

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 (Congoese), Konnichiwa (Japanese), Hola (Spanish), Annyeonghaseyo (South Korea) Israel Shalom (Hebrew)

## FINAL NEWSLETTER OF 2021

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Kia ora Te Totara families

This is our final newsletter of the 2021 school year. It was certainly a year of two halves. The first half of the year was almost 'normal' with students and families back at school, everyone working hard and enjoying a relatively settled time. The second half of this school year however was a bit like a 'rollercoaster ride', the highs and the lows of the Covid Delta lockdowns. The tamariki of Te Totara have again impressed the staff with their adaptability and resilience to make the best of any situation they have been in. We have all felt anxious from time-to-time but they have just got on with their learning and generally are continuing their great achievement gains. You can feel very proud of your children this year.

We are very appreciative of all the support and encouragement that you, as our school community provided in so many ways throughout 2021 e.g. the kind messages to me during the difficult decision-making of lockdown, your involvement in Learning Plan discussions both online and in person, fantastic sports team Coaches and Managers, the Junior Production helpers, our wonderful P.T.A. and B.O.T. members, our library volunteers, shelving/mending of literacy resources and many more.

Also a very big 'thank you' to our school neighbours who always keep a 'watchful eye' on our buildings and grounds when we are not on-site.

To any of you who are leaving our community, thank you so much for your contribution and we wish you well in your future. To our 142 Year 6 students, thank you for being such a great group of students during your time with us. Do keep in touch as we love hearing about your new learning journey and the fine young people you are growing into.

To our amazing families, inspiring staff and our students who are always our brightest 'shining stars' - I wish you a wonderful holiday break with your families. This is a very special blessed time for many in our community, may you celebrate the joy of the Christmas season with those you love.

I hope you manage to take some time to enjoy all that summer in New Zealand offers to us, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 2nd February, 2022 when our students and families return to school.

Ngaa mihi

*Anne Fraser*

Principal

### STUDENT CLASSES FOR 2022

**LIVE ON PARENT PORTAL ON FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021 @ 3.30PM**

To find out what room your child is placed in next year:

Log onto your @school Parent Portal [www.atschool.co.nz](http://www.atschool.co.nz)

**Enter your user ID and Password** (these were emailed to you on Friday 3rd December)

- **Go to My Child**
- **Click on Other Details and "Class for Next Year" will be displayed**

Orion Year 1	Room	Neptune Year 2	Room	Earth Year 3/4	Room	Milky Way Year 5/6	Room
Julianne Wink	7	Jennifer Dalton	24	Jessica Grimson	34	Morgan Hunter	18
* Caron Ace	8	Komal Kumar	25	* Krissy Tantrum	35	Levi O'Hallahan	19
Sarah Gill	9	* Cath Glyde	27	Brendan Gauld	36	Kurdt Webber	20
Suzie Goile	10	Bridget McLaughlin	28	Ashleigh Morgan	37	* Rochelle Lingard	21
				Chantelle Lindsey	38	Kristy Hanks	23
Matawhero Year 0/1	Room			Ra Year 3/4	Room	Marama Year 5/6	Room
* Bridie Carr-Neil	4			Niki Collins	29	Angela Sweeney	12
Ruth Crackett	5			Sarah Brister	30	Team Room	13
To start in 2021	3				31	*Renee Morgan	14
To start in 2021	2			* Kären Langley	32	Tracey Smith	15
To start in 2021 (New classroom)	1			Natalie Gillies	33	Dori Villasol-Alonso	16
* = Team Leader							

Some points around our classes:

- We do realise that this is a time of change and that this can cause anxiety, it can also be viewed as an opportunity to experience new classmates and a teacher with a wonderful range of new skills
- We deliberately "mix up" our children so by the time they progress through the school they have been exposed to a wide range of their peer group, building valuable and important relationships within the year group cohort
- We do find that the first transition within the school i.e. Year 1 to Year 2 can cause some concern as the children may be with others that are unknown, similarly moving to a new area of the school. This is understandable and we ask that families support the move with a positive approach
- We do ask that if there are any issues around class placement that families support what is in place and if there are any challenges then liaise very early with the new teacher in 2022.
- If there are ongoing concerns then please feel free to contact School Leaders after three weeks of the new school year which allows for the child to settle in and build valuable relationships
- Any requests to change a class from now on is highly likely to be declined as a class change can create a "knock on" effect and not give an opportunity to the child to take on the challenge of a new teacher and make the most of this new opportunity
- To find out more about our approach to how we put our classes together, please see our website. [How we put our classes together](#)

## OTHER STAFF CHANGES FOR 2022

We have a few staff who are leaving us to pursue new opportunities in 2022.

