

Te Totara Primary School
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Rotoruna North, Hamilton 3210
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www.tetotara.school.nz
principal@tetotara.school.nz

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 8th MAY, 2014

WEEK 1

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)

SWIMMING POOL

It is exciting to see our School pool begin being used for swimming instruction from next Monday - this is the culmination of lots of hard work and dedication of our community. This has included funding from:

1. Te Totara Primary School PTA	\$20 000
2. North Hamilton Lions	\$18 000
3. Southern Trust	\$5 000
4. Lion Trust	\$20 000

On our website page you will find a FAQ page with all the relevant information.

<http://www.tetotara.school.nz/39/pages/65-swimming-pool>

We are beginning with a 6 week trial with the timetable also included in the FAQ page.

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 illustrates their individual progress.
- Track all students' achievements through the National data base.

TOI MANA WHAKAHAERE - SELF MANAGING

We continue this as our focus for the school year. From time-to-time I will give links to articles that may be of interest for families as we look to further develop these important lifelong skills...

<http://www.empoweringparents.com/The-Benefits-of-Natural-Consequences.php>

LEARNING PLAN PARENT COMMENT

On the Learning Plan is a box titled "Parent Comment". This box gives parents and caregivers the opportunity to comment in a positive manner on the Learning Plan and reflect some goals for your child's learning.

A flyer about this is available from the School Office; it gives you an example of the types of comments which are suitable for this box.

HOW WILL MY PARENT COMMENT BE PUT INTO THE PLAN?

1) **Type your comment as a separate word document and attach it to your e-mail.** It must be less than 500 characters in total (including punctuation and spaces).

2) In the subject line of your e-mail type – Parent Comment Attn: Michelle Druett

3) Send it to **michelled@tetotara.school.nz**

These comments will appear on the Learning Plans online. We will let you know when this has occurred. Thank you very much to those parents who have already sent in their comments.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are delighted with the large number of students who look really great by wearing their uniform in the correct manner.

However, we have noticed a few students who are not complying with our Uniform Expectations and we ask your assistance with this.

ALL students are expected to be wearing their full correct uniform.

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.
- Any 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. (Terms 1 and 4 only)
- All uniform items should be clearly named.

From the beginning of Term 2, 2014 we will be expecting all students to be wearing their winter school uniform.

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 notice board in the School Office or the school website.

If you have any queries, please contact me at principal@tetotara.school.nz

SCHOOL UNIFORMS, ORDER WITH DIRECT GROUP

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.

Orders can be placed now and in most cases Direct Group have the garments already in their store to purchase. Direct Group is also offering a wonderful embroidery service for individually naming your Children's School Uniform. Items will cost \$5 each to embroide, please include this request on your online order form or ask while you are ordering the Uniform in their store.

For access to Direct Group's website for online ordering please use the following log-in details: Log in = **tp and Password = **uniform** (all lowercase)**

HELP, SPARE TE TOTARA UNIFORM NEEDED

Due to the wet weather we will be having, we are desperately in need of donated Te Totara School uniform i.e. shorts, pants or skorts (we have enough polo shirts.) Any donations would be very much appreciated. Many Thanks!

CHANGE OF SPARE CLOTHES

It's a great idea to pop a spare change of clothes in your child's school bag for the wet winter months, so if they do require a change of clothes (due to being wet or muddy) we are able to help them into clean and dry clothes.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM FOR SALE

In the School Office we have a noticeboard with some 2nd Hand Uniform for sale.

Parents are very welcome to pop up their advertisement for any items of school uniform they have for sale.

YUMMY STICKERS!

Keep bringing all of the Yummy stickers that you have been collecting into school last year we collected around 30,000! Let's try to beat that number this year. Please bring any stickers to Kopu 33 or pick up a sheet to collect them on.

FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TOMORROW

This week's assembly will be held **Friday 9th May 2014 at 2.00pm in the Matariki Hall. Our Milky Way 7 Children will be sharing.**

This week Milky Way, Orion, Ra and Neptune children will attend assembly. Everyone is welcome.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Scholastic Book Club orders are due back to the School Office by **9.15am Friday 16th May 2014.**

Sorry No late orders will be accepted.

