

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) Israel Shalom (Hebrew)

Kia ora Te Totara families



This week Mrs Stewart and I took part in a Ministry of Education Zoom meeting regarding a new toolkit that has been issued for schools on 'Managing Covid 19.'

This information has been developed as we move forward into the new Covid Protection Framework (the traffic light system) which starts in our community tomorrow, when the Waikato moves into orange.

The Ministry of Health and Education have agreed **schools will retain their existing COVID-19 settings** until the end of the 2021 calendar year. The COVID-19 Protection Framework settings will come into effect for all schools from **1st January 2022**. This means that we will remain in our current Alert Level 2 with the cautious approach that we are maintaining. At Te Totara we know we can manage this level in a very safe manner until the end of this school year on 14 December, so we will all be able to enjoy a well-deserved summer break of fun with friends, family and more events. That will be worth the wait.

When we return in February 2022 we will come back in the new Covid Protection Framework the Waikato is in. The toolkit about 'Managing Covid 19' gives schools very specific guidance steps of what to do if there is a positive Covid case confirmed at the school. As we learn to live with Covid in the community the guidance outlines different actions for schools depending on the closeness of the contacts. We will have responsibilities for the Ministry of Health and also for our community in this situation. It is likely that communications to you all regarding any outbreak will come from myself as school principal but I will also be liaising with the Ministry of Education and Health. As always the safety of our students, staff and families are at the forefront of any decisions I make. I thought it was important to give you all a little information about the process as we move ahead to live positively with this virus.

As always our best defence is the high vaccination status within our community. At this Zoom meeting the Director of Education in the Waikato, Marcus Freke spoke about vaccinations for 5-12 year olds and he said this would be likely to be rolled out early next year. Another important level of protection for our learners who are more vulnerable in an outbreak. I will keep you updated as I hear more in these areas. It will be good to be more protected so we can finally return to more community involvement on site, whanau at school, assemblies, celebrations ...all the events we are unable to have now, that celebrate our special Te Totara school family.

Nga mihi
Anne Fraser - Principal

EVENT CANCELLATIONS

As indicated in previous newsletters we have had to cancel a number of our traditional year end events. The evening Celebration and entertainment by our cultural groups and teams are unable to be safely held this year due to the numbers we host. We usually have 2,000-3,000 people on the back field for a couple of hours. Under current Covid settings unfortunately this is not possible this year.

2021 YEAR 6 LEAVERS EVENTS

We also had to cancel our annual Year 6 Leavers Supper which is a celebration of our Year 6 students attended by staff and family members. As we have 142 Year 6 students, with staff and family this event would have been over 400 people, so not possible this year.

We are disappointed at not being able to honour our wonderful Year 6 students in the usual fashion. We have an alternative arrangement planned for them and the staff. On **Friday 10th December** the students are able to come to school in their 'best clothes' for a ceremony and morning tea to honour their time with us. This will start just after 9.00am and conclude with a morning tea for the students provided by the school. As families are unable to be present due to Covid restrictions we will be recording the event to put on YouTube for families to see.

In the second block on that day the students will be able to change into suitable clothes to enjoy our annual 'water play' that is keenly anticipated by our Year 6 leavers. This is also the day when our Year 6 students will be able to get their shirts signed, if they have the permission of their parents for this to occur.

The students will still need to wear appropriate unmarked uniforms for the last 2 days of the school week in Week 9, so they will either need to have a spare school shirt for signing or use another type of shirt after checking with you.

If there are any questions about the special day planned for our Year 6 students please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the Team Leaders: Mrs Robertson in Marama and Mrs Lingard in Milky Way.

LEARNING PLANS ONLINE @ 3.30PM TOMORROW **FRIDAY 3RD DECEMBER, 2021**

A Learning Plan for each student will be uploaded to the online Parent Portal at 3.30pm on **Friday 3rd December, 2021**. **However, if your child started at school in Term 4 (or late in Term 3) you will not receive a Learning Plan yet.**

We will send you an email on Friday 3rd December by 3.30pm using the email address we have on file, this will contain your User ID and Password details for the Parent Portal. Once you have successfully logged-in, we recommend you change your password. Please check your spam or junk folder for this email if you do not receive it.

