

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)

A very warm welcome back to the 2019 school year. The students and staff have had an excellent start to the year with everyone excited to be together again for the next part of our learning journey. To all new families who have joined us, it is wonderful to have you as part of our Te Totara family. We had 65 new students start with us on Monday, taking our school roll to an impressive 695 'STAR' students.

Everyone is certainly enjoying the new developments over the holidays of the fabulous playground, the new carpet and autex in the Marama, Milky Way, Orion and Matawhero blocks. Also, the painting of Earth and Ra has really smartened these blocks up.

Many thanks to you all for your very kind messages of concern that you shared with us in the light of the tragic loss of one of our students, Logan Tuson, during the school holidays. It is such a comfort to be part of the supportive and caring school family that Te Totara is. We do have some ideas about ways that we will be acknowledging Logan, these will be shared in coming weeks.

Our newsletter is published each Thursday and is available to view on our school website and in hard copy form (*for those families who do not have internet access*) it is a great way of keeping up-to-date with school events, happenings and news on what we do at Te Totara.

Over the next few weeks we will be outlining our plans and targets for this year, as well as lots of other information. Our focus at this time of the year is firmly on establishing class and team relationships, trust and routines. We are already delighted to see this in evidence throughout our school.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING - WEDNESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY, 2019

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.

5.30 - 6.00pm	Matawhero, Orion & Neptune families meet with their Teacher
6.00 - 6.30pm	Ra & Earth families meet with their Teacher
6.30 - 7.00pm	Marama & Milky Way families meet with their Teacher

The different timings above allows those of you, with children in different year levels of the school, to get to each of the presentations relating to your children.

We have an optional 'Bring Your Own Device' procedure at school for Year 3-6 students only. We have very clear protocols around this which need to be adhered to. The Team Leaders and Teachers will outline these to families in this area of the school as part of their Meet the Teacher presentations. We will have the BYO iPad Agreement Forms available at this time. Check our website as well around this.

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

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 Website](#) - this has the option to translate the newsletter into other languages

Weekly notices: [Weekly Notices](#)

Facebook Page:

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

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



TERM DATES

2019 TERM DATES

Term 1 Mon 4 Feb - Fri 12 April (10 weeks)

Term 2 Mon 29 April - Fri 5 July (10 weeks)

Term 3 Mon 22 July - Fri 27 Sep (10 weeks)

Term 4 Mon 14 Oct - Thu 19 Dec (10 Weeks)

Holiday - Wed 6 Feb Waitangi Day

Holiday - Mon 3 June Queen's Birthday

Holiday - Mon 2 Sep School Mid-Term break

Holiday - Mon 28 Oct Labour Day

2020 TERM DATES

Term 1 Mon 3 Feb - Thu 9 April (10 weeks)

Term 2 Tue 28 April - Fri 3 July (10 weeks)

Term 3 Mon 20 July - Fri 25 Sept (10 weeks)

Term 4 Mon 12 Oct – Wed 16 Dec (10 weeks)

Holiday - Thu 6 Feb Waitangi Day

Holiday - Mon 27 Apr (ANZAC Day) &

- Mon 1 June Queen's Birthday

Holiday - Mon 31 Aug School Mid-Term break

Holiday - Mon 26 October Labour Day

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.

WEETBIX TRYATHLON - SUNDAY 17TH FEBRUARY, 2019

WELL DONE to all our students who have already registered to participate in the Weetbix TRYathlon!

FINAL REMINDER - Entries are closing soon for the Weetbix TRYathlon to be held at the Waikato University grounds on Sunday 17 February. Why not give it a go! Register online at try.weetbix.co.nz and don't forget to scroll down and choose to join our Te Totara School group



To register, go to try.weetbix.co.nz Don't forget to scroll down and choose to join our "Te Totara" School Group. You will also find more information about the TRYathlon on the website.

You are all STARS for signing up to give it a go and we are looking forward to watching you compete, supporting you at the event, and hearing about your exciting day! Good luck! Do your best and have fun :)

2019 FEES AVAILABLE TO PAY VIA KINDO NOW

This online system allows you to pay for our school's fees (Mathletics, Aquatics, Voluntary School Donation, Lost Library Book Fees etc) and is also the ONLY way to register/pay for your child for sports teams.



Questions?

Register for Kindo using our App or through our School Website (click on the link)

www.tetotara.school.nz then select the "Fees & Donations" tab.

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.



SCHOOL LOST PROPERTY BIN

Please check out our lost property bin. The BIG YELLOW bin is located outside the Earth building; there are LOTS of polar fleeces! Please check to see if any items belong to your family as all unclaimed items (*other than school uniform*) will be donated to charity.

We will endeavour to return named school uniform items of clothing to their rightful owner, however any unnamed school uniform will be given to the School Office and sold, with the proceeds returned to the school.



SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

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 have three separate assemblies to help with congestion and allow for a more personal 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. Matawhero, Earth & Marama**
- B. Neptune, Ra.**
- C. Orion & Milky Way**

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 8th February, 2019 in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm.**

This week our children from **Matawhero, Earth and Marama** will attend assembly.