HEALTH WAIKATO HEARING & VISION TESTING FOR STUDENTS THAT HAVE NOT COMPLETED ROUTINE TESTS

A Vision & Hearing Technician will be visiting our school on Friday 16th May 2014, to complete routine tests for those students who have missed their pre-school/prior school checks. Further information is on our noticeboard in the School Office.

FREE EAR CLINIC SERVICE FOR CHILDREN

For all enquiries regarding this service, please contact Ph (07) 838-3565 to make an appointment. The clinic is situated at 25 Vialou Street Hamilton.

SPORTS AT TE TOTARA

Thanks for all the gear bags, folders and trophies being handed back from the sports teams from Term 1. If you haven't yet brought these back can you please bring them back to the teacher in charge of your sport as soon as possible. Thanks.

Winter Sports

Good luck to all our Hockey and Netball teams who have started their games this week. We wish you all the best!

Practices

The courts are completely booked out with practices from all our sports teams. As we know the weather may not always be great for practises and there are a few options.

- The Matariki Hall may be used if the weather turns bad during lunch times, only if there are no other school activities on at that time. Currently, the Matariki Hall is used for Jump Jam Thursday lunchtime. At the moment there is no booking system for sports teams to use the Matariki Hall; it is on a first come first served basis. We will work on this in the coming weeks. Unfortunately, we have a number of teams practising during lunch time each day, so please work together. The Matariki Hall is used after school for our After School Care Programme and will be unavailable for sports teams to practice. If you do use the hall

please no hockey balls, only tennis balls.

Cancellation of Practices

- It is the Coaches/Managers decision whether to call off the practice and to let families know. Please contact your Coach and/or Manager if you are unsure whether practice is on or off. The School Office will not know this.
- Your Coach/Manager may wish to wait for the weather to clear. There are many areas around the school that you can shelter until the rain clears, or your Coach may suggest an alternative practice day for that week.
- If practice has been rescheduled because of bad weather, and the courts are being used by the teams who have booked the courts (which is very likely), then you are welcome to use the black tar seal. Teams who have booked the courts have first priority, but feel free to use other outside areas around the school.

Draws and Games

- It is the Coaches/Managers responsibility to let families know if the game has been cancelled, or when and where your team is playing. The School Office will not know this.
- Alternatively, game draws can be found on most sport association websites.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Hamilton City Council and our school are working together to ensure that parents parking around our school gates choose kids' safety over convenience. During this term Parking Wardens will visit our school a couple of times to make sure we all know where to park safely and legally.

Over the winter months we know that sometimes walking even a short distance to school might not be appealing but we encourage caregivers to help reduce congestion around the school gates and park a little bit further away.



DATES COMING UP

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Tues 20 May | Computer ICAS exam |
| Tues 20 May | AGM & PTA Meeting |
| Fri 30 May | School is open for learning |
| Mon 2 June | QUEENS BIRTHDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED |
| Wed 4 June | Science ICAS exam |
| Tues 17 June | Spelling ICAS exam |
| Wed 18 June | Writing ICAS exam |
| Thurs 26 June | Muffi Day |
| Tues 1 July | School Cross Country |
| Thurs 3 July | END OF TERM 2 @ 3.00PM |
| Fri 4 July | TEACHER ONLY DAY
– SCHOOL CLOSED |

Brian Sheedy
Principal

Te Totara Primary School

TE TOTARA PTA

NEXT PTA MEETING DATE:

AGM Tuesday 20th May 2014 at 7.00pm & General Meeting at 7.30pm

Venue: Good Neighbour if possible, but we will confirm closer to the time. This is an important meeting as Executive members are elected – Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, & Comms Officer.

If you are keen on any position, please email us (tetotara.pta@gmail.com) if you want further details or come along on the night. Ryan our current Chairperson is unfortunately stepping down; so we thank him for all his hard work over the years!

See PTA page on school website for the agenda of the AGM & General meeting.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS!!

Entertainment Books have arrived!

