

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER THURSDAY 17TH AUGUST, 2017

Te Totara Primary School PO Box 28134 Rototuna, Hamilton 3256

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Kia Ora (Maori/NZ), Hello (English), Bula (Filjan), Welkom (South African),Huän ying (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)

SEESAW

Every student at Te Totara School is set up on an App called 'Seesaw'. This App allows students to record their learning in many formats (photo, video, voice etc) and share it with parents, caregivers and extended family in real time - as the learning is occurring. Essentially Seesaw is a student-driven digital portfolio. Your child/ren's work is kept private and is only viewed by you and their class/teacher.



We were so impressed with the positive response, enthusiasm and the strengthened connections between school and home, after trialing the free version of Seesaw in 2016, that we decided to become part of 'Seesaw for Schools' from 2017. This offers many valuable and extra benefits including:

- Portfolios transfer from year-to-year creating a comprehensive portfolio of student work. With the free version you only have access to Seesaw content from that year.
- Parents/caregivers/extended family <u>only sign up once</u> (for free!) across classes and school years, saving you time and allowing you to see all of your child/ren's work they've added whilst they've been connected.

'Seesaw for Schools' comes at a cost (per student per year), which the school has kindly opted to cover, due to the significant impact Seesaw has on student learning. If you are not yet connected, a family invite will be on its way home soon letting you know how to join up and make the most of this great App.

For further information, please see the <u>'Seesaw</u> for Families' Slideshow on our website under Digital Technology or speak to your child's teacher.

Gain regular insights into your child's classroom learning and celebrate and share their learning journey with them! Get connected with Seesaw!

LOCKDOWN TRIAL HELD YESTERDAY

Yesterday, we had an unannounced Lockdown Trial for Teachers and students to test and make sure our systems worked well. This was really useful in making sure things went well and we had the assistance of NZ Police during the trial to help refine our systems. It was important that we tested our systems to ensure the wellbeing of all in a real Lockdown situation. We were delighted with what happened and have a few points to refine.

We are aware that the trial can cause a little angst among staff and students but our teachers reassured our children all was well.

HOW WE CONTACT YOU IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AT SCHOOL

We will use social messaging, including Facebook, the School App and website. Also, we will phone if necessary, so a good idea to make sure you keep your contact details up-to-date. It is important that you follow any directions given, especially around rushing to school if you hear of an emergency. This can cause congestion, confusion and stress. Please note that in a real incident that NZ Police will take control of access to and from the school, while we look after our children.

LEARNING PLAN DISCUSSIONS

DON'T MISS OUT! BOOKINGS CLOSE MONDAY 21ST AUGUST @ 3.00PM

Learning Plan Discussions will take place on Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th August, 2017 for all students <u>except Matawhero 2</u>.

We have arranged <u>15 minute</u> <u>time slots</u> 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:

Wednesday 23rd August, 2017

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

Thursday 24th August, 2017

2.15pm, 2.30pm, 2.45pm, 3.00pm, 3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm *(teachers break between 5.00pm-5.30pm)*, 5.30pm, 5.45pm, 6.00pm, 6.15pm, 6.30pm, 6.45pm & 7.00pm.

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 **k53jg** You can also access this site via our school website www.tetotara.school.nz

An electronic confirmation can be sent to you via email upon completion of your booking, please don't forget to include your email address and select "<u>email</u>" from the confirmation screen.

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 <u>do not</u> make arrangements direct with classroom teachers.

Who should come?

We encourage the <u>student</u>, and <u>family members</u> who have an <u>interest in learning</u>, 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.

Bookings close on Monday 21st August, 2017 @ 3.00pm. We will not be able to accept bookings after this date/time.

Please Note: School will finish at <u>2.00pm</u> both Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th August for ALL students. Students will need to be collected at <u>2.00pm</u> - Thanks.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

As the whole school will finish at <u>2.00pm</u> on Wednesday 23rd August & Thursday 24th August 2017; After School Care will begin at 2.00pm, <u>for those children enrolled.</u>

MUFTI DAY TO SUPPORT DAFFODIL DAY - FRIDAY 25TH AUGUST, 2017

Te Totara Primary School will be raising money for this worthy cause by having a "Mufti Day" where students can dress up in yellow/gold clothing, instead of school uniform, for a gold coin donation.

