

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), Salām (Muslim)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Tihei mauri ora, nau mai, haere mai, tena koutou katoa, E nga whanau, e nga kaiako, e nga tamariki, e nga manuhiri, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa



Kia Ora Whānau,

We are well into Term 1 and the children are settling in well. The classrooms are a buzz of learning noise and it is great to see all the new learning taking place. Thankyou to all the families that attended the meet the teacher evening, it was a great turnout and I know the teachers enjoyed getting to know all their families.

As you will have heard through the media there have been changes to the curriculum and some of the content and phrasing of words are different. We will continue to deliver high quality explicit teaching and over the course of the year inform our community on some of the changes. The changes will include some of the assessment language and new content at earlier year levels.

As we continue to work in partnership with our families please remember that your child's classroom teacher is the first port of call. If there are any concerns, we ask that you speak with the classroom teacher first. There are many things that happen at school during the day and clarification from the teacher certainly helps the situation.

Te Totara Primary is a part of the Te Pae Here Community of learning. This comprises schools in our area working closely together for the benefit of professional learning and the enhancement of children's learning. Collectively the Community of Learning has a **Teacher only Day on Friday 30th May. There will be NO school on this day.**

On Tuesday 18th March, we have Rob Cope presenting an evening from 7.00pm-9.00pm on Understanding our Children's Online World.

We are making this compulsory for at least 1x family member to attend. This is the importance we are placing on this. It will be hard-hitting, informative and you will gain valuable knowledge from the presentation. Click here: [Our Kids Online Parent Evening Info](#) for the promotional video about what to expect.

We have set up an eventfinda for the event. Please use the link below to register for this event.

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/search?q=Rob+Cope>

James Murray
Principal

Te Totara Primary School presents:

The Ultimate Parents Guide to...

Understanding our kids **Online World** and how to keep them safe.

- Cyberbullying
- Social Media
- Gaming
- Online Predators
- Online Porn
- Smartphones
- Filters
- Boundaries

Come and hear Filmmaker & Author Rob Cope in what promises to be a hilarious, straight talking Parent to Parent talk

Watch the promotional video here - [Our Kids Online Parent Evening](#).

TUESDAY 18TH MARCH 2025 | 7PM - 9PM
31 HECTOR DRIVE, ROTOTUNA NORTH, HAMILTON

NEW SCHOOL BELL TIMES

We have a new bell timetable for 2025, this is what our school day looks like for our students now:

8.55am	School Starts and the class roll is taken
10.00am	5 min brain food break (Lunchbox)
11.00am	Morning Break & Playtime
11.30am	Playtime ends + Eating for Learning (Lunchbox)
11.40am	End of Supervised Eating for Learning break
1.00pm	Lunch Break & Playtime
1.40pm	Playtime ends + Eating for Learning (Lunchbox)
1.50pm	End of Supervised Eating for Learning break
3.00pm	School Finishes



This now means that our students have 3 opportunities to eat from their lunchbox so it might pay to put an extra piece of fruit in for the brain break time at 10.00am if you can (students can choose 1 item from their lunchbox for brain break).

Note: If you are dropping off lunch to your child/ren, please deliver it to the School Office by 1.30pm ready for your child's Eating for Learning at 1.40pm.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION SURVEY FOR PARENTS - CLOSING FRIDAY 21ST MARCH, 2025

The Ministry of Education requires all schools to consult with their community on the school's delivery of the Health and Physical Education Curriculum every two years. We welcome your input into this area of the curriculum through a quick survey.

Please click on the link: [Health and Physical Education Survey](#)

The survey should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

Many thanks for your input into this curriculum area.

Ngaa mihi

To Stewart

Deputy Principal



CHESS OPEN DAY AT TE TOTARA

Thursday 6th March, 2025

Our Yr 3-6 children will be participating in an open chess day run by Paul McDonald from Auckland. The children will learn and play within their PODs and there will be an opportunity to play later on throughout the year. I know the children will have a fabulous time.



ROB COPE INFORMATION EVENING

Tuesday 18th March in the Matariki Hall from 7.00pm-9.00pm

Rob Cope will be hosting an information evening called [The Ultimate Parents Guide to understanding our kids online world and how to keep them safe](#). He will discuss smartphones and cyberbullying. **We require 1x caregiver from each family to attend.** <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/search?q=Rob+Cope>

SCHOOL FEES FOR YOUR CHILD/REN ARE NOW LOADED ON KINDO

Invoices for payment were emailed to families earlier this week.



