

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016

*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) Israel Shalom (Hebrew)*

## WELCOME BACK TO THE SCHOOL YEAR

We are delighted with the start made so far this school year. Our children's smiles are infectious! The School year has started really well and I have noticed how well our children, parents and staff have started the school year. Our staff were busy over the holidays and we saw additions to the school with a new sandpit by Matawhero and the completion of our Library alcove, which will be open shortly for use.

Our Teachers have been busy with professional development and last week completed a First Aid course with the Red Cross to help support our children if needed.

## MEET THE TEACHER - WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2016

This is a really good opportunity to come along and meet the Teacher, find out about the school programme and details about how we can work together to support our children. The times are staggered to help with car parking:

5.30pm	Orion, Neptune, Kopu
6.00pm	Earth & Ra
6.30pm	Milky Way & Marama

## MEET THE STAFF

Our website is a great source of information and if you would like to find out a bit more about our team then please follow the link... [http://www.tetotara.school.nz/5/profile\\_areas/1-2016-staff](http://www.tetotara.school.nz/5/profile_areas/1-2016-staff)

## CHARTER AND ANNUAL PLAN 2016

The Charter and Annual Plan are our agreement with the Government to support our children and their achievement; we are required to update it annually. Last year we had a major review to guide us from 2016-2018. Our Board of Trustees are finalising our Charter and Annual Plan for 2016 ready to send to the Ministry of Education by 1st March this year.

Once confirmed, we will update the community on the next steps in our school life at Te Totara. We were delighted with the feedback about our school and also looking at some next steps for us. There are some new developments underway already as a result of our consultation and our own self review. One of these is below...

## 2016 - WHATS HAPPENING?

### Community Committee

We are looking to further enhance our community partnerships, as we know that great communication and relationships between home and school leads to better achievement for our children. We have amalgamated all our community contacts into one super school committee, there are 15 School staff working on community links, this include roles for:

- Diversity
- Website
- YearBook

- Whanau
- E-communication - Facebook, Website, School App

Our first role has been to look at how we celebrate significant cultural events in our community and during the year we will be updating you on these. For February this includes:

### **6<sup>th</sup> February - Waitangi Day**

Celebrating our very own National Day to commemorate the Treaty of Waitangi signed in 1840. The following link helps provide more information.

<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/politics/treaty-of-waitangi>

### **8<sup>th</sup> February Lunar New Year (Year of the Monkey)**

The Chinese calendar is based on the lunar year, so the date of the Chinese New Year varies every year between the 21<sup>st</sup> January and the 20<sup>th</sup> February.

It is now popularly known as the Spring Festival, as it happens just before the beginning of Spring. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese\\_New\\_Year](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_New_Year)

### **10<sup>th</sup> February**

Ash Wednesday (Start of Lent) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ash\\_Wednesday](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ash_Wednesday)

### **19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February Chinese New Year Lantern Festival**

Watch out for a school activity around this ☺ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lantern\\_Festival](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lantern_Festival)

## **SCHOOL CLOSED-WAITANGI DAY**

Our school is **closed Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016** for a national holiday - Waitangi Day. We open again on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

## **KEEPING UP-TO-DATE**

Many different things happen at school and we have many ways to keep up to date, including:

Online school calendar [On line School Calendar](#)

School App [Download the School App](#)

School Web site [Te Totara Web Site](#)

Weekly notices [Weekly Notices](#)

Facebook Page

We have a great team at school who keep these all updated in real time.

## **ROAD SAFETY**

We are very aware of how important this is, with over 630 students starting today at Rototuna Junior High School. We know that the traffic flows will increase. Over the holiday period we have liaised with the City Council and the Junior High School and we are monitoring closely how it is working.

I would urge you to take particular care coming to and from school. It is very likely that the area around Chesham Street will be heavily congested due to the siting of bus stops and a new access path by the swimming pool entrance to the new High Schools.

Our Staff will be out and about monitoring things and it may be that we will have to put in place new plans to make sure all are safe. We will keep you updated.

Meanwhile, I urge you to take particular care, model great road behaviour and if it is all getting a bit much remember that a smile is one of nature's best ways to deal with stress.

