

Te Totara Primary School
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 7TH MARCH, 2013

WEEK 6

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)

WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH, 2013 TEACHERS UNAVAILABLE FROM 12.25PM TO TEACH

The school has been advised by the NZEI Te Riu Roa that it is holding a Paid Union Meeting for teachers on **Wednesday 20th March, 2013**. Accordingly, the majority of the school's teaching staff will be unavailable after 12.25pm on that date. I encourage you to collect your child at 12.25pm or make some other arrangements for the duration of the meeting. Children are welcome to bring their lunch.

However, if you wish your child to remain at school from 12.25pm to 3.00pm, please contact me via e-mail principal@tetotara.school.nz.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE IS AVAILABLE FROM 12.30PM – 5.30PM

After School Care is available on Wednesday 20th March at the earlier time of **12.30pm – 5.30pm** in the Matariki Hall.

Enrolled Permanent Wednesday children will be booked in as usual unless otherwise advised.

If your child/ren are enrolled at ASC and don't normally come on a Wednesday, but you wish to book them into ASC on Wednesday 20th March, please advise Anna Herbert (our ASC Co-ordinator) a.s.a.p. either by phone/txt [021570277](tel:021570277) or e-mail afterschoolcare@tetotara.school.nz Please advise the time you will be collecting your child/ren from ASC.

Non-Enrolled Children

If your child/ren is not enrolled at After School Care, but you would like to book them in on Wednesday 20th March, please complete an ASC Enrolment Form which can be found on the Te Totara Primary School website or collected from the School Office. This will need to be completed and returned to Anna Herbert via e-mail at: afterschoolcare@tetotara.school.nz or dropped off in person at the Matariki Hall.

Please advise Anna by Friday 15th March so she can ensure we have enough staff to cover.

NZEI is the union that represents Primary Teachers, Primary Principals and Support Staff. Under the Employment Relations Act, paid Union Meetings are a legal entitlement to discuss union business. In this case, NZEI has advised that purpose of the meeting is to discuss what it sees as a lack of progress towards a fair settlement of the Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement, and other key issues impacting on teaching and learning. In our experience, NZEI calls paid Union Meetings infrequently and only when it believes that there is urgent and important business to discuss with its members. Thank you for your co-operation and assistance.

Brian Sheedy, Principal

NORTHERN EAST SCHOOLING STRATEGY MEETING

This Friday the MOE are making some announcements regarding the Northern East Schooling Strategy and the Minister of Education, the Hon. Hekia Parata will discuss the plans for the education strategy. Minister Hekia Parata will give a short address and be happy to answer any questions. Our community have been invited to join Hon. Minister Hekia Parata at the Eastern Suburbs Community Sports Club, Flagstaff Park.

When: Friday, 8th March, 2013

Time: 12.00noon – 1.00pm

**Where: Eastern Suburbs Community Sports Club
Flagstaff Park, Commodore Avenue**

SURVEY FEEDBACK

Recently we had 41 respondents to our on line survey, some key information:

- 93% said they were treated with dignity or in a dignified way
- 95% said that their child/ren enjoyed school most all or of the time
- 93% said that Te Totara offers a very good or excellent education for their child/ren

Strengths of the school

- 98% of respondents commented on the strengths of the school. Many comments related friendliness, collegiality, welcoming, approachability, recognition of student achievements, STARS was a feature.

Next steps for the school

Thanks for the really constructive ideas to help shape the future of our school. Some quick responses...

Q. Extending the Hall?

A. We have no funding for this at present, but something we would like.

Q. When will there be an Intermediate?

Hopefully the announcement from the Minister tomorrow will help know what is happening for future schooling.

Q. A Pool

A. We are working on getting a portable heated pool at school for teaching, we'll keep you posted

Q. Consistency in monitoring the crossing in the morning?

A. We will catch up with our team to make sure we give the same messages to pedestrians

Q. Parking a challenge, can you help?

A. Being on a cul-de-sac doesn't help. We have plans to help as part of our building work, as soon as confirmed we will let everyone know.