Some of our School Leaders will be at the entrance points to the school will collection buckets. Please support this very worthy cause.

DIRECT GROUP, OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER IS MOVING PREMISES

Direct Group have advised they will be closed on Friday 8th September and Saturday 9th September 2017 as they are moving to a new premises.

They will reopen on Monday 11th September at 6 Latham Court (off Kahikatea Drive). Phone 07 847 6664. Email <u>info@directgroup.co.nz</u> and shop online, <u>www.shop.directgroup.co.nz</u>





SIBLING OUT-OF-ZONE ENROLMENTS FOR 2018

The Board of Trustees are looking to accommodate, if possible, younger siblings and children of staff in the 2018 school year.

To help determine this, we urgently need to have out-of-zone Enrolment Forms into the School Office by **Friday 18th August** (tomorrow) to help with this process.

Please complete a standard Enrolment Form for each child, which is available online from our school website <u>www.tetotara.school.nz</u> or by visiting the School Office.

The Board will look at the number of enrolments, the level of projected student growth and determine how many spaces for out-of-zone students are available for the 2018 school year. Further information will follow via the school newsletter.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS – DESTINATION SCHOOL

Many of our Year 6 families have already enrolled at an Intermediate School/High School for 2018 and have received confirmation of acceptance.

It would be appreciated if you could advise Marise in the School Office of your decision on Ph: 853-0039 ext. 858. As you can imagine, these schools have a huge amount of applications to process and are keen to receive applications in advance.

If you haven't made a decision as yet, please also let Marise know.

STREP THROAT

We have begun the school term with a number of students away with Strep Throat. According to the Ministry of Health Infectious Diseases Guidelines:

- Early signs are a headache, vomiting and a sore throat (coughing, sneezing etc)
- The child is infectious 24-48 hours if treated with antibiotics
- Time between exposure and sickness is 1-3 days
- This disease is spread by contact with the secretions of a strep sore throat
- Exclusion from school is 24 Hours after antibiotics have been started

If you are unsure whether your child should return to school, please see to your family doctor. A copy of the Infectious Diseases Guidelines can be found on the school website by clicking ...<u>Health</u> <u>Information</u>

CAR PARKING, SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN

Thanks so much to everyone who takes care around the school, on behalf of our children, many thanks.

Some tips to make sure we have a safe school:

- Parking in Disabled carparks is not permitted at any time unless you have a current "Disabled Parking" permit on display in your vehicle. We have a number of families who legitimately require these carparks.
- If you are in the main car park, please **don't double park** as it causes a grid lock behind you from cars entering and exiting the school car park. If you are behind someone who does this please feel free to toot, we won't mind...
- Do not leave your vehicle if you are parked in the drop-off zone, this will allow for the continued flow of traffic.
- Please be extra careful when backing out of a parking space, there may be children behind you that you cannot see.
- The use of a hand-held mobile phone is not permitted while driving.
- We are noticing a few parents parking their cars on the cobblestones/footpath when picking up and dropping off children to and from school rather than on the driveway, particularly in front of the Administration Block.
 Unfortunately, this is creating a problem with the cobblestones lifting, and the kerb cracking, so

Unfortunately, this is creating a problem with the cobblestones lifting, and the kerb cracking, so we would really appreciate your support in not parking there.

Ways you can help....

- When the weather is fine, please encourage your child/ren to scooter, bike or walk to school.
- Arrive at 3.12pm less traffic, parking is easier, less stress all round.
- Smile and accept that a few minutes wait is better than a lifetime of misery because one of our children has been injured or something worse has happened.

