

Te Totara Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 13th FEBRUARY, 2014

WEEK 2

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)

Our second week of the school year has seen our classes further establishing important learning routines and their teaching programmes are developing well.

We enjoyed the opportunity that the Meet the Teacher evening provided to continue to work on that important home and school partnership.

APPOINTMENTS AT SCHOOL

We love to see families at school and appreciate the home and school partnership. However, we are finding that 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 e-mail so that we can make an appointment to give you the time needed to sort out any queries. This phone call or e-mail will need to be done a day or two prior to the appointment.

MENINGOCOCCAL UPDATE

The Ministry of Health have updated their advice on Meningococcal Disease. The link below is well worth visiting to provide information to keep updated:

[Ministry of Health Meningococcal disease information](#)

MATHLETICS, TO HELP LEARNING

We have decided to join the whole school for 2014 at a much discounted price of:

\$20.00 per student for 2014

(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 2014. You are

welcome to pay by internet banking, cash, cheque or EFT-POS via the School Office.

Students have already been issued their User Log-in ID & Passwords 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 Paula Wine, Assistant Principal.

MATHS DEVELOPMENT

This year, our teachers are working on continually improving their Maths practice to support student achievement. To support this, we have engaged Bruce Moody, a renown NZ Maths educator. Bruce will be with us one week each term, working in classes to support teaching practice and providing feedback and feed forward for us all.

Next week Bruce will be at school working with our staff, both in classes and also after school on Monday and Tuesday with our Teachers.

BUILDINGS UPDATE

We expect the car park work to be complete at the beginning of March and will update you just before finishing of the new traffic management arrangements. Meanwhile, we appreciate your support in keeping the school a safe place.

TRIAL EVACUATION

Today we had a trial evacuation, with all the children going to the tennis court after morning tea. The signal is a very long bell. For many of our children it was their first experience and they did really well!

Later in the term we will have a trial Lock down in case we ever need one.

Both the trial evacuation and lock down practices are necessary for safety of all. Our wonderful teachers talk with our children about why we have them and to reassure them everyone is ok!

EX STUDENT TOPS THE WORLD

Congratulations to Christopher Mayo, a foundation Te Totara student, who recently came top in the world in Science for the Cambridge examinations. There were 10,000 schools in the world who took part, so an amazing achievement. Christopher currently attends Hamilton Boys High School and had also attended Peachgrove Intermediate.

We really love to hear of our ex-students achievements, so if you know of any please let us know.

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. We go out of our way to identify and return lost property, but we are unable to help you when clothing is not named.

OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER – DIRECT GROUP

A reminder of the options you have to order our school uniforms.

Direct Group will be offering ordering online, in store or by telephone. They are located at 115 Ellis Street Frankton Hamilton, Ph 847-6664 or visit their website www.shop.directgroup.co.nz.

Access to Direct Group's website requires the following log-in details: Log in = `http` and Password = `uniform` (all lowercase)

SCHOOL OFFICE

"MOOLOO" EXPRESS DROP-BOX

To help smooth the flow of traffic through the School Office our caretaker, Barnie, has kindly organised an **Express Drop-box** in the School Office. This box can be used for many things including the the return of payments (cash or cheque only) /notices i.e.

- Scholastic Book Orders
- Sports notices/payment
- Camp notices/payment
- Milk in Schools Notices
- School Donation
- Athletics
- After School Care

It's easy.... just place your notice and/or payment in an envelope or plastic bag clearly marked with your child's name and room number and drop it in the box. The box will be cleared daily.



SCHOOL DONATION FOR 2014

Thank you for the fantastic support we are receiving for the school voluntary donation, it is appreciated and the funding will be used for resources for the children.

If you wish to pay your voluntary School Donation, we are happy to accept payment by cash, internet banking, cheque or EFT-POS at the School Office. The Board of Trustees has set payment at:
\$100.00 for the first family member
\$50.00 for each subsequent child

Please check with the School Office as the voluntary School Donation is adjusted depending on which term your child/ren started school.

A GST receipt will be issued. A % of your donation may be claimed as a tax rebate using a "Rebate Claim Form" – please refer to Inland Revenue for further details.

FOOD AT SCHOOL

We have children at our school who are highly allergic to dairy products and nuts and exposure to these foods could potentially be life threatening to them. We have procedures in place for 1:1 support for these children to ensure their safety. At present we will continue to carry on with our normal food eating programme, but we have to carefully plan school events/learning area celebrations etc. With this in mind, please don't be offended if any kind offers of food to the school are scrutinised. Please ensure all food containers are clearly named.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our school library will be open every Friday morning from 8.30am-9am for lending to parents. We would love to see you, please pop in!

