

Te Totara Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 12th JUNE, 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)

SUPPORT STAFF AT SCHOOL

Yesterday we held a special morning tea to thank our support staff for their efforts at school. This includes our Office Staff, Teacher Aides, Librarian/Resources and Barnie, our Caretaker. They do a fantastic job making our school a great place to be a part of. I would like to add my thanks as well. Well done!

ATTENDANCE AT TE TOTARA

Each day we are required to record the morning and afternoon attendance of every student in the school.

There are prescribed codes that we must enter in the register. We have an Attendance Policy which includes all the codes and reasons for them. To find out more please visit:

<http://www.tetotara.school.nz/199/pages/78-nag-6-legislation>

SCHOOL ZONES

The Ministry of Education has been working with schools to consider changes, and to plan for the new schools being established in our area over the next 1-3 years. There will be a community meeting about zones on **Wednesday 25th June** at Te Totara School in the Matariki Hall. The meeting will begin at **7.00pm**. All welcome ☺

LEARNING PLANS HOME – FRIDAY 13th JUNE

A Learning Plan for each student will be sent home on Friday 13th June 2014 with the youngest or only child from each family. However, if your child started at school in Term 2 this year you will not receive a Learning Plan yet.

The Learning Plans will also be available online after 3.00pm on Friday 13th June 2014. Included in the information pack being sent home with the Learning Plan will be instructions on how to log-on to the site.

GOT A QUERY OR QUESTION ABOUT SCHOOL?

We really appreciate liaison with families about school matters. To help, we have a School Policy; you can find this at... [Question, query or complaint](#)

If you do have a concern about something, please contact the school in the first instance, as we are more than happy to help. This ensures there is a fair and dignified process in place to support everyone.

SWIMMING UPDATE

We continue to 'refine' what we do with this exciting initiative. This week a port-a-loo arrived and we are now ensuring that the temperature is 30 degrees before swimming.

The pool is covered when not in use and we are finding that the marquee is warm due to the heat of the water. Pool changing sheds are coming and we have ordered a special platform to help our smaller and less confident swimmers.

PRINCIPAL LEARNING

Next week I will be in Australia, along with 40 other Waikato Principals, looking at modern learning environments. We will be visiting new schools to see how they support teaching and learning.

The trip has been funded by the Waikato Principals Association from the proceeds of the New Zealand Principals Conference, which was hosted by the group last year.

While away, the school will be ably led by our Deputy Principal, Anne Fraser.

ARBOR DAY PLANT

On 30th May 2014, 50 Te Totara children, 25-30 parents and 5 staff members took part in the community activity of Arbor Day. We planted 30,000 trees at the Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park.

It was a terrific day with a spattering of showers and a team that were amazing. Our Eco-Kids worked hard alongside the parents to plant 20 trees each so that we could reach our goal of 30,000 trees. They were rewarded for their efforts with a sausage and juice before heading back to school for afternoon lessons.

Thank you to the Enviro Team, all the Eco-Kids and the Parents who took part in this activity, without you all it would not be possible. We appreciate you and hope to see you again for this activity next year.

In the foyer at the School Office will be a display of our day at the Arbor Day Plant for everybody to see.

The Enviro Team: Sue Robertson, Cyra Wells, Angela Zillwood, Megan Leitch, Suzie Goile and Alana Pullman



THE ARBOR DAY PLANT

The whole eco-kids drove in a bus to the plant place. We had to plant twenty plants each. Cayden and I worked together as a team so we got thirty trees done. We had fun at the plant. After we washed our dirty hands we were given a sausage and juice. Then it was time to walk back to the bus to go back to school.

By Vaydem Carkeek

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

As we are now into winter there are a few bugs around which affect our children as well as staff.

If your child is sick please keep them at home until they are well. If your child has diarrhoea or vomiting we ask that they do not return to school unless they are well and have had **no further diarrhoea or vomiting for 24 hours prior to returning – these bugs can be highly contagious.** Thank you for your assistance in this and for those families who are keeping their unwell children at home.