## **OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

Is published each Thursday and is available online from 3.00pm. We will send an e-mail link each week for you to access it or visit our school website direct at [www.tetotara.school.nz](http://www.tetotara.school.nz)

## OUR LIBRARY-WHAT AN ASSET

Over the holidays we were delighted with the way our community used the Library, a summary:

- 771 books lent
- 95 borrowers
- 30 active participants in the Summer Reading Programme (run with Hamilton City Libraries).

## GIVE-A-LITTLE FUNDRAISING FOR OUR STUDENT

Many of you might know one of our students, Bella Goff, who has Leukaemia. Here is a link to her page: <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/brave-bellas-big-dream>

She is fundraising to go to Disneyland next Christmas. Feel free to donate or to read about her progress.

## CHANGE OF DETAILS/ADDRESS

Just a little reminder that if you have changed any of your details i.e. phone, address, e-mail etc; to please advise the School Office so we can update your records accordingly.

We encourage our families to check your contact details are correct through the parent portal at [www.atschool.co.nz](http://www.atschool.co.nz) using the User ID and Passwords that were provided with your child/ren previous Learning Plan last year.

## SCHOOL DONATION

We certainly appreciate the fantastic support we are receiving for the school voluntary donation, it is appreciated and the funding will be used for resources for the children.

If you wish to pay your voluntary School Donation, we are happy to accept payment by cash, cheque, internet banking or EFT-POS at the School Office. The Board of Trustees has set payment at:

\$120.00 for the first family member

\$60.00 for each subsequent child

Please check with the School Office as the voluntary School Donation is adjusted during the year depending on which term your child/ren started school.

A GST receipt will be issued. A % of your donation may be claimed as a tax rebate using a "Rebate Claim Form" – please refer to Inland Revenue for further details.

You are welcome to pay via internet banking to the following account:

Account Name: Te Totara Primary School

Bank: ASB Bank Chartwell

Account Number: 12-3171-0270973-00

*Please place your child's name, (or surname only if making payment for more than one child) and what the payment is for, in the reference boxes).*

## MATHLETICS, TO HELP LEARNING

We have decided to join the whole school for 2016 at a much discounted price of: **\$20.00 per student for 2016** (usual rate is \$99.00 per year, per student)

Teachers are encouraging their students with this interactive computer programme as it helps with important maths skills; you will also find teachers using it in their daily maths programmes.

We have been so impressed with how motivated the children have been producing excellent results. Shortly, we will be invoicing families **\$20.00 per student** to join Mathletics for 2016. You are welcome to pay by internet banking, cash, cheque or EFT-POS via the School Office.

**Students will be issued their User Log-in ID & Passwords shortly by their classroom teacher.** The Mathletics site is <http://www.mathletics.co.nz>

If you have any queries on how Mathletics works, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

# SCHOOL MAP 2016



## 2016 ORGANISATION

Below is our teaching organisation for 2016:

Year 1		Year 1	
<b>Matawhero Team</b>	Room	<b>Orion Team</b>	Room
To start during 2016	1	Julianne Wink	7
To start during 2016	2	Angela Zillwood (Leader)	8
Bridie Carr-Neil (Leader)	3	Jemma Shannon	9
Chris Chase	4	Caron Ace	10
		Casey Frew	11
Year 2		Year 2	
<b>Neptune Team</b>		<b>Kopu Team</b>	
Komal Kumar	25	Andrea Johns	22
Jennifer Dalton (Leader)	27	Cyra Wells	23
Brenda Wollen	28	Suzie Goile (Acting Leader)	24
Year 3 & 4		Year 3 & 4	
<b>Ra Team</b>		<b>Earth Team</b>	
Cath Glyde	29	Rebecca Griffin	34
Krissy Tantrum (Leader)	30	Suzanne Robertson (Leader)	35
Sharon Hatherill	31	Emma Cathcart	36
Sarah Rasmussen	32	Logan Ganley	37
Kristy Hanks	33	Natalie Gillies	38
Year 5 & 6		Year 5 & 6	
<b>Milky Way Team</b>		<b>Marama Team</b>	
Angela Sweeney	18	Ryan Jordan	12
Mark Macleod	19	Becky Somerville (Leader)	13
Jo Stewart (Leader)	20	Jemma Campbell	14
Inge Alferink	21	Naomi Courtney-Tennent	15