Help Wanted

We have a short-term project in the resource room that requires willing volunteers. It involves the use of stickers and tape. Please pop into the (air-conditioned) resource room any time on Friday and see Esther Rorimpandey.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Orders are due by **9.15am on Friday 21st February 2014**. Sorry no late orders will be accepted.

SPORTS AT TE TOTARA

Welcome back to 2014 sports. Here are the sports on offer this year:

Term 1:

Cricket, Touch, Volleyball

Term 2 and 3:

Hockey, Netball, Miniball and Fun Ferns

Term 4:

Summer Hockey, Touch, Cricket and Volleyball

If your child may be interested in playing any of these sports now is an opportunity to discuss this with them. **It is their responsibility to listen out for notices over the loud speaker to receive the first**

interest letter. Children who do not come and collect an interest letter or do not bring it back on time will miss out on being a part of a sports team.

Multimedia is now being used to inform families of when sports teams are being called for so remember to keep checking our website and facebook and remind children to listen out for the interest letters. It will also be in printed form in the weekly newsletters. Sports are called months before the season begins to give our staff enough time to organise what is required.

A reminder that all children playing in a sports team must now purchase the red polo shirt as part of their sports uniform.

Friendly Reminders:

- We could not enter any sports teams without the amazing help from parent coaches and managers. Often these parents have little to no experience in coaching and would appreciate any help available.
- We want children to join a sports team to learn many different skills including fair play, co-operation, working together as a team, being a good sport, competition and encouraging team mates. Encourage that the time spent at practices and games are focused on learning these skills and learning more about the sports game.

If you need more information please take the time to read our questions and answer sheet and codes of behaviour found under sports on our website.

Volleyball - Year 5 & 6

Indication of interest letters were sent out yesterday. If your child is interested in playing Volleyball in Term 1 the signed forms must be returned by Tuesday of next week (18/02/14). The tournament runs from 24 February to 7 April. Practices will be Monday and Tuesday lunch time in Matariki and games are 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Mondays.

INTER-SCHOOL SWIMMING

Interest notice for Year 4, 5 & 6 students wishing to trial for Te Totara Inter-school swimming sports will be called for next week. Children please listen for notices over the loud speaker.

Due to the unfortunate situation of Cluster Sports being on during the Ra camp week, only the Earth team students will be eligible to trial this year, as well as our Year 4 students.

YUMMY STICKERS

We are collecting Yummy Fruit stickers this year to help our school get free sports equipment.

If you have any stickers at home or would like a sheet to collect them come and see Miss Pulman in Kōpū 33 or print your own sheet http://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/pdf/Sticker_Collection_Sheet.pdf

PRINCIPAL WITH THE EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE (ERO) NEXT WEEK

Next week I will be working with ERO helping review another School. This is very useful for my development to reflect and look at other schools. Our wonderful Deputy Principal, Anne Fraser, will be leading the team.

Brian Sheedy
Principal



TE TOTARA PTA

TE TOTARA GALA AND FOOD FESTIVAL SATURDAY 29th MARCH, 2014

CAN YOU COOK WITH AN INTERNATIONAL FLAVOUR?

Do you have flair creating ethnic meals? If so, please register your interest in helping us out by emailing Katie and Kristy on hacah7@gmail.com. We are looking for food from all over the world to sell at our school food festival to help raise money for a junior playground.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Pre Orders will be happening soon. Make sure you keep an eye out for link/flyer that will be sent out towards the end of the month. We raised \$2652 last year which meant we were able to buy some High Jump equipment. Let's see if we can do better this year.

PTA BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Name: Te Totara Primary School PTA
Account: 03-1355-0711498-00
(Please ensure your child's name and class are used as a reference)
E-mail: tetotara.pta@gmail.com
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-Totara-Primary-School-PTA/30090011661692>

DATES COMING UP

Thurs 27 Feb BOT Meeting at 6.30pm
Mon 17 Mar Ra Team to Camp at Tui Ridge
Wed 19 Mar Earth Team to Camp at Tui Ridge
Sat 29 Mar PTA School Gala & Food Festival

Thurs 17 Apr **END OF TERM 1 @ 3.00PM**

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.

WOODLANDS CRICKET CLUB

Calling all keen cricket players Woodlands cricket club have two teams with spots to fill in a year 5-6 team and a year 7-8 team. Practice is at Woodlands on Friday afternoons with a game on Saturday.

