

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER THURSDAY 2ND AUGUST, 2018

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Kia Ora (Maori/NZ), Hello (English), Bula (Fijian), <u>Welkom</u> (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)

# SCHOOL CLOSED - WEDNESDAY 15TH AUGUST, 2018 DUE TO TEACHERS STRIKE

Last week families were emailed detailed information about this. The Strike is for the full day, so currently the **School will be closed on Wednesday 15th August 2018.** This means that there will be no classes and also Before & After School Care will not be running.

The Ministry of Education and the Primary Teachers union, NZEI, are in their second round of negotiations regarding the Collective Employment Contracts for Teachers and Principals. They have both now agreed to mediation to try and come to agreement on conditions and pay. The first offer made by the Ministry of Education was rejected. I am hopeful that there will be a resolution and if there is and the strike is cancelled, we will let everyone know as soon as possible.

There is much debate, opinion and thought on the strike and to try and help with understanding I have included links to both the NZEI (Teachers Union) and Ministry of Education press release on negotiations..

#### NZEI press release on negotiations

<u>Ministry of Education press release on negotiations</u> The link to their websites are here... <u>NZEI</u> and <u>MOE</u> Websites.

As a Principal of 30 years this is the second strike I have seen, the last was in 1994 regarding pay parity with Secondary Teachers, so it is not a common occurrence in New Zealand. Tomorrow around New Zealand Teachers are planning a day of action and there will no doubt be coverage locally and nationally.

# LEARNING PLAN DISCUSSIONS



BOOKINGS OPEN TOMORROW, FRIDAY 3RD AUGUST, 2018 @ 9.00AM

Learning Plan Discussions will take place on **Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd August**, **2018** for all students **except Matawhero 2**.

We have arranged <u>15 minute 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 22nd August, 2018

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 23rd August, 2018

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

#### How do I book a time?

To make an appointment time for your child/ren, please use our online booking system

<u>www.schoolinterviews.co.nz</u> – our school code is **f6a6e** 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 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.

# Bookings close on Monday 20th August, 2018 @ 3.00pm. We will not be able to accept bookings after this date/time. School will finish at 2.00pm both days.

## **AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

As the whole school will finish at 2.00pm on Wednesday 22nd August & Thursday 23rd August 2018; After School Care will begin at 2.00pm, for those children enrolled.

#### **PHOTOLIFE CLASS & INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 – Class, Individual & Sibling Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 – Class & Individual & Sibling Note: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct – Groups & Sports (NO Whole School Photo)



Students will need to look their best, so please ensure that ONLY our correct school uniform is worn and that it is in a <u>clean and tidy</u> <u>condition</u> (black school shorts/skort, white polo shirt and red polar fleece).

Soon after Photo Day your son or daughter will bring home an online slip with their unique Shoot Key detailed on it. When you log-in your personalised Shoot Key number will display all the photographs of your child <u>including an individual photo</u> (and sibling photo if you have ordered one).

It is then an easy process for you to shop online and purchase the photographs you want. If you place your order within three weeks of receiving your Shoot Key you will receive free delivery of your order to the school.

If you order after the 3 week free delivery period, a postage & handling fee per order will apply and orders will be sent to your home.

For families who do not wish to use the Photolife online system, order envelopes will be available from the School Office soon after Photo Day.

A Photolife flyer will go home today to the eldest child in each family.

### **PHOTOLIFE SIBLINGS PHOTOS (YOU MUST PRE-ORDER)**

# Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August & Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 in the Matariki Hall between 8.00am - 9.00am

Pre-ordered Sibling Photos involving <u>pre-schoolers/older siblings NOT at our</u> <u>school</u> will be taken between <u>8.00am-9.00am on a first-come-first-served</u> <u>basis in the Matariki Hall on both days</u>.

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# <u>PLEASE NOTE: Students who have their sibling at our school will have their Sibling Photo taken during class time.</u> Students must be wearing the correct school uniform.

If you wish to have a sibling photograph, please collect a **"Sibling Photo Request Form"** from the School Office and **return it <u>BEFORE</u>** Photo Day to the School Office. Sibling Photos will be delivered to the school along with the Class and Individual photos at a later date.

### SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY - TUESDAY 14TH AUGUST, 2018

Once again it is that time of year when our children are training hard for our School Cross-Country. This is to be held on **Tuesday 14th August, 2018 (Week 4, Term 3)**. Running is a fantastic sport to be involved in at any age. It brings many rewarding benefits, including the obvious physical, mental and personal development. It teaches children goal setting and helps build perseverance and resilience. **Regular physical exercise has also been shown to increase general well-being and reduce** 



**anxiety.** Our students are currently working on increasing their fitness with circuit training and various fun endurance games and activities where their heart rate is elevated for extended periods of time. Students at all levels of fitness will be catered for, as the focus is on improving fitness and increasing stamina for each individual student - from whatever their current fitness level is. Parents, like teachers and coaches, play a key role in determining the quality of experiences young people have. The importance of parents enabling and supporting their children can't be underestimated, so please encourage your child to fully participate in all the fitness activities to build up both their mental and physical strength. You can also help at home, just as Eddie the Penguin said (in our recent junior production - relating to walking, biking, scootering, etc), "It can make you fit; have you thought about it?", so think about choosing one of these options instead of taking the car when you can!

