

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), Mbofe, Jambo (Congolese), Konnichiwa (Japanese), Hola (Spanish), Annyeonghaseyo (South Korea) Israel Shalom (Hebrew)

Welcome back to the school year! We have had a very settled start, with the children coming back eager and ready for learning. Our Teachers and Staff have prepared well and programmes are underway ready for a great year of learning. If you are new to our school a special welcome, we hope you enjoy your association with Te Totara.

Our weekly newsletter is a way of keeping up with school events, happenings and news on what we do at Te Totara Primary School. Over the next few weeks in particular, we will be outlining our plans for this year as well as achievements and other information. Our focus at this time of the year is firmly on establishing class programmes, building new relationships and trust, we are already delighted with the early gains in this area!

### FINDING OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING

We have many ways of keeping up-to-date regarding events that are happening at school:

Online school calendar: [Online School Calendar](#)

School App: [Download the School App](#)

School Website: [Te Totara Web Site](#)

Weekly notices: [Weekly Notices](#)

FacebookPage:

<https://www.facebook.com/TeTotaraPrimarySchool230374533681330/>

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



## SCHOOL IS OPEN MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY, 2018

## SCHOOL CLOSED - WAITANGI DAY

Our school is **CLOSED** Tuesday 6th February, 2018 for a National Holiday - Waitangi Day.

We open again on Wednesday 7th February, 2018 as normal.

### MEET THE TEACHER EVENING - WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY, 2018

We are very keen to continue to have close links between home and school, so we have arranged for a Meet the Teacher session for families, a great way to stay really connected with the school.

**5.30pm** Orion, Kopu & Neptune families meet with their Teacher

**6.00pm** Ra & Earth families meet with their Teacher

**6.30pm** Marama & Milky Way families meet with their Teacher

From 5.30pm - 6.00pm in the Staff Lounge, we will have a drop-in session to answer any queries around our BYO iPad Programme for Year 3-6 Students. You can find out information on this link on our website. We will have the BYO iPad Agreement Forms available at this time.

<http://www.tetotara.school.nz/77/pages/87-bring-your-own-device-faqs>

## **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY-CHANGE OF FORMAT**

We hold a "School Assembly" each Friday, starting at 2.00pm in the Matariki Hall, where we celebrate learning and achievement, awards and school information updates. Families are very welcome to attend, our teachers endeavour to contact families if their child is gaining an award at the assembly.

Due to the number of students/families involved we are now moving to three separate assemblies to help with congestion and allow for a more informal approach. We mix the year and age levels up so that our older students are able to support and role model to our newer children. Teams will rotate in this format:

- A. Orion, Kōpū, Marama**
- B. Matawhero, Earth, Milky Way**
- C. Neptune, Ra**

Each week we will include in the newsletter 'School Assembly' to inform you of which teams are attending assembly on that week.

## **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

This week's assembly will be held on **Friday 2nd February, 2018 in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm.**

This week our children from Orion, Kōpū & Marama will attend assembly.

This week we will be welcoming our new students from these classes.

## **HEAT PLAN**

With the very hot weather we have introduced a Heat Plan at school. Usually our children go outside during the breaks to play with friends and enjoy the benefits of being active. We recognise that with the very hot weather this can pose some risks, especially around dehydration and heat related concerns. So on very hot days we will be having an indoor option for the children to use at break times, typically anything over 25 degrees in the forecast will trigger the Heat Plan.

We are fortunate that all our inside areas (apart from Matariki-Hall) are air conditioned so it allows for optimum learning and teaching conditions.

## **CAMP FOR OUR YEARS 5 & 6 STUDENTS**

We enjoy giving our students at least one overnight camp at our school. We do try and make them toward the beginning of the school year, so those valuable relationships established, can be built on during the year. This year we are using the Ngaruawahia Christian Camp and our two teams are going on:

<b>Milky Way Team</b>	<b>Departing on Monday 12th February, returning on Wednesday 14th February</b>
<b>Marama Team</b>	<b>Departing on Wednesday 14th February, returning on Friday 16th February</b>

We were swamped with offers of help, which was very much appreciated. My thanks for parents who offered.

Our Teachers have been busy preparing and there is lots of planning information going home to the students from the two teams.

We have a tradition of the rest of the school farewelling the students as they leave, so if you are around school at the beginning of the school day on Monday 12 February and Wed 14 February, you'll see this in action.

## **CHICKENPOX**

We have begun the term with a couple 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 your family doctor.

A copy of the Infectious Diseases Guidelines can be found on the school website under the **"Health & Medical"** red quick link tab.

## **2018 DONATION/FEEES ARE AVAILABLE TO PAY NOW THROUGH KINDO NOW...**



### ***Aquatics / Mathletics / School Donation & Lost Library Books plus:***

- **2018 Year 5&6 School Camp** (*Week of 12th - 16th Feb, 2018*)

Register for Kindo using our App or via our School Website [www.tetotara.school.nz](http://www.tetotara.school.nz) then select the "Fees & Donations" tab.

Questions?