You can download a copy of the Learning Plan from the Parent Portal and save it to your computer. If you do not receive an email with login codes, please contact Marise Crow by email at receptionist@tetotara.school.nz



The work involved in developing these Learning Plans is immense and reflects our goal of developing a personalised plan for each student. Much thought and consideration has gone into these Learning Plans. We have managed to include a lot more of each child's comments and goals, to ensure they have an increased sense of ownership of their Learning Plan.

We strongly advise that you:

- Go through the Learning Plan with your child
- Look especially at the "Where To Next" and "Goals set by Student, Parent and Teacher" sections and incorporate these into supporting learning at home.

A REMINDER.... Please check the Parent Portal to ensure we have the correct details on file for your child/ren including mobile numbers, home and email address.

CLASSES FOR 2022 - FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER, 2021

From 3.30pm on Friday 10th December 2021, the Parent Portal is where you will find your child's class for 2022. Further details will follow in next week's newsletter.

For those families who will not receive a Learning Plan for their child/ren, you are still able to log-in to the Parent Portal to see their class for 2022.

Log onto your @school Parent Portal <http://www.atschool.co.nz/>

Enter your user ID and Password

- Go to My Child
- Click on Contact Details and "Class for Next Year" will be displayed after midday

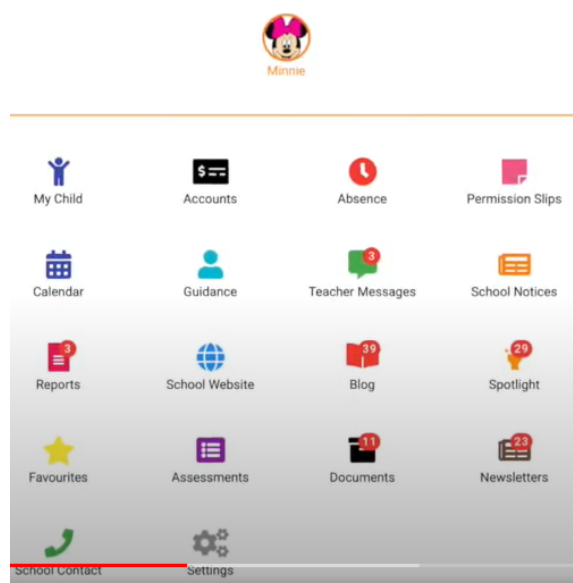
NEW LOOK PARENT PORTAL

- Learning Plans online

Our Parent Portal has been updated to the new user-friendly version. Due to Covid19 restrictions, we have made the decision to upload your child/s Learning Plans to the Parent Portal on Friday 3rd December, 2021 at 3.30pm rather than send home a hard copy of the report. You can download copies from there and save it to your computer.

We will **send you an email on Friday 3rd December by 3.30pm**, using the email address we have on file, this will contain your User ID and Password details for the Parent Portal. Once you have successfully logged-in, we recommend you change your password.

It is very important that we hold the correct email address for you, feel free to contact the School Office if you would like to check this (07) 853-0039.



Moving forward, this will be the format we will continue to use as it also helps to reduce our carbon footprint by using less paper.

Please note: We will not send home a hard-copy of the Learning Plan sent home as we have done in the past.

If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the School Office on (07) 853-0039 and we will arrange for a hard-copy for your family.

For our separated families, please check with us that we hold email addresses on file for both caregivers.

STUDENT STATIONERY FOR 2022

Order your child's stationery now and avoid the rush!

We've teamed up again with OfficeMax to make getting school ready faster. You'll find your child's school stationery list **online by visiting:**

www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara (click on the link)

Simply select your child's year level in 2022 and follow the instructions on the website.

OfficeMax have introduced Laybuy*, so you can pay in 6x weekly, interest-free instalments - and still get your order right away. * Terms & Conditions apply, see myschool.co.nz for details.

Buying through OfficeMax MySchool also earns "School Rewards" for our school which we can redeem for much needed educational supplies, equipment for our classrooms or to help those students in need.