## **CROSS COUNTRY TIMETABLE**

Children to run in their house colours if possible. Year 5&6 children may arrive in their running gear and change into their uniform during the day.

- 8.55am Roll taken, meet on courts and assemble in house teams for cheers
- 9.15am Children return to teachers, first runners get organised
- 9.20am Year 6 Girls
- 9.25am Year 6 Boys
- 9.50am Year 5 Girls
- 9.55am Year 5 Boys

#### **MORNING TEA**

11.10am	Year 4 Girls
11.15am	Year 4 Boys
11.35am	Year 3 Girls
11.40am	Year 3 Boys
12.00pm	Year 2 Girls
12.05pm	Year 2 Boys
LUNCH	
1.30pm	Year 1 Girls Orion
1.35pm	Year 1 Boys Orion
1.45pm	Year 1 Girls Matawhero
1.50pm	Year 1 Boys Matawhero
0.00	

- 2.00pm Certificates written. Children back to classrooms, bags packed etc.
- 2.15pm Year 1-2 certificates in Matariki
- 2.35pm Year 3-6 certificates in Matariki

# **Frequently Asked Questions - Cross Country**

#### Q - Where is the best place to watch my child run?

A - The best place to watch all races from is the raised hill area between Earth/Ra and the school field, where you will be able to see most of the course. This is also where the finish line is located. You are welcome to wander over the course and view racing, but parents are asked to remain behind any roped off area so they don't unintentionally impede any participants.

#### Q - How is my child being prepared for the event?

A - All classroom teachers are taking their students out regularly for training to get ready for the event. This training has been specifically thought out to raise fitness and endurance levels, thereby providing the students with a feeling of achievement, perseverance, well-being and increased physical fitness. The training includes practice runs around the actual cross country course, as well as other fitness activities.

#### Q - How were the courses designed?

A - The courses for each year level were designed around appropriate distances for each age group. We have tried to include as many aspects of cross country running as possible such as grass, firm (concrete/stony) paths, wet areas, dips, obstacles to jump, etc.

#### Q - What should my child wear?

A - Students have been encouraged to wear running shoes for training as there are some areas with small stones. Shoes should also be worn for the race. We encourage students to wear clothing in their house colours to school for the day. This clothing should be appropriate to run freely in, and it will probably get dirty!

#### Q - Why do you write place numbers on students' hands at the finish?

A - While we predominantly promote and encourage students to participate and have fun, our cross country event is a race. As with all curriculum areas, we accept that we have a mixture of students - some who find this type of event personally challenging, and some who wait all year for it because it is something they excel in and enjoy. Place numbers are written on students' hands for two reasons. Firstly, to assist with certificate writing and awarding of house points. Secondly, so that students know where they came. This is important for them personally so that they can relate their placing to how they went the previous year, or to look ahead to the following year. It is not considered by staff as a way of seeing "which student did better than another", and in fact this is actively discouraged by our teachers. The focus is on each individual's performance and their progress against themselves.

#### Q - Will there be hay bales again this year?

A - There will be hay bales to climb/jump over on the competition day, so hurdles are being placed on the track for practices so students can experience jumping over an object. The hay bales will be on the course prior to the event for one or two practices.

#### **Q** - What do you feel you get from participating in Cross Country?

A - A few thoughts from Milky Way 17 students . . .

- Increased self confidence, knowing you can do it (Hunter)
- Building endurance, being able to keep going when things get tough/when your body is tired (Jake)
- Building fitness, overall well being (Emma)
- Perseverance, learning to keep going when you get tired (Emma)
- Learning to never give up (Teimania)
- The opportunity to achieve a goal and have that feeling of accomplishment (Paige)
- Even if I don't look forward to it, I notice improvements in my running and fitness every year (Lisa)
- Even when you get sore legs, that means you are making them stronger (Jake)

Sometimes, sports may not be fun for your child. While it's one thing to tell a child, "that's life!", it's more productive to challenge them to find joy through the commitment. There's a sense of accomplishment that comes with perseverance and resilience. It's important that children understand and learn how to stay committed to a situation.

We feel it is important that you talk to your child when they meet a skill, activity or sport that is difficult to master. Resist the urge to "save" them and don't allow them to quit at the first sign of trouble. Instead, use the experience as a way to teach resilience and an opportunity for success. Help them to brainstorm strategies and make an action plan, but allow them to take ownership of the solution.

As parents we all want to see our children succeed, but they need to know that frustrating and painful moments are not the end of something but rather, they are a natural part of the journey toward achievement and success.

