

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), Mbofe, Jambo (Congolese), Konnichiwa (Japanese), Hola (Spanish), Annyeonghaseyo (South Korea), Israel Shalom (Hebrew)

### ATTENDANCE RATES

Currently our whole school attendance rate for 2017 is sitting at **94.6%**, which is slightly above our aim of 94% attendance. **Thank you to all our families who have helped our school achieve this outstanding attendance rate. Your support around this is very much appreciated.**

The school is more than comfortable for students not to be at school due to illness and health issues, and families are really good at liaising with us about this.

However, we do have a trend of parent condoned family holidays taken during the school term. Please consider the effect this has on your child's learning when taking holidays at this time.

### LEARNING PLAN DISCUSSION BOOKINGS & GOAL-SETTING LETTER

## BOOKINGS OPEN NOW! Don't miss out.

### BOOKINGS CLOSE MONDAY 20TH MARCH @ 3.00PM

Learning Plan Discussions will take place on **Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd March, 2017** for all students **except Matawhero 3**. The classroom teacher of Matawhero 3 will contact each family shortly.

Last week each student brought home a **"Goal-Setting"** letter which will help teachers prepare for the Learning Plan Discussions. **Each student is required to return to the Goal-Setting letter to their classroom teacher by today, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.** If your original sheet doesn't make it home is lost, please visit our school website [www.tetotara.school.nz](http://www.tetotara.school.nz) under the newsletters tab OR click on the following link: [Student Goal-Setting Letter](#)

We have arranged **15 minute time slots** for the discussion, there will be a change over bell so that everyone is aware of timings. If you have more than one child, you might like to have a break between each interview. To ensure the smooth running of our Learning Plan Discussions, we would be grateful if all our parents/caregivers kept to the timetable. There will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress on:

#### Wednesday 22nd March, 2017

2.15pm, 2.30pm, 2.45pm, 3.00pm, 3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm, 5.00pm, 5.15pm & 5.30pm

#### Thursday 23rd March, 2017

2.15pm, 2.30pm, 2.45pm, 3.00pm, 3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm (*teachers break between 5.00pm-5.30pm*), 5.30pm, 5.45pm, 6.00pm, 6.15pm, 6.30pm, 6.45pm & 7.00pm.

#### How do I book a time?

To make an appointment time for your child/ren, please use our online booking system [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) – our school code is **e25kk**. You can also access this site via our school website [www.tetotara.school.nz](http://www.tetotara.school.nz)

An electronic confirmation can be sent to you via email upon completion of your booking, please don't forget to include your email address and select "email" from the confirmation screen. If you are unable to access the internet, please phone the school (07) 853-0039 ext. 858 and leave a message with the time slot that you would prefer and Marise will collate these. We will endeavour to give you the time as close as we can to your preference. If we are unable to assist we will go by first in first served. Please **do not** make arrangements direct with classroom teachers.

### Who should come?

We encourage the student, and family members who have an interest in learning, to come along and discuss this with the teacher.

### What will the format be?

The discussion is a general one about how the learner is progressing, areas of strength and also discussing next steps in learning and how this can happen.

**Bookings close on Monday 20th March @ 3.00pm. We will not be able to accept bookings after this date/time.**

**Please Note: School will finish at 2.00pm both Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd March for all students. Students will need to be collected at 2.00pm - Thanks.**

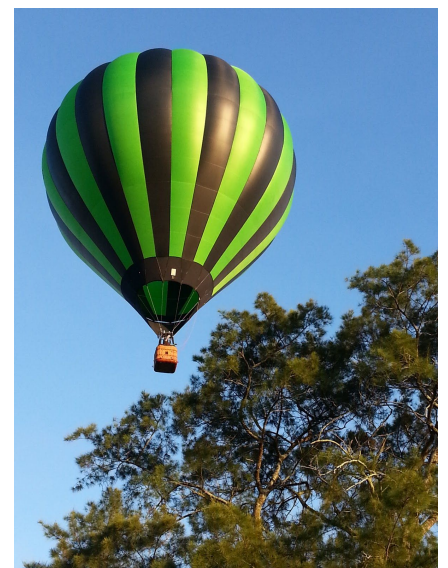
### AFTER SCHOOL CARE

As the whole school will finish at **2.00pm** on Wednesday 22nd March & Thursday 23rd March 2017; After School Care will begin at 2.00pm, **for those children enrolled.**

### HOT AIR BALLOON VISITING OUR SCHOOL

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2017 – First Credit Union School Hop Day!