Q. Notifying the family if your child is getting an assembly award

A. We will catch up with our team and get back to you.

Q. Smaller class sizes?

A. We do the best we can. Our BOT are great as they have allocated additional funding to support learning programmes

Q. Keep recognising cultures?

A. Yes we will keep at this, all our teachers have participated in training to support English Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) and the school employs a special teacher in this area.

Q. Parent information sessions?

A. We aim to be running some more sessions next term, we will let you know when.

Thanks everyone and if you would like clarification then please don't hesitate to contact Brian Sheedy, principal@tetotara.school.nz

VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL (INCLUDING PARENTS)

If you are visiting our school for business reasons, or as a parent dropping off things to your child during school hours, please report to the School Office before entering the school grounds.

LEARNING PLAN DISCUSSIONS

To help the teachers formulate Learning Plans due out during Term 2, 2013.

Learning Plan discussions will take place on **Tuesday 26th March & Wednesday 27th March, 2013.** To make an appointment time for your child/ren, please use our online booking system www.schoolinterviews.co.nz – our school code is **A7GHS** If you are unable to access a computer, please phone Marise in the School Office on (07) 853-0039 to make a convenient time.

Bookings open Monday 11th March @ 9.00am

Bookings close Friday 22nd March @ 3.00pm

Please Note: We will not be able to accept bookings after Friday 22nd March @ 3.00pm.

Due to Learning Plan Discussions, school will finish at 2.00pm on Tuesday 26th March & Wednesday 27th March. Students will need to be collected by parents/caregivers at 2.00pm please. After School Care will begin at the earlier time of at 2.00pm for those children enrolled at After School Care.

FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TOMORROW

This week's assembly will be held tomorrow, **Friday 8th March 2013 at 2.15pm in the Matariki Hall.** Everyone is welcome.

NETBALL, YEAR 4 STUDENTS

We have had such a great turn out for year 4 girls interested in playing netball in term 2 and 3. There are enough girls to make 2 teams but we do not have a coach for either teams! Could you please let Miss Dunbar know in Orion 12 by Monday 11th March if you would be interested in coaching a team. If we do not get coaches unfortunately, the teams will not be able to participate in the competition. Thanks a lot for your support!

TE TOTARA SPORTS

PLAYER OF THE DAY

CRICKET

- Terrors** Mogan Codd & Kheilan Demchy
- Minis** TBA
- Mystics** Marius Ings & Matthew O'Rourke
- Thunders** Sean Ralph & Ethan Gray
- Midgets** Anten Maeuea

TOUCH

- Rockets** Imogen Dryden
- Gunns** Logan McKay & Ella McMillan
- Chiefs** No game

VOLLEYBALL

- Spikers** Catarina Gozzani
Mia Carter

DATES COMING UP

- Fri 8 March** PTA - Chocolates go home
- Mon 18 March** ERO at school this week
- Wed 20 March** **Pick-up children at 12.25pm**
Teachers Union Meeting
- Tues 26 March** Learning Plan Discussions 2pm-5.30pm
School Finishes at 2.00pm
- Wed 27 March** Learning Plan Discussions 2pm-7.00pm
School Finishes at 2.00pm
- Fri 29 March** School Closed - Good Friday
- Mon 1 April** School Closed – Easter Monday
- Tue 2 April** School Closed – Easter Tuesday
- Thu 4 April** School's 5th Birthday Walkathon
- Fri 5 April** Balloons over Waikato Visit
Routine N/E Hearing & Vision Testing
- Thu 11 April** PTA Mtg @ 7.30pm
- Fri 19 April** School Closes for Term 1 @ 3.00pm

Brian Sheedy
Principal

TE TOTARA PTA

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Thursday 11th April 2013 @ 7.30pm in the Staff Lounge. Everyone is welcome.

ICE BLOCK FRIDAYS

Lemonade Popsicles will be available for sale at a cost of **\$1.50 each** outside the Matariki Hall after eating for learning has finished at 12.35pm.

Please ensure your child/ren has the correct amount of money as no change will be given.

All proceeds will go towards fundraising for our children. Parents, if you are available to help with the selling of the Ice Blocks on any of the Fridays (approx ½ hour of your time), please e-mail tracy.jessep@gmail.com or text Tracy on 021 755 385.