Regards, Te Tolara Primary School Sports Committee

### **TE TOTARA HOUSE COLOURS**

There are four houses, all named in line with our STARS theme and space expeditions:

HOUSE:	COLOUR:
Apollo	Yellow
Challenger	Blue
Discovery	Green
Mercury	Red

#### "Apollo, Challenger, Discovery & Mercury"

- Children are placed in houses when they arrive at school. New Entrants with family members already at school will be placed in the same house.
- We will be able to use the houses for different school events and happenings e.g. Athletic Sports, Cross Country.
- Houses will provide our children with leadership responsibilities and provide good-natured competition.
- There are colours for each house.
- There will be a Lead Teacher looking after each house.
- Students will be meeting in house groups before the event e.g. School Cross Country.
- Children are encouraged to wear an item of a colour associated with their school house.

#### SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Scholastic Book orders are due by **Friday 10th August**, **2018** @ **9.15am**, to the School Office. Sorry <u>NO</u> 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.

#### SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held on **Friday 3rd August, 2018 in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm.** This week our children from Matawhero, Earth and Milky Way will be attending assembly and our Earth 38 children will be sharing.

# 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	Alicia Hickey
Ferns	Shae Mael
Invaders	Maisie Devcich
Magics	Kayleigh Neville



#### Te Totara Primary School

NETBALL

Meteors Shooters Stars Sahashra Jetti, Brooke Peters Zoe Duggan Kaycee Cottam

HOCKEY

All Stars Cheetahs Strikers Shooters Tigers Ekam Aujla Joshua Lin Quinn James Olivia Cullen Troy Brister

# DATES COMING UP

Wed 8 Aug	Photolife Class, Individual & Sibling Photos
Thurs 9 Aug	Photolife Class, Individual & Sibling Photos
Mon 13 Aug	ICAS, Mathematics (for those students who have registered)
Tues 14 Aug	School Cross Country
Thurs 16 Aug	School Cross Country - Postponement Date
Fri 17 Aug - 23 Aug	Book Fair at School
Wed 22 Aug	2.15pm - 5.30pm - Learning Plan Discussions (School Finishes @ 2.00pm)
Thurs 23 Aug	2.15pm - 6.00pm - Learning Plan Discussions School Finishes @ 2.00pm)
Tues 28 Aug	Fairfield Cluster Cross Country
Thurs 30 Aug	Fairfield Cluster Cross Country (Postponement Day)
Thurs 30 Aug	BOT Meeting at 6.30pm
Fri 31 Aug	Cancer Society Daffodil Day
Mon 3 Sept	Mid-Term Break - SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri 14 Sept	PTA, SCHOOL DISCO - T PARTY
Tues 18 Sept	Fairfield Cluster Winter Sports (NO Postponement date)
Thurs 20 Sept	BOT Meeting at 6.30pm
Wed 26 Sept	Senior School Production
Thurs 27 Sept	Senior School Production
Fri 28 Sept	END OF TERM 3, SCHOOL FINISHES AT 3.00PM

# Kind regards, <mark>Brian Sheedy</mark>

# TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

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

www.facebook.com/TTPTA

### **READ-A-THON**

Congratulations to all those students who participated in the Read-a-thon. We are very pleased to announce that the total raised was \$8,500! You all worked very hard and we think you're all amazing. That money will be going towards the new playground – more details will be announced soon.

Congratulations to **Ra 30** who raised the most money in the Read-a-thon – a special treat will be coming for each and every one of you – well done!

We'd like to make special mention of two students who each raised an incredible amount of money: **Jaelynn Te Kani** from Rom 27 and **Keira Tamatea** from Room 34 – you are superstar readers! Thank you so much ©



#### DISCO - "TE TOTARA 'T' PARTY"

That's right, we are holding a disco on **FRIDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER**, **2018**. The Theme is **'T' Party**, so start thinking of costume ideas – **anything that starts with the letter 'T'**. Will you be a tree, the Terminator, a T-Rex or a teapot? Maybe a turtle, a train or a transformer? tennis player, teacher or tiger? Get your thinking caps on, there will be spot prizes for the best costumes...

#### **PROJECT UPDATE**

We are getting **very** close to being able to announce more details on our two school projects, which have been the focus of all our fundraising the last couple of years. Mr Sheedy and the Board of Trustees have been working very hard on the projects, and they will be hugely beneficial to our school community. Stay tuned!

#### **DOMINOS DOUGH RAISER**

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of our friends at **Dominos Rototuna**, the recent Dough Raiser night raised **\$292.00** for our school. Thanks guys, you are champions of the community! What a great local business that is so supportive of our school. We will be holding another one in September, keep a look out for details to follow.

## Your PTA committee: Scott, Fiona, Rae, Lakshman and Vicki

# **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.

#### WAIKATO SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING CLUB HAVE A GO AT SYNCHRO!

If you're 7 to 12 years old, a good swimmer but getting a bit bored with swimming lengths, love to dance, or enjoy the flexibility in gymnastics – you should think about taking up synchronised swimming. Come along with your friends and have a go at Synchro!!



First lesson free: Sun 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> August 10am – 11.30am at Gallagher Aquatic Centre For enquiries contact Sophie on 027 229 2278 or **waikatosynchro@gmail.com** 



Complete and email to Tania O'Leary at: tperiam@yahoo.co.nz

Te Totara Primary School

Growing and Learning Together