If your child is interested you can call Antoinette on 07 8243969 or email me on lichtwark@no8wireless.co.nz

BIKE WISE EVENT

The Sustainable Transport team are preparing for another successful 'Bike Wise event,' which will be held at Claude land's Park on Sunday 23rd February 2014 this year. Please invite your families to come along. The day will be filled with fun educational activities which include biking demonstrations, cycle skills training, bike maintenance checks, fun games, bike races, stalls, loads of giveaways and you can even win some amazing prizes. It's free and fun for all the family. This year we are also extending an invitation to school groups to come and set up a stall to fundraise for those end of year trips or special events. We have stall spaces available if anyone wants to take up the opportunity. For more information you can contact Vera MacDonald on 838 6871 or vera.macdonald@hcc.govt.nz.

IRISH DANCING

Classes for children aged 6 and up, including adult classes. Please feel free to come along and join our classes. For further information please contact Rebecca on [07 855 0228](tel:078550228) or [027 2767431](tel:0272767431) or email marvellenwalsh@xtra.co.nz your first lesson is free!

2014 "THEATRE IN ACTION" CLASSES

Available to students in year 3 & 4. These classes feature lots of drama games and activities to help develop communication, imagination and creativity while also encouraging the students to relax and have fun. Students enter group items at the Hamilton Competitions and a performance exam in November. For more information and to enrol please contact Laura Watson [0220896158](tel:0220896158) or lauraw09@gmail.com or www.laurawatsonsd.com

2014 "SPEECH AND DRAMA" CLASSES

Available to students in Year 5 - 13. These classes cover a wide range of skills including: voice, public speaking (including extempore talks), impromptu skills, drama, reading aloud, poetry, discussion, storytelling. All students are expected to enter Speech and Drama Competitions. Students also work towards a Speech New Zealand grade examination. For more information and to enrol please contact Laura Watson [0220896158](tel:0220896158) or lauraw09@gmail.com or visit www.laurawatsonsd.com

PUKETE KINDERGARTEN – ENROLMENTS WELCOME

We are currently seeking enrolments at our wonderful Kindergarten. Enrolments start at 2 yrs with an approximate starting age of 3 yrs, which is subject to change. We offer a fantastic environment with a wide range of stimulating educational experiences for your child/tamariki. We offer sessional hours (am and pm) and have 20 ECE Hours available. Our fully trained team is warm and caring and would welcome your enrolment. Please phone 849-3718 for any further queries or email us at pukete@kindergarten.org.nz.

THE VINE RESOURCE CENTRE ON BORMAN ROAD

Our First Community network meeting of the new year will be held on Wednesday the 26th February 2014 at 12pm-1pm (Drinks & nibbles provided). If you have not yet attended a meeting; we would love to have you. It is a great chance to network with other businesses and community groups. Come find out what is happening in Hamilton North. Not only is it free advertising for your project/company but you can also gain great connections with other Rototuna businesses. This is also a place to bring professional queries for our community, as we have members of the council in attendance too.

ST PETERS TENNIS CLUB

For further information contact Martin on 0275 208 897 or email martin@tennislifeasia.com

MUSIQHUB GROUP

The musiqhub group of music teachers are hosting guitar, ukulele and singing lessons again this year. They are also looking to start "drum line" groups for children to learn drumming - this is the best way to start into drumming, it's fun and (great news for Mum,Dad and the neighbours) you won't need a drum kit at home. Musiqhub can also offer Clarinet, Sax, Violin, Cello if there are enough people interested. Please contact mike.orum@musiqhub.co.nz or text 021-768638 for details about lessons. Have a look at what we are doing nationwide. Musiqhub.co.nz

MISSING SCOOTER

Missing from near Orion block, a MGP green with purple details scooter. One very sad 6yr daughter would love her scooter back please. Contact Tracey Plank, email traceyplank@gmail.com

GARAGE SALE. SATURDAY 15TH FEB. 7 CRANMER CLOSE

8.00am – 1030am Moving overseas, lots of stuff to sell. Books, games, toys, child table & chairs, silk flowers, peacock feathers, pot plants, sleeping bags, clothes, kitchen items.

HILTON BROWN SWIMMING

During February every free trial lesson at Hilton Brown Swimming comes with a child's FREE PASS to Kelly Tarlton's SEA LIFE Aquarium. Call us now to book 855 8666 www.hiltonbrownswimming.co.nz

HAMILTON NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Registration available online again this year visit www.hamiltonnorthfootball.org.nz for the link to register to play football/soccer for the 2014 season. We will be holding a small registration evening for those that would like to register the old fashioned way, it will be on Friday 28th February 2014 5pm – 7pm at Ashurst Park. New players are required to bring their birth certificate or passport. Grading will take place Sunday 9th March for 7th, 10th, 11th and Open grades and Sunday 16th March for 8th, 9th and Open grade second trial. Times will be confirmed. All inquiries to Nicole Mills secretary@hamiltonnorthfootball.org.nz or 0800 4 SOCCER