

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 have already had a very positive beginning, with children bringing along stationery, routines being established and programmes underway.

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 Web site [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 CLOSED - WAITANGI DAY

Our school is closed Monday 6th February 2017 for a national holiday - Waitangi Day. We open again on Tuesday 7th February, 2017 as normal.

MEET THE TEACHER - WEDNESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY, 2017

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.

Wednesday 15th February, 2017

5.30pm Orion, Kopu and Neptune classes meet with their teacher

6.00pm Ra & Earth classes meet with their teacher

6.30pm Marama & Milky Way classes meet with their teacher

5.30pm - 6.00pm in the Staff Lounge, we will have a drop in session to answer any queries around our BYO iPad Programme. 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>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

The Board have a vacancy as Erika Pearson, one of our parent elected representatives is moving to Whangarei. Erika has been outstanding on our Board and contributed much, with a special focus on school policies.

The Board have resolved to fill the vacancy by appointment unless 10% of parents ask for an election. In next week's newsletter we will put in all the relevant information about this process.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION TRIAL - WEDNESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY, 2017 @ 9.10AM

We hold trials to make sure everyone is safe so we are having our first one this year on Wednesday 8 February, 2017 @ 9.10am. This involves the children going to the court area and being accounted for. We have set the trial early in the day to avoid the summer heat.

SCHOOL SWIMMING, CLASS LESSONS FOR TERM 1, 2017

Our pool is looking great and our water quality issues have been resolved.

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.

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

SWIM SCHOOL - AFTER SCHOOL LESSONS STARTING TUESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY, 2017

We will be offering an 8-week after school Swim School Programme on Tuesday's and Wednesday's after school starting **Tuesday 14th February, 2017**.

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

STAFFING

Here is our staffing for 2017 and are delighted with the wonderful team we have to support our children. To find out more about our team, please visit

http://www.tetotara.school.nz/5/profile_areas/1-staff

WEET-BIX KIDS TRYATHLON – SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY, 2017

Juniors aged between 7-10 years OR Seniors aged between 11-15 Years

If your child is interested in participating in the Weetbix TRYathlon as part of our Te Totara Primary School group, registrations are done online for each entrant by parents/caregivers – they are not done through the school. However, to be acknowledged as part of our school group, please ensure when registering your child that when you come to "Which School do you attend", you choose the school group "Te Totara Primary School" in the drop-down box, and then check the small box underneath to confirm you want to be linked to our school group.

We'd love to win "biggest school group" again but if you don't check the box to link to the school group, it won't recognise you as being part of it! All the information you need is on the Weet-Bix Kids Tryathlon website <http://try.weetbix.co.nz/> but for your information, the TRYathlon is on **Sunday 19th February, 2017** and it is held at the Waikato University grounds. Please check the website for any other information you need. Nothing needs to be returned to school, we are just trying to get some information to you before the school holiday break so that you have time to check out the website and get your registrations in! *Don't forget to start swimming, biking and running!!*

Megan Reid (for the Sports Team) meganr@tetotara.school.nz

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! 2017 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 2017** so their yummy lunch can be sent to the right place! To update go to My Account and then select

Te Totara Primary School



- 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.



Family Details (See screenshots below). Look forward to hearing some feedback on our new items on the menu!

MATHLETICS, TO HELP LEARNING

We have joined the whole school for 2017 at a much discounted price of: **\$20.00 per student for 2017** (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 2017. 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.

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 using the User ID and Passwords that were provided with your child/ren previous Learning Plan last year.

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

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 e-mail the principal (copy Carole Carter) in order to follow the Education Act.

E-mail address for Brian Sheedy 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.

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)

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

TE TOTARA BUCKET SUN HATS - COMPULSORY TERM 1, 2017

From the beginning of Term 1, 2017 **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.

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

A Vision & Hearing Technician will be visiting our school on **Friday 10th February, 2017** to complete routine tests for those students who have missed their pre-school/prior school checks. For further information, please contact Health Waikato direct on (07) 838-3565.

FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held **Friday 3rd February, 2017 in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm.**

This week the Matawhero, Neptune, Ra and Milky Way children will attend assembly.

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

Everyone is welcome.

