

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)

EASTER HOLIDAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED

This year Easter holidays are during term time, please note that the following days **SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED**:

Friday 25th March

Monday 28th March

Tuesday 29th March

We have been asked why our school, like all other State and State integrated Schools, is closed on Tuesday. This information from the Ministry of Education may help... *for over 60 years now Easter Tuesday has been a school holiday for children who go to state and state integrated schools in NZ. By law schools must be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday as they are Public Holidays, and Easter Tuesday which is a school holiday. When Easter falls in April, this school holiday often goes unnoticed by parents. This is because where possible the Ministry of Education tries to align the start of April school holidays with Easter.*

SCHOOL LEADERS

On Monday we announced our School Leaders, who will provide valuable support to others and the school community. We have developed specific roles for the Leaders and they are role models for others and our School STARS. Our Leaders are:

Leadership Role	STARS
Transition to School With our neighbours Barnardos	<i>Samantha, Emilia, Gwen, Danica, Kimioranga</i>
Digital Leaders Support for other students and teachers on school E-Learning Programme	<i>Stirling, Dulina, Sartaj, Luke, Teebah, Joel, Taylor, Chris, Nathan, Seo-Hee, Poen, Alston, Charlie, Jayden, Alexander, Oliver, Cooper</i>
Student Council To represent student views and voice in their school	<i>Harkeerat, Brooke, Blake, Holly, Calais Ava, Melanie Emilee, Shawnessy, Noor</i>
Head Librarians To support this wonderful school resource for learning	<i>Alyssa, Alex, Hayley, Taneesha, Jaimee</i>
Sports To support our school Sport Programmes including major school events	<i>Sophie, Sarah, Connor, Jessica, Noah, Daniel</i>
Art Attack To help with our school Art Programmes that run during the year	<i>Feran, Sammy, Nicole, Sama, Thana, Ella</i>
Transition to High School To liaise with High School for activities and ways to help with the	<i>Teia, Apple, Juhi, Emily, Charley, Ava</i>
Pastoral Care To support other in the playground to use our school STARS	<i>Jake, Rory, Sahil, Mary, Ella, Aidan</i>
Te Totara Times To help produce our weekly school blog on school activities.	<i>Tayla, Lauren, Emily, Ashleigh, Arav, Madison, Camryn, Francesca, Sophie, Jazlyn, Charlotte, Ethan</i>
Welcome Ambassadors To welcome new students and families to the school and any other visitors	<i>Jasmine, Emma, Sashka, Lukas</i>
Enviro To support environmental activities in the school	<i>Murray</i>

2016 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

This year there is a Board of Trustees election coming up and we wanted to give everyone plenty of opportunity to think about standing for the Board. This link provides a brief guide as to what it entails. <http://www.trustee-election.co.nz/>

We also have a pamphlet available at the School Office called “A Parents’ Guide to the Role of the Board of Trustees”, you are most welcome to take a copy.

A really practical way to find out about how a Board operates is to come along to a Board meeting or two, these are held at least 10 times a year. Our next Board of Trustees meeting is on **Thursday 31st March @6.30 pm**. These are now being held in the Staff Lounge in the Matariki (Hall) building. The meetings are open to the public. If you would like any further information please don’t hesitate to contact me via e-mail at principal@tetotara.school.nz



LEARNING PLAN DISCUSSIONS AND STUDENT GOAL-SETTING LETTER

Each student is required to return to THE GOAL-SETTING LETTER to their classroom teacher by Thursday 17th March, this will help teachers prepare for the Learning Plan Discussions. If your original sheet doesn't make it home last week or is lost, please see our school website under newsletters, Learning Plan Discussions, goal-setting letter. http://www.tetotara.school.nz/100/newsletter_sets/2-newsletters/years/2016

Learning Plan discussions will take place on **Tuesday 22nd March & Wednesday 23rd March, 2016**.

We have arranged **15 minute time slots** for the discussion, there will be a change over bell so that everyone is aware of timings. If you have more than one child, you might like to have a break between each interview.