If you need help, please pop in and see us at the School Office OR give us a call on (07) 853-0039 OR call the **Kindo Helpdesk on 0508 454636 (toll free)**

*If access is denied, it is most likely that our school does not have your current email address recorded on your child's file. Please do not hesitate to contact the School Office on (07) 853-0039 to amend.*

**Below is some information for our families from the team at Kindo:**

Kindo now offers payment by American Express, Mastercard, Visa or China UnionPay, by internet banking or by Account2Account (managed internet banking).POLi is coming soon! Card payments cost 50c+2.5% (a slight increase on last year) but other methods remain free of charge. You are welcome to add funds to your account regularly or in advance, or just pay as you go.

American Express is now accepted. Popular with many parents for their great rewards schemes, parents can now choose to top up their accounts by American Express, Mastercard, Visa or China UnionPay (popular with Chinese families), by internet banking or by Account2Account (managed internet banking). AVAILABLE NOW.

POLi is on it's way - we've been working hard to implement POLi payments over the holidays. An alternative to Account2Account, POLi is an internet banking-type service that is used by many large NZ businesses and government departments. COMING VERY SOON.

Credit Card fees increase - for the last 18 months or so our credit card merchant fees have been exceeding our fees recovery from parents. We've been negotiating to reduce these, but unfortunately we've been unsuccessful in getting any change to the rate. As such we increased the credit card fee we charge to parents, so we can recover those costs, from the current 2% to 2.5%. This is still a common amount charged for credit card usage and we are letting parents know on our website where they're choosing payment method. IMPLEMENTED ON 1 JANUARY, 2018.

Prezzy Card issue - we've been made aware late last week of an issue with Prezzy Cards failing for online purchases. Payment Express are working on a solution which will be in place in March. They have also made Prezzy aware of the failures, so we may see action sooner. As all of our payments are processed via Payment Express, unfortunately we will be unable to accept Prezzy Cards until this has been resolved.

Account2Account continues to have sporadic issues with various banks, commonly the ASB Bank. If a parent raises an issue with our helpdesk we take this to Payment Express support to resolve. Sometimes clicking the 'back' button can also make it work. They continue to work towards greater stability. The implementation of POLi should provide a good alternative also.



## SCHOOL SWIMMING, CLASS LESSONS FOR TERM 1, 2018

Our pool is looking great and ready for our school class lessons to start.

Our Year 2 children will be swimming this term and the timetables have been updated and are online on our website now. After our Year 2 students complete their swimming the Year 3-4 students will be swimming. We will put these timetables up on the website over the next few weeks.

## SWIM SCHOOL - AFTER SCHOOL LESSONS STARTING TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY, 2018

We will be offering an 8-week after school Swim School Programme on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school starting **Tuesday 13th February, 2018**.

There are a few spaces left, get in quick if you would like to make a booking for your child. Email Celeste at [celestem@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:celestem@tetotara.school.nz)

**Please advise your child's name, age and swimming ability.**

## SCHOOL LUNCH SERVICE

**We are excited to continue our school lunch service at school.**

**Our supplier is "Lunch Orders" who are based in Hamilton.**

**A message from LunchOrders:**

It's time to update your child's details.

Heya LunchOrders whānau! 2018 is going to be a year where the team in the LunchOrders kitchen will continue to innovate and experiment to bring you the healthiest, and most attractive school lunches! **Just a quick reminder to update your child's classroom number for 2018 so their yummy lunch can be sent to the right place! To update go to "My Account" and then select "Family Details".**



- 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.



## MATHEMATICS, TO HELP LEARNING

We have joined the whole school for 2018 at a much discounted price of: **\$20.00 per student for 2018** (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 Mathematics for 2018. Please pay this fee by KINDO.

Students will be issued their User Login ID & Passwords shortly by their classroom teacher. The Mathematics site is <http://www.mathletics.co.nz>

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

## CHANGE OF DETAILS/ADDRESS

Just a little reminder that if you have changed any of your details i.e. phone, address, email 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 given out in December 2017.

## 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.



## 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. Please note that we do not send a reply to text messages.

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 email the Principal (*copy Carole Carter-Gregory*) 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.

## 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 email 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.

## DENTAL CLINIC FOR TE TOTARA CHILDREN, FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY DENTAL CLINIC

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

## 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 plain 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.
- **Plain black school sandals in summer (Terms 1&4) OR plain black school shoes in winter (Terms 2&3).** No other colours on the sandal or shoe, just plain black.

## 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, 2018

From the beginning of Term 1, 2018 **ALL** children will need to wear their Te Totara Primary School Red Bucket Hat when outside. These can be purchased through Direct Group, 6 Latham Court, Hamilton (off Kahikatea Drive) Phone (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.

## 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.

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Scholastic Book orders are due, **Friday 16th February, 2018 @ 9.15am**, to the School Office. Sorry **NO** late orders will be accepted.