## SWIMMING CLASS LESSONS 2016

### Did you know?

**New Zealand has one of the highest drowning rates in the developed world and unfortunately 2016 has seen many drownings in New Zealand already.**

We are very lucky to be able to continue our school swimming programme in 2016. This is a vital part of our Te Totara Health and Physical Education curriculum. Our school pool is in fabulous condition with a new heat pump programmed for 30 degrees. We will be operating our 'in school' swimming programme from February to May and September to December each year. Our children will continue to learn from qualified instructors with a programme which includes aqua education, survival skills and swimming stroke work. Lessons will be held with small numbers of children in the classes which research shows is 'best practise' learning, your child will receive a block course of 2 weeks of swimming lessons for a very reasonable fee of \$60 per year. The fee will go towards employing our qualified swim instructors and the ongoing costs of keeping our school pool running. These costs are also subsidised by our curriculum budgets to ensure they are affordable for all. These fees can be paid over the year in instalments by automatic payment if you would like to. The students swimming progress will be monitored and you will receive a certificate of your child's ongoing progress and achievements.

Any further queries please contact Anne Fraser, Curriculum Manager at Te Totara School.

## SWIM SCHOOL LESSONS AFTER SCHOOL AT TE TOTARA

We are looking at running our swim school Lessons in Term 1 after school on Tuesday's and Wednesday's.

This is additional to your child's in school class lessons and a great way to boost your child's confidence in the water. At this stage our Tuesday lessons are fully booked, however we do have a few spaces left for Wednesday lessons.

This would be a 7 week block course, starting Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

Fees are \$101.50 per child and lessons are 25 minutes each week.

Parents are reminded please to stay on site for your child's swim school lesson as per our swim School terms and conditions.

If your child/ren attend our ASC, arrangements can be made for your child to attend these lessons. A copy of our terms and conditions is available on our school website or from our School Office. **Please e-mail Celeste if you would be interested in making a booking with your child's name and swimming level, [celestem@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:celestem@tetotara.school.nz)**

**BOOKINGS CLOSE WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2016.**

## SCHOOL LUNCH SERVICE

We are excited to continue our school lunch service at school. **Our lunch supplier is "Lunch Orders" who are based in Hamilton.**

**NEW ON THE MENU, Chicken Nuggets are here! Home baked real chicken breast!**

**Please remember to change your child's room number so their order will get to the correct classroom.**

## SCHOOL HOURS

Just a reminder that school starts at **8.55am sharp** and it is important for children to be here at that time. We appreciate your efforts however; if for any reason you do arrive late (after 8.55am) please report to the School Office where a "Late Card" will be issued to your child before heading to your learning area.



- Visit us online at [www.lunchorders.co.nz](http://www.lunchorders.co.nz)
- Sign up for a free account and select your school
- Top up your account using a credit card or direct credit
- Place your order and select delivery date
- Sit back and relax while your order is freshly made and delivered to your school

LunchOrders delivers to Te Totara Primary on **MONDAY - FRIDAY** at 12.15PM.



## **EARLY ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL BEFORE 8.15AM**

Children are welcome to arrive at school from **8.15am onwards**. We have noticed a number of students arriving around 8.00am or even earlier. Teachers have planning to do before school in their classrooms and are unavailable to supervise any students arriving before 8.15am. We offer a Before School Care facility; Enrolment Forms are available from the School Office or via our School website [www.tetotara.school.nz](http://www.tetotara.school.nz)

## **LATE ARRIVALS (AFTER 8.55AM)**

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.

We understand there may be rare occasions where your child arrives **late** at school (**after 8.55am**) and require families to report to the School Office for the child to be issued a Late Card prior to heading to their learning areas. We appreciate your effort in ensuring your child/ren arrive at school in good time before the first bell at 8.55am.

## **ABSENCES**

If your child will be away from school then please let us know by either:

- Phoning the school on **(07) 853-0039**
- School App
- Texting the School Office on 027 207-4466 with name, details and reason for absence.

**Every text message received will be acknowledged by a return text. If you do not receive a reply by 9.30am, please resend your text.**

We would appreciate any absence messages before 9.00am.

## **PROCEDURE WHEN STUDENTS ARE AWAY DUE TO FAMILY HOLIDAY ETC**

From time to time families wish to take their children out of school for various events not related to illness. Simply notifying the teacher/school verbally is not sufficient. To gain an exemption you will need to write or e-mail the principal (copy Carole Carter) in order to follow the Education Act.