To ensure the smooth running of our Learning Plan Discussions, we would be grateful if all our parents/caregivers kept to the timetable.

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

Tuesday 22nd March, 2016

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 & 5.30pm

Wednesday 23rd March, 2016

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.

HOW DO I BOOK A TIME?

To make an appointment time for your child/ren, please use our online booking system www.schoolinterviews.co.nz – our school code is **2k3ax**. You can also access this site via our school website www.tetotara.school.nz

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.

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 are unable to assist we will go by first in first served. Please **do not** make arrangements direct with classroom teachers.

BOOKING CLOSE TOMORROW, Friday 18th March @ 3.00pm

Please note: We will not be able to accept bookings after 3.00pm on Friday 18 March, 2016.

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 can happen.

School will finish at 2.00pm on Tuesday 22nd & Wednesday 23rd March for all students. Students will need to be collected from school at 2.00pm please. After School Care, for those children enrolled, will be begin at 2.00pm both days.

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. Today, a brochure of the School Vision and Charter 2016 has gone home with the oldest child in your family.

WHEELS DAY

This is a favourite event for our children. Each Thursday from 8.15am we cone off an area for our children to bring their wheels i.e scooters, skateboards, roller blades (sorry, NO bikes) to enjoy using the asphalt area between Matawhero, Earth and Ra buildings. We rotate the teams so there is not too much congestion. To find out when your child's turn is visit our school calendar...

[HTTP://WWW.TETOTARA.SCHOOL.NZ/4/EMBEDDED_ITEMS/7-CALENDAR](http://www.tetotara.school.nz/4/EMBEDDED_ITEMS/7-CALENDAR)

SWIMMING POOL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

To help with queries around our swimming programme at school, we have created a FAQ page on our school website, click on following the link. <http://www.tetotara.school.nz/210/pages/65-swimming-pool>

SCHOOL SWIMMING TIMETABLE

Due to the recent closure of our pool for hygiene reasons outlined in last week's newsletter our swimming timetable for the rest of the term has been revised. A copy of this is on our school website. The classes have been advised via their teachers.

Your children are really enjoying their in class swimming lessons.

<http://www.tetotara.school.nz/210/pages/65-swimming-pool>

SWIM SCHOOL APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY 1-WEEK BLOCK COURSE – LIMITED SPACES!

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 looking at running a 1-week block course of swimming lessons in the first week of the school holidays from 18th - 22nd April, 2016. Lessons will be 25 minutes each day for the week and there will be small class numbers of children which is a great way to boost your child's confidence in the water.

Fees for the week are \$75.00. These lessons will be held from 9.30am-12.30pm. Parents are reminded please to stay on site for your child's Swim School lesson as per our Swim School Terms & Conditions. A copy of our Terms & 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 to: celestem@tetotara.school.nz**

SPORTS

TE TOTARA PLAYERS OF THE DAY

TOUCH

Chiefs

Kautu Maeuea

Stars

Amota Tabera, Grace Hodgson

TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL NETBALL TRIALS

Netball trials for Year 5 & 6 students are on next week!

Year 5 students will be trialling on Tuesday 22 March, 2016

Year 6 students will be trialling on Wednesday 23 March, 2016

Bring a water bottle and appropriate shoes. A change of clothes to trial in would be useful if the weather doesn't look great! Please contact Miss Leitch if any queries.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

If you are one of the many parents who paid for books from the Scholastic Book Club, we apologise for the fact that you have still not received your child's books. Here is the information Scholastic have given us about the delay:

"Over the past few weeks Scholastic has been experiencing some major technical problems that have impacted all parts of its business. These issues have caused ongoing delays, incorrect invoices, missing brochures, incorrect rewards and a wide range of other problems.

If you or your school has been affected we would like to offer you a sincere apology, and thank you for your understanding.

We are doing everything we can to fix these issues and get back on track. To date we have made major progress, however there are still a significant number of problems to fix, and we have a large backlog of school orders we are working through. We have teams working around the clock to get this right, but expect we will not be fully back to normal operation until the end of term one".

