



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY, 2020

Te Totara Primary School
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Rototuna, Hamilton 3256

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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 SCHOOL FOR THE 2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Tena koutou to all our Te Totara families.

We are delighted to be back at school for 2020 with our learners, which now total 706 students. To all new families who have joined us, it is wonderful to welcome you to our large Te Totara family. We hope that you are feeling settled and connected to our school and that your children are enjoying their teachers and new classmates.

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.

CORONAVIRUS

Over the past week a number of messages have been sent out via our school website and the Facebook page regarding the recent Coronavirus outbreak.

Without creating unnecessary alarm, we do need to be aware and take precautions to keep our overall community safe and healthy. The school has been closely following the instructions of the New Zealand Government and the Ministry of Education in the way we have been dealing with the school response. As we are a state funded school we are bound to follow the protocols outlined by the Ministry of Education which is what Te Totara has been doing.

Thank you to our families who have contacted the School Office and myself, as Principal, regarding travel to China and the 14-day quarantine period. The current requirement is detailed below:

Following the New Zealand government announcement of a 14-day requirement to self isolate for New Zealand citizens and residents returning from China, we require all families returning from China keep their children home from school for a period of 14 days from the date of their arrival in the country.

The Government is taking a very precautionary approach to protect the health of all, we need to also take this approach to ensure our community remains safe and healthy.

We are aware that your children may present as being well and healthy however with the incubation period being up to 14-days this self-isolation is the best situation for everyone.

The School Office have been following through with other families who have travelled to China during the break to check arrival dates and advise of this requirement. If you haven't yet contacted the School Office could you please do this without delay. Thank you.

We also are aware of not creating a climate at school that is uncomfortable and creates rumour and panic amongst our school families. Te Totara Board of Trustees delegates this responsibility to me as Principal, I take the health and safety of us all as the highest priority.

We very much appreciate the positive response of many of our families who have been communicating with us over the past week, we have been able to assure them that they are an important part of our community and that while they are in a period of self-isolation, this will not adversely affect their children's academic progress. We look forward to seeing them back soon.

We will continue to follow up with families and closely monitor the situation.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING - WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY, 2020 (WEEK 3)

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.

- 5.30pm - 6.00pm **Matawhero, Orion & Neptune** families meet with their Teacher
6.00pm - 6.30pm **Ra & Earth** families meet with their Teacher
6.30pm - 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.

Please Note: Students are not required to attend "Meet the Teacher Evening" however, they are most welcome to play on the playground while they wait for you.

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>

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

Teacher Only Day - Friday 29 May

Holiday - Mon 31 Aug School Mid-Term break

Teacher Only Day - Friday 23 October

Holiday - Mon 26 October Labour Day

2020 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.



2020 School Camp - Year 5&6 Students only

\$180.00 Full Payment & Medical Questions OR

1st \$45.00 installment & Medical Questions

2nd \$45.00 Installment - was due by 13th December, 2019

3rd \$45.00 Installment - Due by 7th February, 2020

4th \$45.00 Installment - Due by 6th March, 2020



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.

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 the Matariki Hall*) are air conditioned so it allows for optimum learning and teaching conditions.

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.



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, Ra & Marama

B. Neptune, Earth.

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 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! 2020 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 2020 so their yummy lunch can be sent to the right place! To update go to "My Account" and then select "Family Details".**

HOW IT WORKS

- 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.

Delicious & nutritious meals delivered straight to the classroom

Lunch Orders www.lunchorders.co.nz

MATHLETICS, TO HELP LEARNING

We have joined the whole school for 2020 at a much discounted price of: **\$20.00 per student for 2020** (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 2020. 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 2019.

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.**



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). We require families to report to the School Office for your 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.

The correct procedure is 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.

Just for your information the school uniform expectations are below:

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:

- 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, 2020

From the beginning of Term 1, 2020 **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.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Scholastic Book orders are due by **Friday 21st February, 2020 @ 9.15am**, to the School Office. Sorry **NO** 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 7th February, 2020 in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm**. This week our children from Matawhero, Ra and Marama will attend assembly.

DATES COMING UP

Mon 10 Feb - Wed 12 Feb

Wed 12 Feb - Fri 14 Feb

Wed 12 Feb

Wed 19 Feb

Thurs 27 Feb

Thurs 26 March

Thurs 9 Apr

3.00pm

Y5&6 School Camp for Marama Team - Have fun everyone

Y5&6 School Camp for Milky Way Team - Enjoy the adventure

PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm in the Staff Lounge

Meet the Teacher Evening (see above information for times)

BOT Meeting @ 6.30pm

BOT Meeting @ 6.30pm

End of Term 1, 2020 @

Ngā mihi,

Anne Fraser
Principal

TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

EMAIL: pta@tetotara.school.nz www.facebook.com/TTPTA

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

www.facebook.com/TTPTA

FUN, FUN, FUN....