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

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! 2019 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 2019** so their yummy lunch can be sent to the right place! To update go to "My Account" and then select "Family Details".

MATHEMATICS, TO HELP LEARNING

We have joined the whole school for 2019 at a much discounted price of: **\$20.00 per student for 2019** (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 2018. Please pay this fee by KINDO.

Students will be issued their User Login 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.

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 using the User ID and Passwords that were provided with your child/ren previous Learning Plan given out in December 2018.

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

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.**



- Visit us online at 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.



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.



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.

Email address for Anne Fraser principal@tetotara.school.nz

c.c. 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 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 email 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:

- One small earring stud per ear.
- A watch.
- A necklace of religious or cultural significance – to be worn underneath clothing.
- 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

TE TOTARA BUCKET SUN HATS - COMPULSORY TERM 1, 2019

From the beginning of Term 1, 2019 **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.



DATES COMING UP

Wed 13 Feb

Meet the Teacher Evening 5.30pm-7.00pm

Sun 17 Feb

Weetbix Tryathlon at Waikato University Grounds

Fri 12th April

3.00pm End of Term 1, 2019

Kind regards,

Anne Fraser

Acting 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.

Water Alert Level 2

Hamilton City Council moved to Water Alert Level 2 on Tuesday which means sprinklers and watering systems can only be used on alternate days (eg even street numbers on even days; odd street numbers on odd days) between 6- 8am and 6- 8pm. Hand-held hosing can still be done any time.

As high temperatures continue this week, Hamilton City Council is urging residents to cut back on non-essential water use to avoid moving to further water restrictions.

Please help us spread the word by including the image attached in your school newsletter and on your school Facebook page if you have one.

For further information visit www.smartwater.org.nz

[How can I save water?](#)

[Frequently asked questions](#)

[Water alerts to your inbox - subscribe now!](#)

[Report water wasters](#)

Lugtons Waipa Fun Run - 10th March 2019

Forward notice that the Lugtons Waipa Fun Run will be taking place on Sunday, 10th March 2019. Waipa Fun Run Committee C/- St Peter's Catholic School, Hamilton

Saturday Music Classes

Enrolments are now open for Term One 2019 at the Waikato Community School of Music (formerly Hamilton Community Centre of Music). The first session is on Saturday 9th February. The school caters for all ages (3 to retired) and ability levels. We offer both group-format music tuition in a range of instruments, as well as an Exam Stream one-to-one option for students who wish to prepare for exams and/or work towards NCEA credits. Group-format class fees range from \$39 to \$99 per term (average 8 lessons) depending on age and instrument. The enrolment fee for an instrument class includes participation in as many of our ensembles as the student wishes.

A music appreciation/readiness programme (Music Makers) is available from age 3. Young Voices children's choir caters for those ages 9+. Class times are between 8am and 1:00pm on Saturdays during primary school terms. The centre is located on the University of Waikato campus in Hillcrest. Contact us via our website <http://wscsm.ac.nz/> or on 07 838 4611

Learn to Dive with Waikato Diving Club

Waikato Diving (Springboard and Platform) are running Learn to Dive session at WaterWorld commencing early February 2019. Sessions will be run on a Tuesday or Wednesday for 40 minutes between 4pm and 5.30pm, or on a Saturday morning.

Diving teaches fitness, water confidence and safety, learning to meet and conquer challenges, friendship and a team spirit without the team environment of some other sports. It is also an Olympic Sport. (for those planning ahead)

Costs works out at \$10 a session (Which includes pool entry).

Divers need to be confident in water and ideally at least 6 years old. (Exceptions are possible). To register your interest or find out more information please email waikato.diving.w@gmail.com or txt / call Danny on 0276002201 (bookings are essential)

NEW! Gymnastic Academy Tumbling Classes

Every Tuesday at Waikato Diocesan Sport Centre 6pm - 8pm

Book via our website www.thegymnasticacademy.com

Kids Speak Up!

Kids won't speak out? Got raw energy? Hate school speeches? AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES: Kids gain real life skills! Ring Roz 027 248 2888 www.speak4success.co.nz

Kids+ Autism Social Skills Group

A social skills course for young people with either: Asperger's Autism General social difficulties Using activities and games to help kids develop their social and communication skills and build friendships in a calm, safe environment. Wednesdays 4.00pm – 5.30pm Term time only Enrich+ Hamilton \$20.00 / Session Ages 5 – 11 years Registrations are essential, contact us today! 07 871 6410 Email: info@enrichplus.org.nz



MARTIAL ARTS

FOR YOUR KIDS
FUN, FITNESS AND SELF DISCIPLINE
FOR KIDS AGED 5-12 YEARS

Te Totara
Chartwell
Dinsdale
Hamilton City
Rotorua
Flagstaff

Special attention & instruction is given to all new beginner students during the class.

enquiries@tkma.co.nz
0274970499
tkma.co.nz

A photograph of a young girl in a white martial arts gi, performing a punch. She is wearing a white gi with black trim and has her hair tied back. The background is yellow.