Voluntary School Donation - what is it used for?

2025	Voluntary School Donation - Full Year (eldest or only child)	\$120.00 GST exempt
2025	Voluntary School Donation Sibling - Full Year	\$60.00 GST exempt

We want to provide our children with the full benefits of extensive resources, additional learning programmes and special opportunities that we can all be very proud of. This can only be achieved with your help and support.

School Donation funds are used to purchase additional sports gear, reading resources, library books, music, art equipment and helps subsidise our swimming programme.

The voluntary school donations are currently set at \$120.00 for the first or only child and \$60.00 for the second and subsequent children. There has been no increase in our school donation since 2016. School donations are voluntary, but we would be highly appreciative of any payments.

This donation is tax deductible and a $\frac{1}{3}$ can be claimed back from the IRD. The IR526 form is downloadable from the IRD website.

Other Fees

Mathletics or Mathseeds

Mathletics is a web-based programme that can be adapted to meet student's individual abilities. Mathletics provides instant feedback on each student's performance which helps to maintain a high level of student motivation.

We have been impressed with how engaged the students are and how quickly they start to improve their mathematical skills and mental arithmetic.

It can be beneficial in the earlier years for an adult to sit with their child while on the programme. Although this is a great way for parents to engage with their child's Maths learning, we realise that this is not always possible for busy families.

This programme has been so successful in previous years and we are excited to be able to provide you with a subscription to Mathletics for **\$20.00 per child** for a year (*usually a one-year subscription costs \$99 per child*). Subscribing to Mathletics will entitle students to 24-hour web access both at home and in school.

A User ID and Password will be distributed to your child by the classroom teacher shortly after they start at Te Totara Primary School.



Swimming Programme

On our school website www.tetotara.school.nz you will find Swimming Pool information. The fees are currently \$60.00 per student for 10x lessons.



The purpose of the swimming programme is to:

- Encourage students by making their learning to swim experience fun and rewarding.
- Provide a progressive curriculum which focuses on developing water confidence and then builds fundamental swimming skills to a level which confidence and competence is achieved.
- Motivate students through tangible rewards which illustrate their individual progress.
- Track all students' achievements through our Student Management System.

We would like to thank our families for your continued support, it is very much appreciated.

SIBLING OUT-OF-ZONE ENROLMENTS FOR 2025

Enrolment Period of 28th June - 17th December, 2025

(children turning 5 years of age between these dates)

The Board is looking to accommodate, if possible, younger siblings and children of staff in the 2025 school year. To help determine this, we need to have OUTZ Enrolment Forms into the School Office to help with this process. Please complete an Enrolment Form for each child, which is available online from our school website by clicking on the following link: www.tetotara.school.nz 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 upcoming enrolment period of **28th June - 17th December, 2025**. This will be completed late April, allowing for lots of time for families to know what is happening. Further information around the number of out-of-zone spaces to be released will be communicated via the school newsletter over the next few weeks.

Please return the completed OUTZ Enrolment Form, including the relevant documentation, to the School Office by Thursday 6th March, 2025.

*Note: If your child is successful in gaining an OUTZ place, in order to comply with the MOE criteria, your child **MUST** start school before the end of the 2025 school year or they will forfeit their OUTZ place.*

UNWELL CHILDREN WHO NEED TO GO HOME

Our Administration team and teaching staff act in the very best interests of your child and their well-being is paramount. When children arrive at the School Office, and depending on the situation, most of the children are offered a rest in our Wellness Room and re-assessed before a phone call home; often they return to their classroom.

We understand many of our families have work commitments however, if you are phoned by the school to collect your child from school due to illness, it would be appreciated if you could arrange for their collection **as soon as possible**. **For the privacy of other students, the School Office staff will collect your child from the Wellness Room when you arrive. Please wait in the School Office area.**



If your child is sick, please keep them at home until they are well. If your child has diarrhoea or vomiting we ask that they do not return to school unless they are well and have had **no further diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours prior to returning – these bugs can be highly contagious.**

Thank you for your support.

TE TOTARA CELLPHONE RULE

At Te Totara our approach towards cellphones is “**away for the day**”, meaning the device should be **turned off, and handed in to the teacher to be locked away during the school day.**

We strongly recommend students do not bring communication devices to school with them. If a student does bring their cellphone for emergency contact, it must be handed to the teacher when they arrive at school to be locked away.