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP ZONE

Please note that the drop-off zone is for you to drive in, drop-off (or pick-up) your children and depart. We ask that you **do not park and leave your vehicle** as this causes a backlog of vehicles, this area is designed to keep traffic flowing. You are welcome to use the carpark beside the Matariki Hall if you wish to visit your child's classroom.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held on **Friday 19th August 2017**, in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm. This week children from Matawhero, Neptune, Ra and Milky Way will attend assembly. This week we have a performance from the Pasifika Group.

TE TOTARA SPORTS PLAYER OF THE DAY

If you are a Coach or Manager, please email the POD to celestem@tetotara.school.nz

NETBALL

Comets	Paige Blissett
Defenders	Alex Frater, Anrika Beumer
Ferns	Maddie Bourne
Keepers	Sophie Skipwith, Cadi Grace-Fry
Magic	Keira Cowan
Meteors	Phoenix McGrath
Shooters	Chahat Boparai

HOCKEY

Leopards	Zara Cocurullo
Lightning	Keerti Pera, Jessica Brister
Shooters	Eva Carter
Strikers	Annabelle Mackie



DATES COMING UP

Wed 23 Aug 2.15pm - 5.30pm - Learning Plan Discussions (School Finishes at 2.00pm) 2.15pm - 7.00pm - Learning Plan Discussions (School Finishes at 2.00pm) Thurs 24 Aug Daffodil Day "Mufti Day" - Gold Coin Donation Fri 25 August Thu 31 August BOT Meeting 6.30pm Mid-Term Break - SCHOOL CLOSED Mon 4 Sept Fri 29 Sept TERM 3, 2017 FINISHES AT 3.00PM

Kind regards, **Brian Sheedy** Principal

TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

EMAIL: tetotara.pta@gmail.com www.facebook.com/TTPTA

Please 'like' our Facebook page to ensure you keep in the news loop:

www.facebook.com/TTPTA Have a great week Your PTA team: Scott, Liz, Rae, Nalina, Vicki & Jemma

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.

NUMBERWORKS'nWORDS

Help your child reach their potential with NumberWorks'nWords. Developed in New Zealand to support the New Zealand school curriculum, providing specialist Maths and English tuition for students from New Entrants to Year 11. By tailoring lessons for each student, setting and monitoring goals, using specialist tutors, and making it fun, they quickly grow in confidence and achieve amazing results. 8538323 to book a free lesson at the centre in Rototuna or visit Phone 07 www.numberworksnwords.co.nz for more information.

11 August 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers

RE: ORIENTATION FOR TE TOTARA SCHOOL TO FAIRFIELD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Welcome to Fairfield Intermediate School. On **Thursday 7th September** we will be holding an **Orientation Day** which you and your child are invited to attend from 9.00am to 12.30pm at our school. There will be a number of activities to participate in and you will also have the opportunity to attend technology and specialist classes.

FAIRFIELD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Morning tea will be provided and we would appreciate it if, for catering purposes, you could contact the school on Ph: (07) 855-9718 prior to Thursday 7th September to let us know if you will be attending.

If you haven't already done so, it would be greatly appreciated if you could complete the enrolment forms as soon as possible and, as per the information in the enrolment pack, deliver the enrolment form to Fairfield Intermediate School, or post them to Fairfield Intermediate School, PO Box 12 026, Chartwell, Hamilton. Enrolments close on Friday 3rd November, 2017.

Once we have received your child's enrolment forms you will be sent an acceptance letter. You are also invited to make an appointment if you wish to discuss your child's educational needs at our school. This appointment needs to be completed by 3rd November, 2017.

We look forward to working with you and your family. Thank you very much for your support.

Yours sincerely, A.J. Shortcliffe JP White Ribbon Ambassador Principal



HOT TIPS FOR PARENTING TEENS AND TWEENS WITH JOHN COWAN

Enjoy your kid's adolescence more than you did your own! John covers growing a great relationship with your teenager, stepping around common problems and how to launch an awesome young adult into the world.



Rotary

🗄 Tuesday, 29 August

Auditorium, St Peter's · Cambridge

6.45pm Doors open

7.00pm Presentation commences

\$10.00 per person

Tickets available at Paper Plus or email events@stpeters.school.nz

www.stpeters.school.nz

Growing and Learning Together