**REMEMBER.... When completing the order form please fill in all the details i.e. name, room number, item number and title of the book.**

**A quick easy way to order and pay now, is to order and pay online with the book club loop.**

## DATES COMING UP

Mon 5 Feb	School is OPEN as normal
Tues 6 Feb	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED - WAITANGI PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>
Wed 7 Feb	Meet the Teacher & BYOD Evening 5.30pm-7.30pm
Fri 9 Feb	Scholastic Book orders close
Mon 12 Feb	Milky Way Camp - Departing school Mon 12th Feb/Returning Wed 14th Feb
Wed 14 Feb	Marama Camp - Departing school Wed 14th Feb/Returning Fri 16th Feb
Fri 30 March	Easter Friday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 2 April	Easter Monday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tues 3 April	Easter Tuesday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri 13 April	TERM 1, 2017 FINISHES @ 3.00pm

Kind regards,  
**Brian Sheedy**  
Principal

## 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.

### SATURDAY MORNING MUSIC CLASSES

Enrolments are now open for Term One 2018 at the Hamilton Community Centre of Music. The first session is on Saturday 10th February. The centre caters for all ages (3 to retired) and ability levels, offering group-format music tuition in a range of instruments. A music appreciation/readiness programme (Music Makers) is available from age 3. Young Voices children's choir caters for those ages 9+. New this year are lessons in Bass Guitar and an Exam Stream option for students wishing to prepare for examinations in certain instruments.

The centre is located on the University of Waikato campus in Hillcrest.

Contact us via our website <http://www.hccm.ac.nz/> or on 07 838 4611

We would like to invite your school to take part in the Remax Waipa Fun Run 2 km School Challenge on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Visit our website [www.waipafunrun.co.nz](http://www.waipafunrun.co.nz)

22 Anzac Street, Cambridge 3434, New Zealand.

Phone 07-827 6623

Email: [funrun@stpeterscatholic.school.nz](mailto:funrun@stpeterscatholic.school.nz) Webpage: [www.waipafunrun.co.nz](http://www.waipafunrun.co.nz)



## JITTERBUGS DANCE LESSONS TERM 1 2018

**Just 6 Spaces left for Term 1 2018 (starts week of 12 Feb)**

- Monday 4.15 MiniJam (for girls and boys aged between 3 and 5 ½) **5 Spaces**
- Monday 4.40 Jitterbugs Junior (girls aged around 5 ½ - 7) **1 Space**

Cost: \$95.00 for the term which includes a show and access to videos for your kids to practice to at home. Lessons held at Rototuna Junior High. Email [jolie@jitterbugsdancelessons.co.nz](mailto:jolie@jitterbugsdancelessons.co.nz) for more info, visit [www.jitterbugsdancelessons.co.nz](http://www.jitterbugsdancelessons.co.nz), checkout the Jitterbugs Facebook page or phone (021) 117 9633



**Do your children love to sing?**

**Come and sing with Tron Songsters, Hamilton's newest childrens choir!**

Now scheduling auditions for 2018.

Directed by Hannah Bryant and assisted by Maria Colvin.

A community choir for boys and girls with treble voices aged 8-13 years old.

Rehearsals at St Aidans Anglican Church, Claudelands on Friday afternoons 4.00-5.15pm during term time.

\$105 for a six week Term (plus a concert performance) beginning February 2018.

Auditions will be held at St Aidans Church on Friday February 23rd 3.30-7.00pm & Sunday.

For an audition time and more information:

Email [hannahgrace.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:hannahgrace.bryant@gmail.com) or call 0212069604.

## TOOLBOX COURSE - EARLY YEARS

Monday Nights - 19th February to 26th March, 7 to 9 pm at The Village Church, 10 Martin Lane, Horsham Downs. To book phone Bridget 021 530 054 or email: [frosties@farmside.co.nz](mailto:frosties@farmside.co.nz)

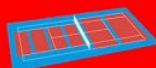
### After School Tennis @ Te Totara School Starts Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February



#### Red Kiwis

Children use 25% compression red balls that bounce lower, slower and are much easier to hit! Children play on 3m or 6m wide courts.

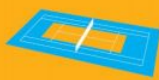
Recommended racquet size is 21 - 23 inches.



#### Orange Kiwis

Children use 50% compression orange balls and play on regular courts with reduced length and width.

Recommended racquet size 23 - 25 inches.



#### Green Kiwis

Children play on full sized courts using 75% compression green balls.

Recommended racquet size is 25 - 27 inches.



Tuesday: 3.15pm-4pm

Cost: \$60 for 8 week block of lessons

Note:

All equipment provided.

Ages:

5-7 year olds

Tuesday: 4pm-5pm

Cost: \$80 for 8 week block of lessons

Note:

All equipment provided.

Ages:

8-10 year olds

Tuesday: 5pm-6pm

Cost: \$80 for 8 week block of lessons

Note:

All equipment provided.

Ages:

9-12 year olds

To register please visit [www.kiwitennis.co.nz](http://www.kiwitennis.co.nz) or contact Pete Hoyland on [pete@kiwitennis.co.nz](mailto:pete@kiwitennis.co.nz) or 022 429 8155 for any questions or help registering!