**Sue Robertson**, our Marama Team Leader is heading into the beautiful Bay of Plenty to live, taking up a new teaching position at Pongakawa School, just south of Te Puke. Sue has been with us for 12 years and we are very appreciative of all her fantastic work and passion for our learners over that time. We wish Sue and Scott all the very best in their move to the beach.

**Craig McAuley**, is off overseas to England to fulfil a travel dream that he and his partner Paige were going to undertake at the beginning of 2020... but Covid derailed those plans! Craig started his teaching career with us in 2018 and has been a wonderful member of our staff since then. Go well Craig, we look forward to hearing about all your adventures.

**Cyra Wells**, is taking up a new teaching position with Year 2 students at Woodstock School. Cyra has been a vibrant and valued member of our staff since 2014 and has contributed much to the life of our school in many ways over these years. She is now looking forward to the refresh and re-energise that a new challenge can bring. All the best Cyra.

**Teresa Lincoln** has been with us at Te Totara for the past 3 years and in that time has impressed us with her skills and focus on helping her early learners to succeed in their core curriculum foundations. Teresa has accepted a position at Te Ao Marama, and is looking forward to having her children at the same school on their learning journey. We wish you all the best for your 'new chapter', Teresa.

We would like to thank the following teachers and teacher aides for their wonderful work in fixed term positions for the 2021 school year:

**Kobie Pretorius, Alex Harwood, Jodie Hansen and Monique Smith-Hall**

We are very grateful for all that you have done for our school community this year and we hope to see you again soon within our staff, guest teacher or wider school family.

We welcome new teacher **Chantelle Lindsey** into Te Totara School. We are excited to be working with Chantelle and know you will enjoy getting to know the staff and your new students in Earth 38.

We also welcome back **Cath Glyde**, from her leave in Australia, to her Neptune Team Leader position, **Morgan Hunter** from her parental leave with her lovely daughter Billie and **Komal Kumar** who was on study leave this year working towards her Masters degree. We are very much looking forward to working with you again.

## **LEARNING PLANS ONLINE NOW VIA THE PARENT PORTAL**

A Learning Plan for each student was uploaded to the online Parent Portal on Friday last week. **However, if your child started at school in Term 4 (or late in Term 3) you will not receive a Learning Plan yet.**

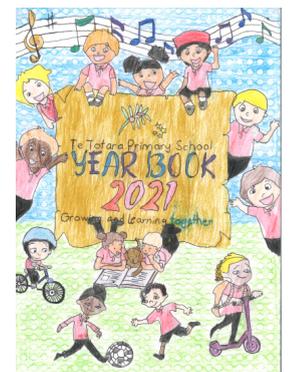


We sent emails on Friday 3rd December & again on Monday 6th December using the email address we have on file, it contained your User ID and Password details for the Parent Portal. Once you have successfully logged-in, we recommend you change your password. Please check your spam or junk folder for this email if you do not receive it.

**You can download a copy of the Learning Plan from the Parent Portal and save it to your computer. If you did not receive an email with login codes, please contact Marise Crow by email at [receptionist@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:receptionist@tetotara.school.nz)** It may be that we do not have your correct email address on file.

## **2021 YEARBOOK**

These will be delivered to your children tomorrow afternoon, Friday 10th December to those families who ordered online through KINDO. Please check your child's school bag. If you do not receive your copy, please contact the School Office on 07 853-0039.



## **EVENT CANCELLATIONS**

As indicated in previous newsletters we have had to cancel a number of our traditional year end events. The evening Celebration and entertainment by our cultural groups and teams are unable to be safely held this year due to the numbers we host. We usually have 2,000-3,000 people on the back field for a couple of hours. Under current Covid settings unfortunately this is not possible this year.

