

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), Geia 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 hope you and your whānau had a restful and refreshing break. It's great to welcome everyone back for **Term 3**. We welcome all of our new children to Te Totara. We also welcome back Mrs Ruth Crackett and all the new children into Matawhero 5. Term 3 will no doubt be a term full of opportunities for learning, growth, and connection.

Term 3 is always a busy and exciting time. This term, we look forward to engaging classrooms across the whole school and the continuation of our Winter sports.

At Te Totara, we continue to shine by living our STARS values every day:

- ✦ Smart Decisions
- ✦ Trying Our Best
- ✦ Acting Respectfully
- ✦ Responsible Self-Management
- ✦ Supporting Each Other



A couple of important reminders for Term 3. Please make sure all children are wearing their correct school uniform. Black school shoes are also required. We have had an uptake of children bringing chewing gum and lollies to school. These are **not allowed** and will be confiscated. Please make sure children are not bringing these to school.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We're proud of our learning community and the way we work together to support every child. If you have any questions around your child's learning please make sure you make your first point of contact with your child's classroom teacher.

Let's make Term 3 a fantastic one!

Ngā mihi nui,

James Murray
Principal



*** MID TERM BREAK *** MONDAY 11TH AUGUST - SCHOOL CLOSED

Just a reminder that School is closed on **Monday 11th August, 2025**. This date was set last year and is to help with everyone's wellbeing at this time of the year. It is usual that we have increased student illness at this time of the year and in previous years we have noticed a reduction in absences due to illness after this break. We also have this break as there are no Public Holidays during this term.

TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Election Date: Wednesday 10th September, 2025



Dear Te Totara Families

What It's Like to be on the Te Totara Primary School Board?

I have been a Board member for six years now and I wanted to share my experience.

With Board Elections coming up, I'm sure you are curious about what it's like to be on a School Board. Some of the information out there can seem a little overwhelming, so I wanted to share my perspective in the hopes of making it less daunting.

Te Totara has a very strong Leadership Team and because the school is run with such efficient, high standards, the role of the Board members is one of support as we oversee the running of the school. We do have to make decisions and cast our votes during meetings, but this job is made easy by the amount of information and guidance we are given by the Senior Management Team. Time wise, Board matters average about 3–4 hours a month.

We have a monthly Board meeting which runs for about 1hr -1.5 hours where we are kept up-to-date on everything that is happening within the school and making sure we're on track with finances and the school Charter. Prior to the meeting, we need to read through the paperwork which is sent the week before. These reports are discussed at the meeting and reading them takes me about 1.5 hours.

Occasionally, there are extra commitments like being present at community events, attending the odd extra meeting or being involved in some interesting and relevant professional development, but generally, it's a pretty easy gig.

If you would like the opportunity to support Te Totara and the wonderful staff who are teaching and caring for our children, then you might like to consider joining the Board.

If you are an eligible voter and the school has your email address on file, you will receive a "Call for Nominations" email on 18th July from Schooled Education, and via post for those we don't have email addresses for. **** PLEASE CHECK YOUR SPAM MAIL INBOX ****

I hope this letter has been of some help. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out and ask: melissag@tetotara.school.nz

Kind Regards,



Melissa Guyan

Presiding Member

Te Totara Primary School Board

For more information about being a School Board Member, click on the blue link: [Community Member Guide to the Role of the School Boards](#)



To find out more about being a Board Member of Te Totara Primary School.... We invite our school community to come and have a chat with some of our current Board Members, they will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Board Members will be available from 2.30pm outside the main school gate (by the School Office) on the following days:

Monday 21st July
Tuesday 22nd July
Wednesday 23rd July

Melissa Guyan & Frank Coleman
Melissa Guyan & Paul Fletcher
Maninder Singh & Frank Coleman



Melissa Guyan



Paul Fletcher



Maninder Singh



Frank Coleman

ROUTINE VISION & HEARING CHECKS IN SCHOOL
Wednesday 13th August, 2025 @ 9.30am
Information on Vision and Hearing Checks in School+

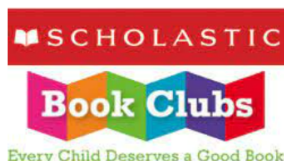


Vision & Hearing Technicians from Community and Southern Rural Health will be visiting our school. The objective of the test is to identify previously undetected vision and hearing defects. Which children are routinely checked?

- Children who have **not** completed vision and hearing checks as part of their B4 School Check
- Children absent from previous visit, require retests or follow ups
- New immigrants

If any parents/caregivers do not want their child to be checked, or their child is currently under specialist care for a vision or hearing defect, they should let the school know.

For more information parents/caregivers may contact a Vision Hearing Technician by phoning (07) 838-3565.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDER CATALOGUE NO. 5

This week your child was given a Scholastic Book Club catalogue.
These orders close at **9.15am on Friday 25 July 2025.**

Please order your books online using the Scholastic Loop app and they will be delivered to your child's classroom when they arrive.

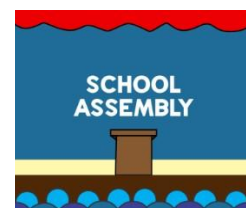
Sorry, we do NOT accept cash at the School Office - please order online.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES - MATARIKI HALL

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

Fri 11 July
Fri 18 July

Neptune & Marama Pods - **Neptune 24 & 25 are sharing**
Matawhero, Earth & Milky Way Pods - **Milky Way 18 is sharing**



WANTED SPARE BOARD GAMES

If you have any board games that are no longer used at home, we would love to have them for our Student Social Club! Please ensure all the pieces required for the board game are there. They can be dropped off at the School Office.