**E-mail address for Brian Sheedy [principal@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:principal@tetotara.school.nz)**

c.c. [officeassistant@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:officeassistant@tetotara.school.nz)

## **ALLERGIES/MEDICAL CONDITIONS**

In the event of a medical emergency, if your child has a medical condition, is taking regular medicine/tablets or has an allergy (including sticking plasters etc), please advise the School Office (if you haven't already), so we can amend your records accordingly.

We also have several children in school with allergies and we have procedures in place to keep these children safe, including not sharing food/drink, washing tables, and hand washing before and after eating. Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

## **DENTAL CLINIC FOR TE TOTARA CHILDREN - FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY DENTAL CLINIC**

Our school Dental Clinic is located at the Fairfield Community Dental Clinic C/- Fairfield Intermediate School Ph: (07) 853-8145. The physical address is:  
Kensington Place (end of road not far from Davies Corner Medical Centre)

## APPOINTMENTS AT SCHOOL

We love to see families at school and appreciate the home and school partnership. However, we are finding that that we have a number of “cold callers” arriving and expecting to see either a leadership person or a teacher. This can pose problems as we often have commitments elsewhere and can't do justice to any queries that you may have. We certainly don't want to stop the great communication in place, but would appreciate either a phone call or e-mail so that we can make an appointment to give you the time needed to sort out any queries. This phone call or e-mail will need to be done a day or two prior to the appointment.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are delighted with the large numbers of students who look really great by wearing their uniform in the correct manner.

However, we have noticed a few students who are not complying with our Uniform Expectations and we ask your assistance with this.

**ALL** students are expected to be wearing their full correct summer uniform.

- All students are to arrive at school and leave from school in their Te Totara Primary School uniform, including footwear.
- Uniforms are to be worn clean, neat and tidy.
- Students are encouraged to take pride in their school uniform and to wear it well.
- Hair is to be off the face, tied back if longer than the bottom of the collar, and be the natural hair colour.
- Nail polish and cosmetics are not permitted.
- Second hand uniforms may be available. Please see the notice board in the School Office for details.
- Any hair accessory is to be of a single school uniform colour – red, white, black, green.
- Variations in relation to the Human Rights Act may be negotiated with the Principal.
- All pupils are encouraged to use sunscreen at home before school and expected to wear the regulation school hat while outdoors. No hat – play in the shade.
- All uniform items should be clearly named.

## JEWELLERY

Items of jewellery can be easily lost or damaged at school. They may also cause injury to the wearer or other students. **For safety reasons items of jewellery are NOT to be worn.** The school accepts no responsibility in the case of loss, damage or injury.

However, students may wear:

- a) One small earring stud per ear.
- b) A watch.
- c) A necklace of religious or cultural significance – to be worn underneath clothing.
- d) A Medical Identification Tag as required.

For a full description of our Uniform Expectations for our school uniform, please check the noticeboard in the School Office or the school website.

If you have any queries, please contact me at [principal@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:principal@tetotara.school.nz)

## TE TOTARA BUCKET SUN HATS COMPULSORY TERM 1, 2016

From the beginning of Term 1, 2016 ALL children will need to wear their Te Totara Primary School Red Bucket Hat when outside.

These can be purchased through Direct Group, 115 Ellis Street, Frankton (07) 847-6664.

## NAMING OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please, please, please can you make sure all items of school uniform are clearly named. It is not good enough to assume that your child will know that something belongs to them "because it has a black dot on the tag". If an item of clothing is found out on the fields it can not be returned unless it is named. We go out of our way to identify and return lost property, but patience runs thin when clothing is not named.

## SCHOOL BANKING - FIRST CREDIT UNION

Banking can be deposited in the Credit Union Drop Box in Reception 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).

Application Packs can be collected from the School Office.

## TOUCH RUGBY INTEREST LETTERS

Interest Letters for Touch Rugby have gone out this week. **All forms must be in tomorrow, Friday 5th February 2016 by 3.30pm**, to the mooloo box in the office so that we can register our teams before the closing date.