LIBRARY OPEN ON FRIDAY MORNINGS

The school library is open every Friday morning from 8.00am. Parents are welcome to come in to borrow extra books for their children, including preschoolers.

FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held **Friday 18th March, 2016** in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm.

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

This week our Marama 12 children will be sharing at assembly.

Everyone is welcome.

DATES COMING UP

Tues 22 March	Learning Plan Discussions School Finishes at 2.00pm
Wed 23 March	Learning Plan Discussions School Finishes at 2.00pm
Fri 25 March	Easter Friday - School Closed
Mon 28 March	Easter Monday - School Closed
Tues 29 March	Easter Tuesday - School Closed
Wed 30 March	PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm in the Staff Lounge
Thurs 31 March	BOT Mtg @ 6.30pm in Staff Lounge
Mon 4-Tues 5 April	Fairfield Dental Therapists Visit
Wed 6 April	PTA Social Evening at the Good Neighbour from 7.00pm
Mon 11 – Wed 13 April	Camp for Milky Way
Wed 13 - Fri 15 April	Camp for Marama
Fri 15 April	TERM 1, 2016 FINISHES @ 3.00pm

Kind regards,

Brian Sheedy

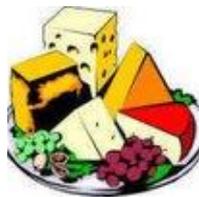
Principal



TE TOTARA PTA

NEXT PTA MEETING:

Wednesday 30th March 2016 at 7.30pm in the Staff Lounge,
Everyone is welcome.



The Te Totara PTA invites you to a social evening..... The Good Neighbour Rototuna, upstairs mezzanine

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6TH FROM 7.00PM.

Drinks will be discounted & we will provide some nibbles.

Come along for a relaxed night out & meet some fellow parents.



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

[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.

PUKETE KINDERGARTEN – ENROLMENTS WELCOME

We are currently seeking enrolments at our wonderful Kindergarten. Enrolments start at 2 yrs with an approximate starting age of 3 yrs, which is subject to change. We offer a fantastic environment with a wide range of stimulating educational experiences for your child/tamariki. We offer sessional hours (am and pm) and have 20 ECE Hours available. Our fully trained team is warm and caring and would welcome your enrolment. Please phone 849-3718 for any further queries or email us at pukete@kindergarten.org.nz.

SQUIGGLE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Squiggle offers OSCAR approved school holiday programmes. Come and join us from 18th – 29th April from Waikato Diocesan School (Fairfield) or Tai Wānanga School (Ruakura). Squiggle is a fun, engaging and active holiday programme for girls and boys aged 5-12 years old. Open from 8am to 5.30pm, our Kiwiana theme this holidays includes activities such as flag making, NZ Idol, poi making, Buzzy Bee upcycling, learning about Powhiri and enviro clean-ups. We'll also be playing X-Fit games, building Lego models with Young Engineers, visiting the Da Vinci's Mechanics expo at the Waikato Museum and making a special trip to the Kiwi House in Otorohanga. To find out more or to enrol, go online www.squiggle.org.nz and book your children in for a fun-filled holiday programme!

NUFC FOOTBALL REGISTRATIONS STILL OPEN

Northern United Football Club (NUFC) - a merged club of Hamilton North and Hukanui Rototuna Football Club - is STILL open for registrations for all kids aged 5 and up who want to play football. Registrations are online via their website - www.northernunitedfootball.com. Grading, for the two (2) top teams in each grade has been completed but there is plenty of space left in other teams for keen footballers. Join a team and have some FUN.

If you have any queries or want to know a little more, touch base with them on football.northernunited@gmail.com or 08004SOCCER.

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

9 April 2016. Register at waibop.co.nz

HOLIDAY CAMP FOR YOUNG WRITERS

"Write like an author" Southwell School 26-29 April 2016

The camp is for enthusiastic young writers to develop their natural writing and story-telling talents. For more information and to register please visit www.writelikeanauthor.com