We understand that some parents like their children to have a phone to be in contact with them after school and these can be collected from the classroom teacher at the end of the day. If a parent or caregiver needs to contact their child urgently during the day, they should call the School Office on (07) 853-0039.

If students do make the decision to bring a cellphone onto the school grounds, they do so at their own risk. The school is not responsible for any loss or damage caused to any cellphone or communication device.

If we see or know of a student using a personal digital device (including smart watches) without permission during the school day, we will confiscate it. It will be placed in the office to be collected at the end of the day by a parent or guardian.



SCHOOL PARKING EXPECTATIONS

NO PARKING ON/OVER FOOTPATHS

Please.... No parking on or over the grass or footpaths at all. Several cars were seen parking over the footpaths at school recently, mainly on Hector Drive right in front of our school, blocking access for all pedestrians. This is a very serious health and safety risk so please show consideration for others when parking.



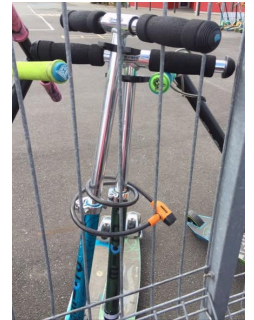
NO PARKING IN DISABLED PARKING SPACES

Just a reminder a mobility car park space is a specially designated car parking space for disabled people. You must have a mobility card to use a mobility park.

Please DO NOT park in these car parks unless you have a mobility card.

LOCKING OF BIKES AND SCOOTERS

We do have security cameras scattered throughout the school however, our best advice is to **PLEASE LOCK YOUR CHILD'S BIKE OR SCOOTER.**

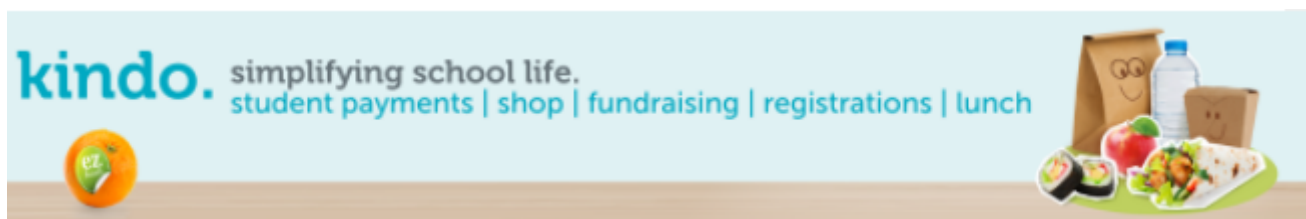


SCHOOL LUNCHES - NEW MENU AVAILABLE NOW!

All lunch orders are placed through **KINDO...** Simple and easy!

You can order (or cancel) by 9.00am on the day of delivery or schedule in advance. Your lunch will be delivered to the school in time for lunch at 1.40pm.

Click the link: [Kindo Ezlunch Term 1, 2025 Menu](#)



SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES- MATARIKI HALL

School assemblies will be held **in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm every Friday.**

Fri 21st Feb:

Neptune & Marama Pods - Welcoming Assembly

Fri 28th Feb:

Matawhero, Earth & Milky Way Pods

Earth 34 will be sharing



DATES COMING UP

Thurs 27 Feb	Board Meeting @ 6.30pm
Fri 28 Feb	PTA Iceblock day
Thurs 6 Mar	Chess Open Day at Te Totara
Wed 12 & 13 Mar	Learning Plan Interviews
Wed 13th Mar	Cluster Swimming Sports
Tues 18 Mar	Rob Cope - Cyber Safety Presentation 6:30pm in the Matariki Hall
Fri 21 March	Waikids Vision & Hearing Checks in School
Fri 11 April	PTA Iceblock Day
Fri 11 April	END OF TERM 1, 2025
Mon 28 April	TERM 2 BEGINS
Fri 23 May	PTA Disco - Winter Wonderland (<i>more details to follow</i>)
Fri 30 May	SCHOOL CLOSED TEACHER ONLY DAY

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and how to keep them safe.

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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



PTA - WHAT DO WE DO?

As the name suggests we are the Parents & Teachers Association, and we help organise events and raise funds that we donate to the school for various causes. Some of our events include but are not limited to School Discos, Ice-Block Days, Spellathons etc. We have donated these funds to the school to help with the obstacle course, school camps and various other events. If you feel motivated and want to make a difference while you meet a bunch of cool parents, please come and join us at the next PTA meeting!