Please collect an interest letter from the Matawhero Pod if your child is interested in playing but has not brought a letter home. Teams are from Year 1 to Year 6. **Sorry no late enrolments will be accepted.**

## HEALTH WAIKATO HEARING & VISION TESTING FOR STUDENTS THAT HAVE NOT COMPLETED ROUTINE TESTS

A Vision & Hearing Technician will be visiting our school Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 to complete routine tests for those students who have missed their pre-school/prior school checks.

## FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm.**

This week Orion, Kōpū, Earth and Marama children attended assembly.

This week we will be welcoming our new children to Te Totara in our assembly.

Everyone is welcome.

## DATES COMING UP

Mon 8 Feb	SCHOOL CLOSED – Waitangi Day
Wed 10 Feb	Meet the Teacher Years 1-2 5.30pm Years 3-4 6.00pm Years 5-6 6.30pm
Wed 10 Feb	Routine N/E Hearing & Vision Testing
Wed 17 Feb	PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm in Staff Lounge
Fri 15 April	TERM 1, 2016 FINISHES @ 3.00pm

Kind regards,

**Brian Sheedy**

**Principal**

Te Totara Primary School



# TE TOTARA PTA

## NEXT PTA MEETING:

Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 7.30pm in the staff lounge.



## PTA BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Te Totara Primary School PTA Account: ASB 12 3171 0277833-00

Please ensure your name is used as a reference.

## PTA EMAIL AND FACEBOOK ADDRESSES:

[tetotara.pta@gmail.com](mailto:tetotara.pta@gmail.com)

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-Totara-Primary-School-PTA/30090011661692)

[Totara-Primary-School-PTA/30090011661692](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-Totara-Primary-School-PTA/30090011661692)

## 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.

### JITTERBUGS DANCE LESSONS TERM 1, 2016

Only 5 spaces left for Term 1 (starting week 3)

Lessons held on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Te Totara Primary School

\$78 for the term

For girls aged 3 – 11 and boys from 5 – 11

Email [jitterbugs@vodafone.co.nz](mailto:jitterbugs@vodafone.co.nz) for more info

### LOST AT TE TOTARA

At the end of last year a home-made wooden long board (skate board) was "lost" at school. It has great sentimental value as it was made by a sibling. It is 70cm long, has a fish tail and pointed nose, a sand coating on the deck, green and yellow wheels and silver trucks. It has "MURRAY" written on the side with sharpie. There will be a reward for its return. Please phone Linda: 021 027 625 10 should you be able to help.

### HILTON BROWN SWIMMING

Come along to a FREE trial swimming lesson for new customers. Soon you'll be swimming like a fish!

Call us now to book: ph 07 855 8666. 12 Queenwood Avenue Hamilton [www.hiltonbrownswimming.co.nz](http://www.hiltonbrownswimming.co.nz)

### SATURDAY MORNING MUSIC CLASSES

Enrolments are open NOW for Term 1 2016 classes at the Hamilton Community Centre of Music. The school offers affordable group tuition in a wide range of musical instruments, for all ages (from 3 to retired) and ability levels. The school is located at Gate 4, Hillcrest Road on the University of Waikato campus. Contact us or enrol via our website <http://www.hccm.ac.nz/> or on 07 838 4611.

### FREE EAR CLINIC SERVICE FOR CHILDREN

For all enquiries regarding this service, please contact ph 07 838 3565.

25 Vialou Street Hamilton.

### HAMILTON BMX

Email [Hamiltonbmx@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Hamiltonbmx@xtra.co.nz)

Website [www.hamiltonbmx.co.nz](http://www.hamiltonbmx.co.nz)

We would like to introduce our club and the great opportunities we offer for all ages.

### IRISH DANCING

Beginner classes open for enrolment, we invite you to come along and give it a try! Lots of fun, learning, fitness, coordination, friendship and teamwork involved! Please enquire by email at [maryellenwalsh@xtra.co.nz](mailto:maryellenwalsh@xtra.co.nz) or by phone/text on [027 2767431](tel:0272767431). See our Facebook page Maryellen Walsh Academy Of Irish Dance. Bring on 2016"

### PIANO LESSONS

Cameron Munroe B. Mus (CCM)

For more details contact Cameron on ph 022 029 5040 or email [Cameron.munroe@gmail.com](mailto:Cameron.munroe@gmail.com)