## STUDENT STATIONERY FOR 2022

**Order your child's stationery now and avoid the rush!**

We've teamed up again with OfficeMax to make getting school ready faster. You'll find your child's school stationery list **online by visiting:**

[www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara](http://www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara) (click on the link)

**Simply select your child's year level in 2022** and follow the instructions on the website.

**OfficeMax have introduced Laybuy\*, so you can pay in 6x weekly, interest-free instalments - and still get your order right away.** \* **Terms & Conditions apply, see [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) for details.**

*Buying through OfficeMax MySchool also earns "School Rewards" for our school which we can redeem for much needed educational supplies, equipment for our classrooms or to help those students in need.*

**OfficeMax MySchool makes Back to School easy for you with these great benefits:**

- **Order the easy way** - online at [myschool.co.nz/tetotara](http://myschool.co.nz/tetotara) OR call the OfficeMax My School Team on Freephone 0800 724 440 from Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm.
- **Price Match Promise** - shop with confidence, if you find a lower price OfficeMax will match it. Conditions apply, see [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) for details.
- **Free Delivery - for orders over \$46.00**  
Choose delivery to your home or workplace. Receive your order during the holidays, straight to your door at a time that suits you. See [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) for delivery windows.
- **Save valuable holiday time** - avoid busy shopping malls and traffic queues by shopping online from the comfort of your home so your child starts the year with the correct stationery supplies.
- **Pay now or in easy instalments** - internet banking, credit/debit card or pay in 6 weekly, interest-free installments with Laybuy\* \* **Terms & Conditions apply, see [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) for details**

Many of our families used this online system last year and will be familiar with the ordering process. This website is available from today for ordering at: [www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara](http://www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara)

**Step-by-step instructions on how to order student stationery for 2022 will be placed on our website under the "Newsletters" tab. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the School Office on 07 853-0039.**

**Please note: You do not need a Student ID, please leave this field blank. If you have a 5-year-old new entrant starting in Term 1, 2022 your child will be classified as a Year 1.**

Please ensure you have placed your online order no later than **Friday 14th January, 2022** to ensure delivery before school starts on **Wednesday 2nd February, 2022.**

**Please ensure your child/ren have all their school stationery items before school begins.**

## 2021 YEAR 6 LEAVERS EVENTS

We also had to cancel our annual Year 6 Leavers Supper which is a celebration of our Year 6 students attended by staff and family members. As we have 142 Year 6 students, with staff and family this event would have been over 400 people, so not possible this year.

We are disappointed at not being able to honour our wonderful Year 6 students in the usual fashion. We have an alternative arrangement planned for them and the staff. On **Friday 10th December** the students are able to come to school in their 'best clothes' for a ceremony and morning tea to honour their time with us. This will start just after 9.00am and conclude with a morning tea for the students provided by the school. As families are unable to be present due to Covid restrictions we will be recording the event to put on YouTube for families to see.

In the second block on that day the students will be able to change into suitable clothes to enjoy our annual 'water play' that is keenly anticipated by our Year 6 leavers. This is also the day when our Year 6 students will be able to get their shirts signed, if they have the permission of their parents for this to occur.



The students will still need to wear appropriate unmarked uniforms for the last 2 days of the school week in Week 9, so they will either need to have a spare school shirt for signing or use another type of shirt after checking with you.

If there are any questions about the special day planned for our Year 6 students please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the Team Leaders: Mrs Robertson in Marama and Mrs Lingard in Milky Way.

## **OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS - TO BE PAID THROUGH KINDO**

As at today's date, the following amounts are still outstanding:

<b>Lost Library Books</b>	<b>\$664.50</b>
<b>Aquatics (Swimming)</b>	<b>\$9,238.00</b>
<b>Mathletics/Mathseeds</b>	<b>\$5,175.00</b>
<b>Voluntary School Donation</b>	<b>\$36,970.50</b>



**We would really appreciate all outstanding fees being paid by Tuesday 14th December, 2021.**

**Voluntary School Donation payments can be made at the beginning of the year or throughout the year; the funds will be used for resources for the children.**

Any queries regarding your invoice, please email Wendy Bulloch, our Business Manager at [wendyb@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:wendyb@tetotara.school.nz)

**Kindo Questions? 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.**

## **DIRECT GROUP, SCHOOL UNIFORMS - 2022 PURCHASING**

Our uniform supplier, Direct Group have advised they will be open **Thursday 20th January, Thursday 27th January & Thursday 3rd February 2022 from 8.00am - 7.00pm** for all your uniform requirements. They have very good supplies of all uniform items.