CHICKENPOX

We have begun the term with a number of students away with chickenpox. According to the Ministry of Health Infectious Diseases Guidelines:

- Early signs are a fever and spots with a blister on top of each spot.
- The child is infectious from up to 5 days before appearance of the rash until lesions have crusted (usually about 5 days).
- Time between exposure and sickness is 13-17 days.
- This disease is spread by coughing and sneezing and by direct contact with weeping blisters.
- Exclusion from school is approximately a week from the date of the appearance of the rash.

If you are unsure whether your child should return to school, please see to your family doctor.

A copy of the Infections Diseases Guidelines can be found on the school website under "Infectious Diseases".

MINISTRY OF HEALTH UPDATE MEASLES AT SCHOOLS IN OUR AREA

Since December 2013 there have been more than 140 confirmed cases of measles in New Zealand. In the past few weeks the majority of these cases have been in school aged children in the Waikato. Measles is a highly infectious disease that affects both adults and children. Measles is more serious than many people realise; of the recent cases in New Zealand over 30 have required hospital treatment. Measles starts with a fever, cough, runny nose and/or sore eyes followed a few days later by a rash. People are infectious from 5 days before to 5 days after the rash appears. Most of the recent cases have occurred in unimmunised people and immunisation, with two doses of the measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccine, remains the best way to prevent infection and spread of measles within the community. Immunisation is free for New Zealand residents born after 1 January 1969 who have not previously received two doses of a measles containing vaccine. Unimmunised people exposed to measles will need to stay away from school for at least 14 days. So please encourage students, parents and staff to get immunised as soon as possible.

If someone develops symptoms of measles, separate them from others while they are waiting to be taken home and call Healthline on **0800 611 116** for advice as soon as possible.

For further information on measles and measles immunisation please visit the Ministry of Health website <http://www.health.govt.nz/measles> or the Immunisation Advisory Centre website <http://www.immune.org.nz>. You can also call the Immunisation Advisory Centre toll-free on 0800 IMMUNE (0800 466 863) for advice.



UP-TO-DATE IMMUNISATION DETAILS

We encourage our families to check that your child/rens Immunisation details (*found under "My Child" then "Other Details" tab*) are correct through the parent portal at www.atschool.co.nz using the User ID and Passwords that will be provided with your child's Learning Plan. If you do not have access to a computer, or your child will not have a Learning Plan this time round, you are welcome to check your details with us on (07) 853-0039.

If you have changed any of your details i.e. phone, address, e-mail etc; please advise the School Office so we can update your records accordingly. **It is very important that we hold the current Immunisation information on file** (found in the back of the Plunket Book or from your family doctor). **Our school may be asked to provide a list to the Ministry of Health at any stage.**

TEACHERS AWAY

We have had quite a few Guest Teachers in the school lately. At this time of the year we are hit by illness, not only by children but also by teachers. In addition, teachers may be absent due to undertaking professional development. Although we do most of this "in house" in order to ensure teachers are not away from school, some courses are held in class time. In the past few weeks we have also had teachers being called upon for Jury Service. In previous years I was able to ask that they be exempt, however this is no longer an option and teachers have to attend.

We do have a great pool of regular "Guest Teachers" who support the school and continue our planned learning programmes for our children. Paula Wine, our Assistant Principal, schedules all of this and it can be a logistical challenge getting everything in place. If you see her coming to school a little later than usual it is because she has been busy getting everything organised!

My thanks go to our staff, and Guest Teachers who support the school and also, to our children who demonstrate those wonderful qualities of being respectful to our guests in the school.

NOTICES TO CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL HOURS

We are always pleased to help families at school, but we have noticed an increase from parents to get messages to children regarding after school arrangements. We are happy to do this in an extreme emergency but lately there has been an increase in the frequency of messages. This can often lead to disrupted learning times as classes have to be interrupted for the message to get thorough.

FIRST CREDIT UNION

Banking can be deposited in the Credit Union Drop-Box in the School Office and will be collected every Wednesday morning by First Credit Union. Passbooks will be returned and will go home with students the following day (Thursday).

An Application Pack can be collected from the School Office.

PARENTS AND PRESCHOOLERS WELCOME

Finding yourself busy but want to make sure your house is full of books for your children? Our library is open to parents on Friday mornings from 8.30am - 9.00am. You are welcome to come and borrow up to six books for your children, including your preschoolers.