Friday 13th March, 2020 - Twilight Family Event - Details to come

Friday 3rd April 2020 - School Disco - Details to come

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 12th February, 2020 @ 7.30pm in the Staff Lounge

Your PTA committee: *Fiona, Moshe, Rae, Kerry, Shelley*



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.**



give
it a
Go!

HAMILTON BMX CLUB OPEN DAYS



COME JOIN US ON:
Sunday 2nd February & 15th March 2020
Like a club night for **NEW & EXISTING RIDERS**, register at club rooms from 10am, fun racing starts @ 11am to 2pm

Make BMX your new family sport, for all ages on balance & pedal bikes. Riders must be fully covered e.g. long pants, long sleeve top, covered shoes

We offer Bike & Helmet hire \$2 per item
Shop will be open to enjoy lunch!
Burgers, Sausages, Hot Chips, Drinks, Snacks...
EFTPOS AVAILABLE
See you at the track!
Wednesday Club Nights start 29th January 2020 from 5.15pm
Sprocket Training starts 10th February 2020 from 5.30pm

Jitterbugs

DANCE LESSONS

♥ Jolie Hopping Ph 021 117 9633 ♥
Email jitterbugsdancelessons@outlook.com
f jitterbugsdancelessons

Last Chance to join up for Term 1 2020. Spaces are being snapped up quickly! If a session is full that you are interested in I can always put your child's name on the waitlist as something might come available.

Session Days/Times:

Monday (Rototuna Junior High School Dance Studio)

- 3.45 Jitterbugs Seniors (have to be selected to be in this session)
- 4.15 Jitterbugs Mini's (ages 3 – 5½) **2 Spaces**
- 4.40 Jitterbugs Junior (ages 5 ½ – 7) **4 Spaces**
- 5.10 Jitterbugs Advanced (have to be selected to be in this session)

Tuesday (Rototuna Junior High School Dance Studio)

- 3.45 Jitterjam (unisex class ages 5½ - 12) **4 Spaces**
- 4.15 Jitterbugs Junior (ages 5 ½ – 7) **1 Space**
- 4.45 Jitterbugs Junior Plus (ages 6½ - 8) **1 Space**
- 5.15 Jitterbugs Hip Hop (kids aged 9 – 13) **2 Spaces**

Wednesday (Te Ao Marama School Hall)

- 3.35 Jitterbugs Mini's (ages 3 – 5½) **FULL**
- 4.00 Jitterbugs Intermediate (ages 7 - 12) **FULL**
- 4.30 Jitterbugs Seniors (have to be selected to be in this session)

Thursday (Rototuna Junior High School Dance Studio)

- 3.40 Jitterbugs Junior (ages 5 ½ – 7) **FULL**
- 4.10 Jitterbugs Intermediate (ages 7 - 12) **3 Spaces**
- 4.40 Jitterbugs Mini's (ages 3 – 5 ½) **4 Spaces**

Start Date and Show Date:
Classes start week Monday 10th February, Tuesday 11th February, Wednesday 12th February and Thursday 13th February. The end of term show proposed date is Sunday 5th April (waiting for the school to confirm availability). This is an informal show held at Rototuna Junior High where the kids can invite friends and family along to watch what they have learnt for the term.

Fees:
Cost for the term is **\$103**, or **\$200** for a family of two (or if your child wants to do two sessions) or **\$300** for a family of 3 (including GST). Note this cost includes the use of a shirt/outfit for the end of term show and access to videos for your kids to dance to at home. Bank account details: 02-0488-0210115-002 Jitterbugs Dance Lessons.

Saturday music classes

Enrolments are now open for Term One 2020 at the Waikato Community School of Music (formerly Hamilton Community Centre of Music). The first session is on Saturday 8th February. The school caters for all ages (3 to retired) and ability levels. We offer both group-format and one-to-one tuition. Group-format term fees range from \$39 to \$105 (9 lessons in Term 1) depending on age and instrument. The enrolment fee for any instrument class includes unlimited participation in our ensembles. One-to-one classes assist students to prepare for exams and earn NCEA credits.

A music appreciation/readiness programme (Music Makers) is available from age 3. Young Voices children's choir caters for those ages 9+. Classes are held on the University of Waikato campus in Hillcrest.

Contact us via our website [Waikato Community School of Music](http://www.waikato.schoolofmusic.co.nz) or on 07 838 4611.