Sorry the store will be closed on Saturdays, however online ordering is available. Check out their new website: [directgroup.co.nz](http://directgroup.co.nz)

**A reminder..... our white polo shirt will no longer be part of our school uniform from 2022 onwards.**



## **OUR LOST PROPERTY BIN IS FULL AGAIN!**

Weather permitting; we will endeavour to display all lost property items on Friday (tomorrow) and on Monday and Tuesday next week.

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 ask ALL families to please check your child's uniform on a weekly basis to ensure they are wearing their own uniform, rather than someone else's.**



## **TO ALL OUR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE FAMILIES**

We wish to thank you for your continued support throughout the school year. Our commitment to you and your children is very important to us. We are dedicated to providing your child with quality care and a fun and safe environment. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your children's daily routine and we would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year, from the team at Te Totara Before and After School Care.



## SCHOOL LIBRARY CLOSED OVER SUMMER

Our school library will be closed this summer. In their final library visits for the year, students who are returning to school in 2022 are able to take out books to read over the holidays

### STUDENTS LEAVING TE TOTARA

If you have not already notified us and are planning to leave our school at the end of 2021 (*other than Year 6 students*), it would be appreciated if you could please urgently advise us by emailing Marise Crow at: [receptionist@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:receptionist@tetotara.school.nz)

If you have a child coming to Te Totara in the future, we would love to have an Enrolment Form - it would be very much appreciated and certainly help with our future planning.

### LEAVING TE TOTARA? CLOSE YOUR KINDO ACCOUNT

If your family is leaving our school and moving to another school that does not use KINDO for school payments, you need to close your account. If you're not sure about the new school, log in, go to "My Details" and click on the list of schools, scrolling to find your new school. If your new school is NOT on the list, use the "close account" button on that screen. You can choose to donate your balance to school or have it paid out to your nominated bank account.

[Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm Helpdesk \(09\) 8695200 | 0508 4KINDO helpdesk@kindo.co.nz](mailto:helpdesk@kindo.co.nz) OR [support.kindo.co.nz](http://support.kindo.co.nz)



### 2022 SCHOOL TERM DATES

- Term 1** **Wednesday 2nd February – Term 1, 2022 Begins**  
(Tuesday 1st February - Teacher Only Day)  
Public Holiday: Monday 7th February (Waitangi Day Holiday)  
Thursday 14th April – End of Term 1 (11 weeks)
- Term 2** **Monday 2nd May – Friday 8th July (10 weeks)**  
Teacher Only Day - Friday 3rd June  
Public Holidays: Monday 6th June (Queens Birthday)  
Friday 24th June (Matariki Celebration)
- Term 3** **Monday 25th July – Friday 30th September (10 weeks)**  
Our Mid-Term break - Monday 29th August
- Term 4** **Monday 17th October – Thursday 15th December (9 weeks)**  
Teacher Only Day - Friday 21st October  
Public Holiday: Monday 24th October (Labour Day)

### TE TOTARA SPORTS PLAYER OF THE DAY

If you are a Coach or Manager, please email the POD to [stephy@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:stephy@tetotara.school.nz).

