

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

We are often asked to put Community Notices in our newsletter. Due to the large number of requests, we now have a "Community Notices" section on the notice board in the School Office, where you will find more information on the notices below. Please note that this does not necessarily imply School endorsement of these notices.

PICK YOUR OWN BLUEBERRY FUNDRAISER

On Sunday's from 3.00pm - 7.00pm at 218 Collins
road, we operate a 'pick your own'.

The rate is @ \$10.00 kg (\$24.00kg in the shops).

Please bring your own containers.

As a fundraiser for Te Totara School, I am happy to
donate \$2.00 from every kilo picked to go to the
School. The pickers simply have to say they are from
Te Totara school. I will place their name on a list (to
triangulate their presence), and then forward the
money to the school...

These blueberries are a later variety however their
season will probably only last another 3-4 weeks.
A simple and easy way to fundraise for the PTA
providing it's promoted and the school community
buy into it...

218 Collins Road is only 2 kms along Collins road
from the Ulrich Ave shops.

Any questions, queries, don't hesitate to phone
Graeme [0276239425](tel:0276239425)



You're invited! To a **FREE** Irish Dancing introductory class
for children (aged 6 and up) and adults!

Where: Matariki Hall, Te Totara Primary School

When: 22nd March 1 – 3pm

Please bring a water bottle, wear comfortable clothes
and join in the fun!
For further enquiries phone Rebecca on 855 0228/027
2767431 or email maryellenwalsh@xtra.co.nz

THE FUN WAREHOUSE

Birthday Parties, All Day Fun!

Phone 847 4078

www.thefunwarehouse.co.nz

WAIKATO TENNIS CENTRE

Holiday Programme, for further details contact

Roslyn Brown Ph/Fax: [07 856 8181](tel:078568181) or website

www.tenniswaikatobays.co.nz