- Midday** Balloon team arrives at our school  
**12.15pm** Pilot and balloon team introduced to School Community  
**12.20pm** Balloon to be unpacked and laid out, and begin to inflate. *If the weather is not favourable for inflating the balloon, the pilot will do the presentation to pupils. This is where the children could ask questions of the pilot and crew.*  
**12.30pm** Balloon will inflate and/or tether (weather permitting), interacting with your school community.  
**1.30pm** Wrap up – Balloon teams will leave the school.  
**2.00pm** **School Finishes at 2.00pm due to Learning Plan Discussions**



### Wet Weather / No Inflate or Tether

In the event of bad weather (*fingers crossed for a gorgeous Waikato afternoon*) the balloon team will do a presentation at 12.20pm.

## FIRST CREDIT UNION BALLOONS OVER WAIKATO COLOURING-IN COMPETITION

To help promote the First Credit Union School Hop coming to our school, First Credit Union have put together a fantastic colouring in competition featuring 5 gorgeous special shapes!

The theme for Balloons over Waikato this year is 'Sunrise Surprise' and what a surprise it will be seeing Robbie for Ronald McDonald House, Resene in Love with Colour Lovebirds, The Big Hug, Copter Boy and Alien Rocket float across our skies!

Our children have been given the colouring in page to take home from their teachers, these are due back to the school office in the big black plastic container by **Monday 20 March 2017, 3pm.**

[Balloons colouring in competition](#)



## COLLECTING UNWELL CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL

Just a little reminder..... If your child is unwell and you have received a phone call from the School Office, please sign your child out using the VisTab tablet and then a **staff member will take you to the wellness room** to collect your child. For the privacy of other students who may be in the wellness room, please do not just walk in without being accompanied by a member of our staff.

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 assistance in this.

## GALA DAY VOLUNTEERS ONLINE SIGN-UP - WE NEED YOU!!! BOOKINGS ARE OPEN NOW

To volunteer your help for our School Gala this year, please use our online booking system. It's easy..... just choose the stall and the timeframe you are available to help. We would really appreciate **someone from every family signing-up. If volunteers could please sign up for a minimum of 1 hour that would be fantastic, as many hands make light work!**

Booking times are displayed in 30 minute slots, so please book 2 consecutive time slots of 30 minutes to volunteer for 1 hour.

[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) – our school code is: **dfjad**



## ICAS EXAMS FOR YEAR 4-6 STUDENTS

We would like to give your Year 4 -6 child the opportunity to compete in the 2017 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) run annually by Educational Assessment Australia with the University of NSW. If your child has ability, interest or aptitude in any of the subjects below, he or she may enjoy this challenge.

Information letters were sent home on Monday 13th March if your child had expressed an interest in ICAS.

## TT TV

This weekly programme is produced by our children each week, with support from Miss Frew and highlights different school happenings. We have well over 300 hundred views each week and our children enjoy learning about their school. You will find each episode on the front of our website each week <http://www.tetotara.school.nz/1/pages/38-latest-news>. In this week's edition there are items about the Earth Team's outdoor education visit, new buildings around the school and a raffle to support the Gala.

## LOST PROPERTY

Please check out our lost property bin, the BIG YELLOW bin is located outside the Earth building; there are LOTS of polar fleeces!

We encourage you to check to see if any items belong to your family as all unclaimed items (*other than school uniform*) will be donated to charity at the end of term. Please ensure all garments are named.

**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.**



## CAN YOU HELP THE RA TEAM?

The Ra Team have been learning about shorebirds this term. After our trip to Pūkoro Miranda Shorebird Centre, and in an effort to raise awareness of the fragile habitats of migratory birds, we would like to create our own Te Totara Flock. Some of our flock will migrate back to the shorebird centre after making their way around Te Totara.

<http://www.miranda-shorebird.org.nz/flock-how>

We are looking for donations of:

- plywood
- wooden stakes
- waterproof varnish
- paint (we are approaching Resene who sponsor the flock at the centre)
- anyone who has connections to a group who would cut out the birds for us



If you can help please contact Karen at [karenl@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:karenl@tetotara.school.nz) (Ra 29)

Thank you in advance for your support of our project!

## SWIMMING TRIALS LAST WEEK

On Friday last week, 28 of our Year 4-6 students and parents, along with Sue Robertson and Craig Rodger, travelled to the Waikato Diocesan Pool for our Swimming Trials. These trials were to find students to represent Te Totara Primary School at the Fairfield Cluster Swimming Sports to be held at the Fairfield College pool on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2017. From these trials, 18 children will now be representing our school at the Fairfield Cluster Swimming Sports.