Next Ice Block Day – Friday 28th February

PTA's first Ice Block Day of the year is here! Friday 28th February. Please don't forget to provide a \$2 coin to your children to enjoy the yummy treat.

ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP

An Entertainment Membership is an easy-to-use App packed full of incredible savings of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers, so you can save on takeaways, dining, shopping, gift cards, activities and more!

Join now to claim over **\$70 in instant value** and go in the **draw to win** incredible prizes! By joining today, you'll unlock over 15,000 valuable offers with a **FREE Multi City Upgrade** (\$50 value) and **receive a BONUS \$20 Woolworths Gift Card** – but hurry, this offer won't last!

Plus, **you could WIN one of these incredible prizes:**

- **5-night Club Med Bali Luxury Getaway + Virgin Australia Flight Voucher** - Enjoy a luxurious all-inclusive getaway for 2 adults, valued at \$4800!
- **\$2400 in Gift A Restaurant Gift Cards** - enjoy a monthly \$200 gift card for 12 months to redeem at over 600 restaurants.
- **\$1,000 in David Jones Gift Cards** – shop your favourite luxury brands, on us!



Your Entertainment Membership also gives back - **\$14 of your purchase goes to a fundraiser of your choice**. Join. Save. Win. Don't miss out – offer and prize entries close soon!

NZ – Free Membership Upgrade, Bonus Gift Card & Chance to Win - 8:00pm NZST, 18/02/2025 - 1:59pm NZST, 27/02/2025. Bonus Membership Upgrade & Chance to Win 8:00pm NZDT, 16/01/2025 - 1:59 pm NZDT, 31/03/2025. Thank you for your continued support!

If you use the link below, 20% of every membership purchased is donated back to support Te Totara Primary School PTA: <https://subscribe.entertainmentnz.com/fundraiser/15502m5>

PTA MEETING - ONLINE

Our next PTA meeting will be held online on Wednesday 9th April at 7.00pm. A link to join will be sent out closer to the time. All parents and guardians are welcome to join.

Your PTA Committee:

Kerry, Nate, Navreet, Lorinda, Garima & Alexx

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**



SUBURBS JUNIOR RUGBY WEIGH-IN

Children between 4 -13 years wanting to play Rugby/Rippa Rugby in 2025.

Suburbs Junior Rugby is having its Weigh-In on **Sunday 9th & 16th of March.**

Weigh-In Times:

10-11am : Children, aged 4-9 years (6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Grades)
11-12pm : Children aged 10-13 years (10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th Grades)

Players must register online before attending Weigh-In
New players must bring birth certificate or passport to certify age.



Flagstaff Park, Commodore Avenue, Hamilton, 3210



<https://tinyurl.com/register-to-play-rugby>



suburbsjnrrugby@gmail.com



For more Information and updates, follow:

<https://www.facebook.com/SuburbsCommunitySportsClub>



EQUIP YOUR CHILD WITH SKILLS FOR LIFE!

Kids shy – won't speak out?
Raw energy – want to channel that?
Hates school speeches?

LET US HELP YOU

Public Speaking contributes to success more than any other skill.

DYNAMIC SPEECH & DRAMA CLASSES – for children
FOR AGES 5 - 17 YRS

YOUR CHILD WILL GAIN THESE SKILLS

Speaking Skills Confidence
Clear Speech School Speeches
Self-esteem Reading Skills
Acting On-the-Spot talking
Teamwork Discussion Debate

AND MORE!

KIDS DON'T MAKE GOOD LIFE DECISIONS – MAKE THIS ONE FOR THEM!

Save your place – Call Roz
Roz 027 248 2888 roz@speak4success.co.nz



TOGETHER- *The Parenting Journey*

An online course covers essential topics such as:

- Building Connection & Effective Communication
- Setting Boundaries & Maintaining Consistency
- Emotional Regulation for Parents and Children
- Self-reflection exercises for personal growth
-

A unique aspect of the course is its self-reflection exercises, which not only help parents internalise the content but also allow me to track their engagement. Parents can also schedule 15-minute check-in calls to address any challenges or questions they encounter along the way.