#### CRICKET

Green Mishika Awasthi, Mason Wright, Rishik Puvvula  
Red Ashton Furcy, Keegan Bishop, Aaliyah Jasti

### DATES COMING UP

- Fri 10 Dec** **Year 6 Leavers Celebrations** (*in-house with students and staff only*)  
**Fri 10 Dec** **2022 Classes for students online through the Parent Portal @ 3.30pm**  
**Tues 14 Dec** **End of Term 4 - School Finishes at 3.00pm**
- Wed 2 Feb** **Term 1, 2022 Begins**

Ngā mihi,  
*Anne Fraser*  
Principal

# TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

EMAIL: [pta@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:pta@tetotara.school.nz) [www.facebook.com/TTPTA](http://www.facebook.com/TTPTA)

Please 'like' our Facebook page to ensure you keep in the news loop: [www.facebook.com/TTPTA](http://www.facebook.com/TTPTA)



## 2021 PTA SUMMARY

*The Te Totara PTA has had a fairly quiet 2021, a few fundraisers have been held and a beautiful garden installed. This year, the PTA have held the following events to raise money for school projects:*

### **EVENTS:**

*Cheesecake Festival*

*Fairy Tales & Super Heroes Disco*

*Ice Block Days*

*Mainstream Green*

*Entertainment Books*

*Spell-a-thon*

*The Fairy Tales & Super Heroes Disco held in March was an exciting evening. We saw Captain America, Elsa, Ninja Turtles, Fairies and many others attend.*

*In June, we held a fundraiser with Nicola Turner from Mainstream Green, where guests were given advice and tips on how to live more sustainably. This was a very informative evening; did you know cornflour can be brushed onto your hair to remove excess oil and cocoa can be used as a hair colour! Thank you to our sponsors of the evening who donated various items; Archies Cafe, New World Rototuna, Hamilton City Council, Lush Bites, Wired Installations Ltd., Ethique, Brews Hamilton.*

### **PTA DONATIONS TO SCHOOL**

*Over the July school holidays the PTA was excited to see the new friendship/memorial garden installation go ahead outside Matariki. The PTA donated \$20,000 towards this garden. Within the garden there are a few special items; a friendship seat honouring Logan Tuson, and also the Poutawa Family, former students who died in Jan 2019 and March 2019, and a beautiful stone sculpture donated by former teacher Megan Leitch.*

*The seat is bright and colourful reflecting our school culture and the message written across it (Be kind and be a good friend) came from a piece of writing that Logan had done in the 2017 school yearbook when he was in Year 2. The seat is a wonderful collaboration by the staff and students at Te Totara. John Bremner, our Assistant Caretaker crafted the seat out of wood. Jenna Nasmith, our talented Teacher Aide, designed the artwork and worked with a group of Year 6 students who were classmates and friends of Logan on the painting.*

*This term the PTA also donated \$8000 to the school to go towards Lego Spike kits, an exciting educational tool. These funds were raised from the Spell-a-thon held throughout the year.*

*The PTA are a committed and friendly group of people who make fundraising events for the school possible. We are always on the lookout for new members so please consider joining us in 2022, we would love to meet you.*

*Thank you to the PTA Committee, for their continued volunteer hours over the past year. Also to the vast amount of volunteers, school whanau, community and school for a supportive year.*

*Best wishes,*

**Your PTA committee: Shelley, Julyan, Rilesh, Kerry & Kerri**

## 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.**



**KELLY SPORTS** HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

CONTACT  
**KIM & MARK INNES**

WAIKATO@KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ  
**07 839 9017**

BOOK ONLINE AT  
**KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ**



**asthma**  
NEW ZEALAND



HAMILTON MUSICAL THEATRE'S PRODUCTION OF

Disney  
**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN AND TIM RICE BOOK BY LINDA WOOLVERTON

ORIGINALLY DIRECTED BY ROBERT JESS ROTH

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

DIRECTOR: **TONI GARSON**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: **JONTY CLIMO** CHOREOGRAPHER: **TESS BENSEMAN**

TICKETS FROM:  
**ITICKET.CO.NZ**  
**JANUARY 18 - 22, 2022**  
**RIVERLEA THEATRE**

HMT HAMILTON MUSICAL THEATRE LICENSED EXCLUSIVELY BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALASIA). ALL PERFORMANCE MATERIALS SUPPLIED BY HAL LEONARD AUSTRALIA. **ITICKET**

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## RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

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Asthma NZ has put together a source of information that will help parents to look after their children / young people who have a respiratory condition in what essentially is a respiratory pandemic. Whilst this is a fearful time for many parents, there are many things that can be done to be prepared. [Click here.](#)