At these trials, five school records were broken;

*Year 6 Girls Freestyle – Lucy McMorran*

*Year 5 Girls Freestyle – Rebecca Plank*

*Year 6 Girls Backstroke – Katie Li*

*Year 5 Girls Backstroke- Rebecca Plank*

*Year 5 Girls Breaststroke – Rebecca Plank*

Congratulations to those record breakers, it is marvellous to watch your skills developing.

Thank you very much to the parents who helped with these trials, we appreciate your support.

Good luck to you all at the Cluster Swimming

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Scholastic Book orders are due by **9.15am on Friday 24th March, 2017** to the School Office. Sorry **NO** late orders will be accepted. *REMEMBER.... When completing the order form please fill in all the details i.e. name, room number, item number and title of the book.*

**A quick easy way to order and pay now, is to order and pay online with the book club loop.**

**Visit: [mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz](http://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz)**

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held tomorrow, **Friday 17 March, 2017** in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm. This week the Matawhero, Neptune, Ra and Milky Way children will attend assembly.

## SPORTS

### TE TOTARA PLAYERS OF THE DAY

#### TOUCH

Chiefs Aaron Ardern, Joel Beros, Eita Maeuea  
Pacers Matthew Jessep, Harry Schaab

#### CRICKET

Midgets Josh Gunn, Manaia Grace



## DATES COMING UP

Tues 21 March	Fairfield Cluster Swimming Sports
Wed 22 March	Learning Plan Discussions, <b>School finishes at 2.00pm</b>
Thurs 23 March	Learning Plan Discussions, <b>School finishes at 2.00pm</b>
Thurs 23 March	Hot Air Balloon at Te Totara
Fri 24 March	Scholastic Book orders close at 9.15am
Sat 1 April	SCHOOL GALA & COLOUR RUN
Thur 13 April	TERM 1, 2017 FINISHES @ 3.00pm

Kind regards,

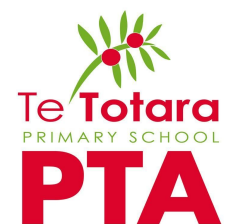
**Brian Sheedy**  
Principal

## TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

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

### ICE BLOCKS - FRIDAY 17TH MARCH, 2017

Tomorrow we are having our last Ice Block Friday for a while, **\$1.50 at lunchtime**. There will also be **bags of potato chips for sale, \$1.50 each**. Please try and ensure your child has the correct change, thank you.



**Just over 2 weeks until our massive Gala,** it's going to be HUGE! Please spread the word amongst your family and friends – this will be a massive school and community event.

### **GALA TOKENS**

To alleviate long queues on Gala day, we will be pre-selling Gala Money Tokens the week before the gala. These cards will be used as 'cash' when paying for rides, pod activities etc. Tokens are available in \$20 cards, with each card containing ten \$2 tokens.

Eftpos sales will be available on the day, but please buy your tokens earlier in the week to ensure you don't have to wait in payment queues on Gala day.

**Please note that food vendors and craft market stalls will accept cash only.**

### **COLOUR RUN TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

Don't miss out on tickets, they are selling like hot cakes! If you want to participate in the fun, you must register – please see link below.

### **How do we register?**

Registrations are open online now - it's easy to book your tickets and pay online. Simply go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/te-totara-2017-colour-run-tickets-32149731713>  
(if hyperlink doesn't work please copy and paste the url)

### **How much does it cost?**

If you register online before the day the cost is \$10 per person. If you register on the day, the cost is \$12 per person.

**SPECIAL EARLYBIRD PRICING: Register and pay online before 17 March and for every 4 tickets purchased, you'll receive the 5th entry for FREE!**

Registration covers your entry fee (enabling you to participate in the 'run') and includes one bag of colour. Extra bags of colour will be available for purchase on the day for \$6 each.

### **What time does the run start?**

The Colour Run kicks off at 2pm on Saturday 1st April - directly after the finish of the GALA. Come along early, grab some delicious lunch at one of our food stalls and make a day of it!

### **POD GROCERY RAFFLE**

You may see that in each pod there is now a plastic 'Gala' box: as part of our celebrations we are now collecting donations of grocery items, which will be raffled on Gala day.

We are asking if each child could please donate a grocery/homeware item, to go into their pod's collection basket.

There will be a prize for the pod whose raffle sells out first on the day!

Please ensure that groceries are non-perishable and please, no expired food as this will have to be removed. Non-food items are fine too. Thanks.

Fill it up, go wild with decorating the box and make it awesome - ribbons, pictures, other decorations are all encouraged! If the baskets overflow, that's OK, we can easily start a second pod basket!