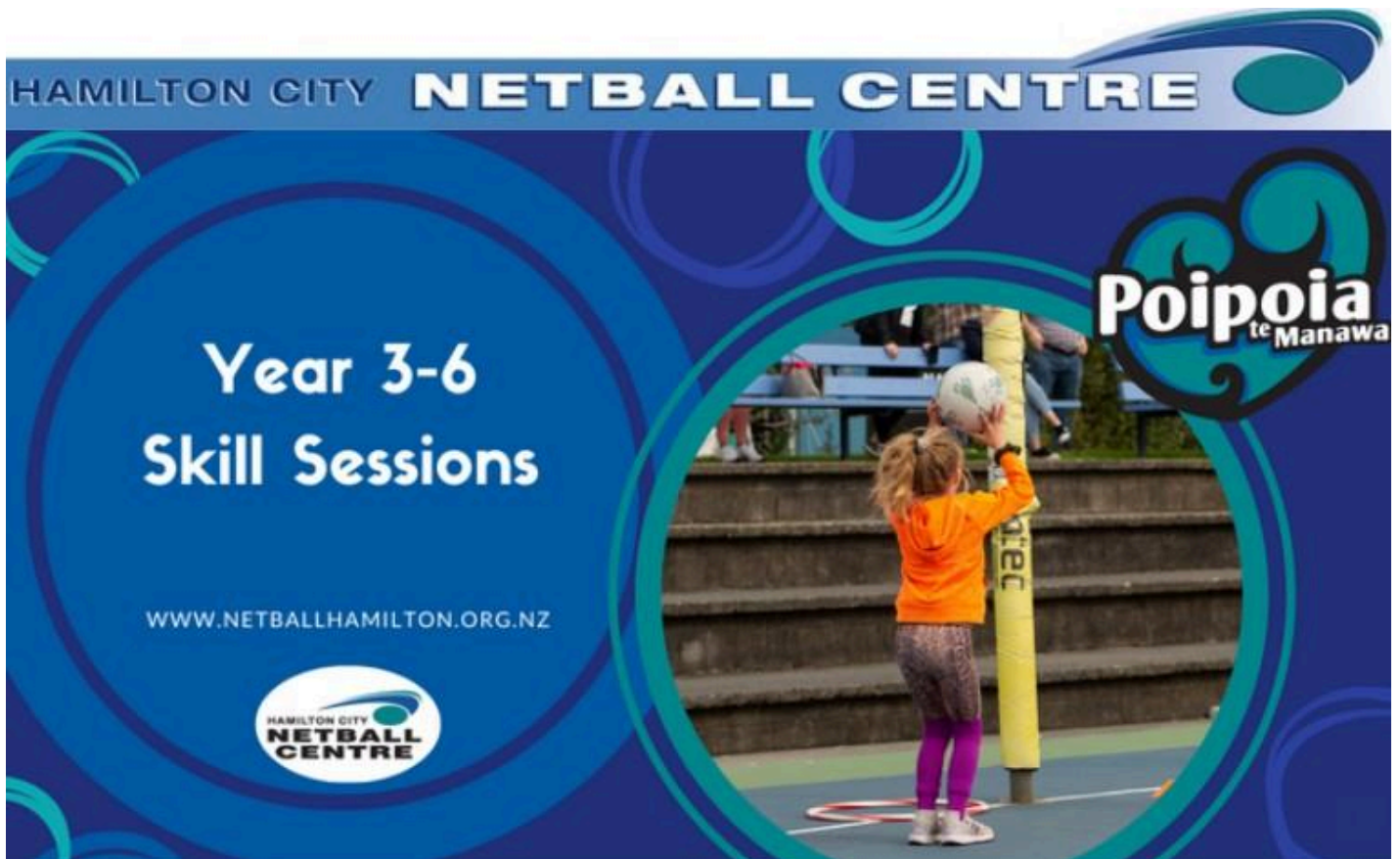
Upon completing the course, parents will receive a certificate, demonstrating their commitment to personal growth and effective parenting.

The full course is priced at \$198, or \$98 for those who prefer to complete the modules without check-in calls or certification.

For more information, please visit www.togetherparenting.co.nz.

Shell Shaw

Founder & Teacher



Kia ora,

Is your child eager to get back into Netball or try Netball? Join our Skills Sessions in Term 1 and get involved!

Year 3-6 Skill Sessions - Term 1 2025

Poipoia te Manawa Skill Sessions are the perfect opportunity for your child to develop their Netball Skills. Whether they are brand new to Netball or have been playing for a couple of years now. All abilities will be catered to and no one will be left behind in their learning.

Dates: Tuesdays for 6 weeks: 25th February - 1st April 2025

Time: 4pm - 5pm

Venue: Hamilton City Netball Centre

Cost: \$60 - [Players may purchase Poipoia te Manawa apparel sold separately]

For more information: <https://netballhamilton.org.nz/poipoia-te-manawa>