TE TOTARA SPORTS

PLAYER OF THE DAY

HOCKEY

Leopards	Tejveer Singh-Randhawa
Thunder	Jade Herbert
Stormers	Taneesha Kumar
Tigers	Ella Candy
Cheetahs	Emilia Weatherell
All Stars	Aaron Kumar

FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TOMORROW

This week's assembly will be held **Friday 13th June 2014 at 2.00pm in the Matariki Hall. Our Ra 21 Children and our Recorder Group will be sharing.**

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

DATES COMING UP

Tues 17 June Spelling ICAS exam

Wed 18 June Writing ICAS exam

Wed 25 June School Zone Mtg @ 7.00pm

Thurs 26 June Muffi Day to support Oxfam

Tues 1 July School Cross Country

Thurs 3 July **END OF TERM 2 @ 3.00PM**

Fri 4 July **TEACHER ONLY DAY**

- SCHOOL CLOSED

Mon 21 July **TERM 3 BEGINS @ 8.55AM**

Brian Sheedy
Principal

TE TOTARA PTA ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS - NOW OVERDUE



PTA

Te Totara Primary School

We urgently need all unwanted books returned please - pop them into the Entertainment Book box at School Office. If you have purchased a Digital Membership, you need to return the book.

If you still wish to purchase your book, please get your payment organised as soon as possible. Remember, for every book sold, the school receives \$12.00

Any questions, please contact Jackie 0204 220169 or via e-mail gregandjack@gmail.com

PTA AGM RESULTS (correct information)

Outgoing Treasurer - Angela Dryden

Outgoing Deputy Chairperson - Kalena Finlayson

Thank you for your hard work while on the committee ladies, we really appreciate your support of the School & the children.

NEXT PTA MEETING

Tuesday 24 June 2014 @ 7.30pm in the School Staff Lounge. All welcome, we would love to see some new faces.

TE TOTARA COOKBOOKS

GRAB A BARGAIN - ONLY \$10.00 each!

Just a few available of our Te Totara Cook Books. 154 colour pages. Great recipes and great gifts. For sale at the School Office, cash or cheque only please as this is a PTA fundraiser.



PTA EMAIL ADDRESS

tetotara.pta@gmail.com

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-Totara-Primary-School-PTA/30090011661692>

MISSING SCOOTER

Missing red MGP Scooter with name Liam.C underneath the scooter in orange. Went missing last Thursday from being parked inside school grounds by the hall block.

Phone Sue 027 532 3537.

MAD DAY SESSION 2014

New Zealand Centre for Gifted Education are holding a half day taster session for families and students to see what happens at One Day School, hands on!

For further information email

sue.brett@giftededucation.org.nz or Phone 07 827 7281.

BUBBLEDOME

School Holiday Programmes, check out

www.bubbledome.co.nz or Phone 0800 GET BUBBLE

See our community noticeboard in the school office for flyers.

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.

BLAKES HIRE COMPANY & ROTOTUNA PRIMARY

PTA PRESENT **Roaring 20's Trivia Night**

Date: Friday 20th June

Time: Doors open 7pm, Trivia starts 7.30pm

Tickets: \$20 incl. supper

Available from the school office (cash or cheque)

Prizes for best dressed & winning team

Awesome Auction | Mystery Balloons for sale

Cash/Eftpos Bar

ST PAULS SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is a performance that the whole family can enjoy.

Tickets are only \$15 for students and \$30 for adults and can be purchased at our website – www.stpauls.school.nz/tickets.

I hope you enjoy watching the production as much as our students enjoy performing it.

R.E.A.P

We are an afterschool enrichment programme with the purpose of providing children, in the Waikato, with a range of courses to help develop them as global citizens. Our programmes are starting on Monday 21st July. In term 3 we are offering; Fabric Art, Violin, Chess, French, Jazz, Spanish, Japanese, Bricks 4 Kidz, Singing, Speech and Drama, Sewing, Keyboard, Piano, Mask Making and Mosaic Chessboards. For more information you can see our timetable and booklet at www.hamiltonreap.co.nz or e-mail us at admin@hamiltonreap.co.nz.