DATES COMING UP

Mon 6 Feb	SCHOOL CLOSED - WAITANGI PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Wed 8 Feb	PTA Meeting 7.30pm
Fri 10 Feb	Vision & Hearing Testing at school
Wed 15 Feb	Meet the Teacher & BYOD Evening 5.30pm-7.30pm
Thur 13 April	TERM 1, 2017 FINISHES @ 3.00pm

Kind regards,

Brian Sheedy

Principal

TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

EMAIL: tetotara.pta@gmail.com <<http://tetotara.pta@gmail.com>>



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 MUSIC CLASSES

Enrolments are now open for Term One 2017 at the Hamilton Community Centre of Music. The first session is on Saturday 18th February. The centre caters for all ages (3 to retired) and ability levels, offering group-format music tuition in a range of instruments. Fees range from \$35 to \$95 per term (8 lessons) depending on age and instrument. The enrolment fee for an instrument class includes participation in an ensemble. A music appreciation/readiness programme (*Music Makers*) is available from age 3. *Young Voices* children's choir caters for those ages 9+. We now offer Tabla classes and can source an instrument if needed. Class times are between 8am and 1:00pm on Saturday mornings during primary school terms. 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.

KIDS FIND PUBLIC VOICE For confidence - public speaking skills

Kids got raw energy? Shy - won't speak out? Speeches - a nightmare? RING **Roz 027 248 2888** or email roz@speak4success.co.nz www.speak4success.co.nz

JUNIOR TOUGH GUY AND GAL

The ITM Junior Tough Guy and Gal went off with a bang for 2016 with seven events across the North Island. Two of the events sold out with many more very close to selling out. Which means we will be creating more events for 2017. See the smiles on so many children's faces as they got out there in the mud and obstacles with their friends and classmates. Event Promotions are exciting for 2017 and the fun and excitement the Junior Tough Guy and Gal Challenge will bring. **Hamilton:** 8th and 9th June 2017

For more information contact aimee@eventpromotions.co.nz

NORTHERN UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB ENROLMENT

Registrations for the upcoming football season are available at www.northernunitedfootball.com

Look under the '**Registrations**' tab for the link to register for the 2017 Football/Soccer season.

Information about the club, and the season, can be found under the '**FAQs**' section of the website.

You can also find us on Facebook (search for Northern United Football Club).

Registrations will start to close towards the end of February so get in quick! All age groups are welcome, so that includes mums and dads if they are keen!

HOSPICE WAIKATO RUN FOR LIFE

Saturday 4th March, 2017! Join together with your family, friends and colleagues to exercise, celebrate life and to make the very most of another beautiful day! 10km Run/Walk \$15 entry fee

Starts at 8am sharp at the Rhododendron Garden, Hamilton Gardens. Ends back at the Rhododendron Lawn.

Everyone is welcome, rain or shine - corporate groups, school groups or community groups, as well as individuals and their dogs!

ACE SWIMMING CLUB

Junior Triathlon Training (11-17yrs)

An advertisement for ASB Bank. The background is yellow with a black diagonal stripe in the top left corner. The text is in black and green. At the top, it says 'Supporting success in your school.' Below that, it explains that if you are a parent, staff member, or member of the school community and draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate to your chosen participating school. A large '\$500' is displayed in the center. Below this, the ASB lending criteria and terms are listed in small text. The ASB logo is in the bottom right corner. At the very bottom, the ASB Bank Limited contact number 56380 16785 0117 is provided.

Supporting success in your school.

If you are a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate to your chosen participating school:

\$500

ASB lending criteria and terms apply. Fees may apply. To be eligible for this donation your new home loan application must be received, approved and then documented in a facility agreement, along with the completion of a school donation voucher, between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2017. A minimum of 20% equity is required in the security property provided to ASB. This home loan offer is only available on loans secured by an owner-occupied residential property. Only one donation will be given per customer. Donations will be made by ASB on behalf of the customer to the chosen school upon full draw down of the new home loan. This offer excludes loans for business purposes and bridging.

ASB Bank Limited 56380 16785 0117

Begins 7 February 2017, this is an 8 week training program to develop your swimming, cycling, running and transition abilities. Places are limited, contact aceheadcoach@gmail.com