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISING - FRIDAY 8th MARCH

Boxes of Cadbury Variety chocolates are coming to you just in time for Easter. We will be delivering a box of 'variety' bars to each child tomorrow, **Friday 8th March** for you to sell. These boxes consist of 30 bars & sell for \$1/bar - choc fish, peppery chew, caramello chew, buzz bar, caramello eggs, crème eggs, & marshmallow bunnies. ***For every full box of chocolates you sell, your name will go into the draw to win a 'Fujifilm JX500 Compact Camera Bundle', worth \$119. Runner-up prizes as well. *All money must be returned by 3pm Thursday 4/4/2013 to be into the draw**** These boxes generate excellent profit which is then put back into the school to help our children. Help is required to deliver these on the Friday 8th March, which will probably in the morning. Any questions please email tetotara.pta@gmail.com or contact Lisa Clay 0211 333 997.

<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.

DELICIOUS GIRL GUIDE BISCUITS

On sale outside the Matariki Hall on **Friday, March 8th** after the 3pm bell. Buy a pack, carton or more and help support Chartwell Brownies and Pippins. Plain, chocolate and choc minis all \$3.50 each.

MISSING SCOOTERS

Red and black MGP scooter, named. Last used to school on Tuesday 19th February. If found, please return to Anten Maeuea Rm 9 or to the school office. Thank You.

If anyone has found a scooter with Toby Coventry's name on it, please return it to Rm 16. Missing since Friday last week.

FOUND – 3x TEDDY'S

We have 3 well loved children's teddy's handed into the School Office. One is light blue with a yellow bib and 2 are brown - one printed with the words Nutrica.

FETE FAIR FUNDRAISER FOR TIAGO PINHEIRO

Proceeds from the fete fair will go to support Tiago and his family beat Neuroblastoma Cancer Stage 4 diagnosed last month. Tiago is 2 and a half, and has been very brave with the treatments he received. He is a fighter and we want give him and his family all the support we can during this journey. Look for "Tiago's Story Pinheiro" on Facebook

When: 09/03/2013 – 8:30 to 1pm

Where: Gordonton Country Market – 3, Garfield Street, Gordonton

Theme: Old-fashioned sweets (like the sweets our nana used to make) and handmade crafts.

WANT TO PLAY FOOTBALL THIS YEAR?

Hukanui Rototuna Football Club Registrations are now open. Please go to www.hrhc.co.nz to register. **Registrations now close 8th March.** Any queries please phone Karyn Walters on (07) 853-9988

HAMILTON NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Spaces available in all grades from 4 year olds up to year 8 students. If you are interested in playing Football/Soccer this season please visit our website:

www.hamiltonnorthfootball.org.nz or e-mail secretary@hamiltonnorthfootball.org.nz

HAMILTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FAIR

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL 2013 FROM 9AM – 3PM

Come and enjoy the day with us. Food stalls, books, games and much more. 9am till 3pm.

BARNARDOS TE TOTARA GALA DAY

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 2013, 8.30AM – 12 NOON

Come along to Barnardos Family Gala Day, lots of fun for all! 8.30am – 12 noon in the Te Totara School Hall. It would be great to support our neighbours.

WAIPA FUN RUN SCHOOLS CHALLENGE REMINDER

2km School Challenge Sunday 17th March 2013.

For further details visit www.stpeterscatholic.school.nz or phone 07 827 6623

ROTOTUNA FUN RUN AND WALK

Rototuna Primary School is holding the *Lodge Rototuna Round the Block Fun Run & Walk* on Saturday 23 March at 10 am, 2, 4.5 or 9 km courses. Enter online at www.roundtheblock.co.nz Discounted earlybird fees (register & pay by March 17): \$25 per family or \$10 per person. Late entries \$5 extra. Early entries qualify for iPod Touch prize draw! Family entertainment, awesome bouncy castle obstacle course, food and drinks available for purchase. Amazing spot prizes.

HAMILTON KUMON EDUCATION CENTRE

Kumon provides Math and English after-school programme.

To find out more about Kumon, please phone Ruth or 021 269 7402

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE AND SUMI WORKSHOP

All welcome, staff/students/family who might be interested in this upcoming free public lecture and sumi ink workshops. For further information contact the Faculty of Education main reception: [07 838 4500](tel:078384500)