This year you have a choice between the traditional Books or to purchase a new digital membership which puts the value of the Entertainment Book into the convenience of your smartphone. This year all funds raised (\$12 per membership or Book sold) will go towards a new Junior Playground.

"We have been involved with the Entertainment books for the last few years and they have always provided good value for money. The book sales support the school and help our children enjoy additional facilities such as playgrounds and shading. The Entertainment Book is a great resource for families, with lots of discounts on events and experiences."
Brian Sheedy- Principal

PTA MEMBER PROFILE – JACKIE SMITH

We joined the Te Totara school community at the beginning of 2013, with 2 boys in years 1 & 3. We weren't new to Hamilton but we were new to this end of town. We had come from a school where the PTA did not make their presence felt and going along to a meeting was a bit daunting. I really wanted to be part of my boys' school experience and to have a say in what was going on so when a friend, who was already involved with the PTA encouraged me to come along to a meeting I thought "why not". Everyone was very welcoming and I was impressed with the professional way the meeting was run and how quickly we made it through the agenda. A year later with a disco, ice block days, sausage sizzles & an amazing School Gala under our belt, I feel like part of the furniture! I can be as involved as I want to be, opting in and out of whatever I have the time to do. When we fundraise amazing sums of money towards our school projects, the sense of achievement is amazing! We are a friendly bunch and would love other parents to join us.

PTA BANK ACCOUNT

Te Totara Primary School PTA 03-1355-0711498-00.

Please ensure child's name & class are used for reference.



PTA EMAIL ADDRESS

tetotara.pta@gmail.com

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-Totara-Primary-School-PTA/30090011661692>

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.

CREATIVE MINDS ART CLASSES AT TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Creative Minds After School Art Classes will be offered at our school for Term 2, starting week 2. Art classes run after school once per week for ages 5-12 years, with creative and knowledgeable art tutors. Registration is required and limited to 10 children. For more information about what the children will learn during this exciting opportunity and to register, please go to the Creative Minds website at: www.creativeminds.co.nz

IRISH DANCING CLASSES BEGINNING IN TERM 2

Wednesday 6pm held at **Te Totara Primary School** or Saturday 10.45am at another venue. Only \$50 per term! Please contact Maryellen Walsh Academy on 855 0228 or maryellenwalsh@xtra.co.nz for details

SPEECH AND DRAMA CLASSES

Spaces available to students in year 5 to year 10. Classes cover a wide range of skills including public speaking, impromptu skills, drama, reading aloud, poetry and storytelling. Competitions and exam work covered. Contact Laura Watson [0220896158](tel:0220896158) or lauraw09@gmail.com or laurawatsonsd.com

HAMILTON NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB

If your child is interested in a place in these teams please contact Nicole Mills secretary@hamiltonnorthfootball.org.nz or 0800 4 SOCCER.

GRASSROOTS PROGRAMME

The HNFC Grassroots Programme caters for young footballers from 4th to 6th grade (DOB 2008 – 2010). The HNFC Grassroots Programme is run on Thursday nights during the football season starting 8th May 2014. If you would like to register your child for our Grassroots program please visit our website www.hamiltonnorthfootball.org.nz

CAMBRIDGE LIONS MARKET

<http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/2014/cambridge-lions-trash-treasure-market/cambridge> is on Sunday 11th May 2014.

ST PAULS COLLEGIATE SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Friday 16th May 2014 1.15pm

For more information see www.stpauls.school.nz

FREE LEARN TO MARCH CLASSES

Hosted by Marching Waikato Assn

Contact Marie Brown ph 854 1062 or 0273 357 657

CRAFTERNOONS AT THE WAIKATO MUSEUM

Sessions for Children and Adults
Phone 838 6606 to find out more

JUNIOR TOUGH GUY AND GAL CHALLENGE

Doing our bit for Cure Kids

Events held May-August 2014

For more information www.eventpromotions.co.nz or phone 07 348 3301

PIANO AND KEYBOARD LESSONS

Key2Success (Ray Nelson)

Mob. 029-770-6823

Tel. (07) 827 0348

Email: ray@keys2success.co.nz

Web: www.keys2success-academy.co.nz



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