### **HELP NEEDED PLEASE!!**

**We are needing the following items for our colour run – if you or anyone you know can help, please let us know ASAP:**

**Hay Bales, Large camouflage netting or fishing net, Donations of dishwashing liquid**



That's all for now. Have a great week everyone! Your "busy busy busy" PTA team: *Scott, Anna, Jasmine, Nalina, Vicki & Liz J*

## 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.

### JUNIOR RUGBY HOLIDAY CAMP

Are you interested in a Junior Rugby Holiday Camp targeted at **Junior Boys and Girls aged 5-13** years (Year 8 max). The camp is aimed at preparing player's skills before the upcoming season. It is also a great chance for new players who are interested in taking up rugby to try it out and gain confidence in a safe fun environment. Players will get the chance to be coached by the Waikato Rugby Development team, meet Waikato players, meet Mooloo (the Waikato mascot), get a tour of the stadium and develop their skills and game understanding through specific drills and games.

**Date: Wednesday 19th of April and Thursday 20th of April**

**Start Time: 9am-3pm**

**Location: Hamilton Old Boys Rugby Club**

**Price: \$80 per child**

For further information please contact James Semple, Waikato Rugby Union Development Coach email [james@mooloo.co.nz](mailto:james@mooloo.co.nz) or phone 07 839 5675



## HAMILTON LEGO® FAN EXPO 2017

PRESENTS:

LEGO® CREATIONS AND COLLECTIONS  
FROM MEMBERS OF HAMLUG  
AND FRIENDS

**8th and 9th of April 2017  
9AM-5PM**

**@WINTEC ATRIUM**

**ONLY \$5 PER PERSON**

KIDS UNDER 3YRS FREE

WE SUPPORT AUTISM NZ  
SPONSORED BY TOYCO.CO.NZ



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## Balloons Over Waikato

### Wednesday 22 March 2017

#### THE HAMILTON MASS ASCENSION

Morning 7.30am approx.  
Balloons commence inflation  
Innes Common, Hamilton Lake

### Thursday 23 March 2017

#### THE WEL ENERGY TRUST BREAKFAST AT DAWN

(In association with McDonalds Hamilton)  
Morning 6.30am approx.  
Balloons commence inflation  
Innes Common, Hamilton Lake

#### THE FIRST CREDIT UNION SCHOOL HOP

12.00pm  
Balloons visit 18 local Hamilton schools

### Friday 24 March 2017

#### FRIDAY FLY OFF

Morning 7.30am approx.  
Balloons commence inflation  
Innes Common, Hamilton Lake

#### BALLOONS VISIT SOUTH WAIKATO

Evening 6.00pm - 8.00pm  
Tokoroa Memorial Sport Ground

#### BALLOONS VISIT TE KUITI

Evening 6.00pm - 8.00pm  
Te Kuiti Domain

#### THE CITY BURN AND MARKETS BROUGHT TO YOU BY HAMILTON CENTRAL

Evening 6.00pm - 8.00pm  
Garden Place, Hamilton City

### Saturday 25 March 2017

#### THE SMARTRAK CASH GRAB COMPETITION

Morning 7.30am approx.  
Balloons commence inflation  
Innes Common, Hamilton Lake

### Saturday 25 March 2017

#### THE ZURU NIGHTGLOW

Afternoon 4.00pm - 9.00pm approx.  
The University of Waikato, Hamilton

### Sunday 26 March 2017

#### THE GREAT GRASSROOTS TRUST FINALE

Morning 7.30am approx.  
Balloons commence inflation  
Innes Common, Hamilton Lake

### THE ZURU NIGHTGLOW PROGRAMME

**Saturday 25 March 2017  
4.00pm-9.00pm**

#### MAIN STAGE LINEUP

**4.00pm-4.45pm:** In2Strings  
**5.00pm-5.45pm:** The 3 Brothers Band  
**6.00pm-6.30pm:** Double or Nothing  
**6.30pm-6.45pm:** RNZAF Black Falcons Aerobatics Team  
**6.45pm-7.45pm:** The Jordan Luck Band

#### THE GLOW SHOW

**7.45pm - 8.00pm:** Time to grab something to eat and drink, and settle in to watch the balloons as they begin to inflate, in preparation for the main event.  
**8.00pm:** The Glow Show. Prepare to be thrilled as the balloons present the main event - a spectacularly stunning light and sound show, all choreographed to your favourite music.  
Then dust off those dancing shoes and join "Hot & Flustered" as they perform the age old classic - Rocky Horror Picture Show's - Timewarp!  
**8.20pm:** Fireworks Finale! Waikato's very own pyrotechnic master, Dr Martin van Tiel, creates yet another magical masterpiece to bring the night to a close celebrating the end of the Zuru Nightglow 2017.

#### AFTER THE GLOW SHOW

**8.30pm-9.00pm:** The Jordan Luck Band