SPARE CLOTHING IN SCHOOL BAGS

Due to the wild wet weather we have been experiencing recently, the School Office is seeing lots of students coming in with wet uniforms after slipping or playing outside in the wet grass. The Office has a very limited amount of spare uniforms for emergencies which we lend out, but our supply is dwindling fast. **Can you please ensure your child has spare clothing in their bags for such emergencies.** Also if your child comes home in the School's spare clothing, can you please ensure that is returned to the School Office washed. Thank you for your understanding.



TE TOTARA SPORTS PLAYER OF THE DAY

If you are a Coach or Manager, please email the POD by **Wednesday 1pm** to stephy@tetotara.school.nz



Hockey

Lions

Green Sticks

Red Sticks
Strikers

14/6 Mea Maru
28/6 Raidon Blanche
14/6 Vinuth Wijesooriya
28/6 Theo Jung
TBC
TBC



DATES COMING UP

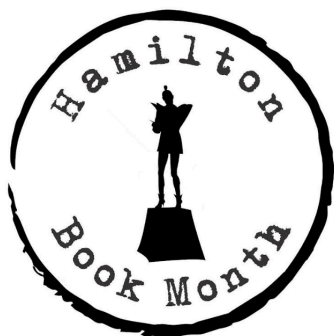
Mon 14 July
Tues 22 July
Mon 11 Aug
Tues 12 Aug
Wed 13 Aug
Thurs 14 Aug
Tues 19 Aug
Thurs 21 Aug
Mon 25 Aug
Tues 26 Aug
Wed 27 Aug
Thurs 28 Aug
Tues 2 Sept
Wed 10 Sept
Thurs 11 Sept
Fri 19 Sept

Term 3 Begins
PTA Meeting - AGM
Mid Term Break - **SCHOOL CLOSED**
Cross Country Trials Yr 4-6
Learning Plan Interviews - **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2.00pm**
Learning Plan Interviews - **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2.00pm**
X-Challenge - Whole school. Timetable to come.
X-Challenge Postponement Date
Photolife Class & Individual Photos
Fairfield Cluster Cross Country (Years 4-6 placegetters)
Photolife Class & Individual Photos
Fairfield Cluster Cross Country Postponement Date
Photolife Groups & Cultural Photos
School Art Exhibition 3:00pm - 6:00pm
School Art Exhibition 3:00pm - 6:00pm
END OF TERM 3



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**



Hamilton Book Month runs throughout August and has four panels, five writing workshops, a film premiere about Dame Fiona Kidman, two author talks, a lit pub quiz and book battle, a blokes' book club and a poetry in the galleries event in their August line-up. Most events are free or low cost though some require registration via the website [Hamilton Book Month | Authors | Hamilton, New Zealand](https://www.hamiltonbookmonth.co.nz/authors)

Last year their workshops filled fast so if you are keen to upskill this August with best-selling authors, register quickly! There's feature writing with Venetia Sherson, fiction with Ockhams winner and IIML director Damien Wilkins, bookbinding with Natalie Coats, historical fiction with Monty Soutar, creating complex characters with crime writer Charity Norman and storytelling for the screen with Michael Bennett. They're \$30 each and you register via the website.

Free Friday night panels with no need to register:

- newswomen [Public Faces, Private Stories | 2025](#) (Alison Mau, Susie Ferguson, Diana Wichtel and Venetia Sherson),
- fiction panel [Guilt, Freedom & Delirium | 2025](#) (Catherine Chidgey, Carl Shuker and Damien Wilkins)
- historical fiction [Bringing the Past to Life Panel | 2025](#) (Monty Soutar, Deborah Challinor, Tina Shaw) and
- crime fiction [Crime Stories as Home Truths panel | 2025](#) (Charity Norman, Michael Bennett and Claire Baylis)

You might also be interested in hearing Peter Sergel talk about his book *The Time Traveller's Guide to Hamilton Gardens* on Thursday 21 August [The Time Traveller's Guide Talk | 2025](#) and celebrating National Poetry Day at the museum with the Poetry in the Galleries event [Poetry in the Galleries | 2025](#)

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Taekidokai Martial Arts

Join us in the Te Totara School Hall

THURSDAY 6-7pm

Suitable for beginners and all ages
No need to book
T-shirt, shorts, no shoes
First Class Free
Just show up and have a go!

www.tkma.co.nz enquiries@tkma.co.nz 027 497 0499



FAIRFIELD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Information Evening

Wednesday 23 July 2025
6.30pm to 8.00pm
in the Auditorium

Open Days

Wednesday 6 August 2025
9.00am to 2.30pm

Wednesday 13 August 2025
9.00am to 2.30pm

Email queries to:
mail@fairfieldintermediate.school.nz





Marist Suburbs Cricket Club

Join Our Junior Cricket Programme

Does your child love cricket or want to give it a try?

Marist Suburbs Cricket Club is recruiting for our Junior Cricket program. If your child is in Years 2-8, loves sports, or wants to give cricket a try, we've got the perfect opportunity for them.

Details:

When: Years 2-5, Softball, Friday nights, | Years 6-8, Hardball, Saturday Mornings

Cost: From \$45.00

Who: Boys and girls in Years 2-8



Contact us at
juniors@maristsuburbs.com
 to sign up or for more information.

Junior Muster –

Join us at our upcoming Junior Muster: 4:30 PM on Friday, 15 August 2025 at Hamilton Marist Rugby Club.

It's the perfect chance to meet the team, ask questions, and give cricket a go. We look forward to seeing you there!