OfficeMax MySchool makes Back to School easy for you with these great benefits:

- **Order the easy way** - online at myschool.co.nz/tetotara OR call the OfficeMax My School Team on Freephone 0800 724 440 from Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm.
- **Price Match Promise** - shop with confidence, if you find a lower price OfficeMax will match it. Conditions apply, see myschool.co.nz for details.
- **Free Delivery - for orders over \$46.00**
Choose delivery to your home or workplace. Receive your order during the holidays, straight to your door at a time that suits you. See myschool.co.nz for delivery windows.
- **Save valuable holiday time** - avoid busy shopping malls and traffic queues by shopping online from the comfort of your home so your child starts the year with the correct stationery supplies.
- **Pay now or in easy instalments** - internet banking, credit/debit card or pay in 6 weekly, interest-free installments with Laybuy* * **Terms & Conditions apply, see myschool.co.nz for details**



Many of our families used this online system last year and will be familiar with the ordering process. This website is available from today for ordering at: www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara
Step-by-step instructions on how to order student stationery for 2022 will be placed on our website under the "Newsletters" tab. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the School Office on 07 853-0039.

Please note: You do not need a Student ID, please leave this field blank. If you have a 5-year-old new entrant starting in Term 1, 2022 your child will be classified as a Year 1.

Please ensure you have placed your online order no later than **Friday 14th January, 2022** to ensure delivery before school starts on **Wednesday 2nd February, 2022.**

Please ensure your child/ren have all their school stationery items before school begins.

2021 FEES & DONATIONS PAID VIA KINDO

Fees have now been loaded onto KINDO. This online system allows you to pay for our school's fees (Mathletics/Mathseeds, Voluntary School Donation, Lost Library Book Costs etc) and is also the **ONLY** way to register/pay for your child for sports teams.
Please Note: Aquatics will be charged after your child's class has had their lessons.



Kindo Questions? Kindo Helpdesk on 0508 454636 (toll free)

If access is denied, it is most likely that our school does not have your current email address recorded on your child's file. Please do not hesitate to contact the School Office on (07) 853-0039 to amend.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE - ENROLMENTS OPEN FOR 2022

New enrolments for our Before and After School programme for 2022 is now open online. This is held in our Matariki Hall. Times are between the hours 7.30-8.30am and 3.00- 5.30pm. For more information and how to book, please visit: [Te Totara Before and After School Care](#)

SCHOOL LIBRARY CLOSED OVER SUMMER

Our school library will be closed this summer. In their final library visits for the year, students who are returning to school in 2022 are able to take out books to read over the holidays

HOLIDAY READING

Over the holidays, students can experience the "summer slump". This is a loss in reading achievement over summer if students stop reading. Providing some fun reading experiences during the holidays can help prevent the summer slump. Here are a few ways to encourage children to read:

- Read aloud to your child. It is the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for their own success in reading. It stimulates their imagination and improves their language and listening skills.
- Encourage your child to read anything - the TV guide, magazines, joke books, recipes, travel guides, video game instructions...
- Find a series for your child to get hooked on. This will make choosing their next book to read easier. A recent survey showed that the primary factor in choosing a book for 7-12 year-olds was a familiar character or series.
- Find books that match your child's interests e.g. arts and crafts, skateboarding, cooking, animals, minecraft.
- Read graphic novels. These comic books can be really appealing for children.

STUDENTS LEAVING TE TOTARA

If you have not already notified us and are planning to leave our school at the end of 2021 (*other than Year 6 students*), it would be appreciated if you could please urgently advise us by emailing Marise Crow at: receptionist@tetotara.school.nz

If you have a child coming to Te Totara in the future, we would love to have an Enrolment Form - it would be very much appreciated and certainly help with our future planning.

LEAVING TE TOTARA? CLOSE YOUR KINDO ACCOUNT

If your family is leaving our school and moving to another school that does not use KINDO for school payments, you need to close your account. If you're not sure about the new school, log in, go to "My Details" and click on the list of schools, scrolling to find your new school. If your new school is NOT on the list, use the "close account" button on that screen. You can choose to donate your balance to school or have it paid out to your nominated bank account.

Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm Helpdesk (09) 8695200 | 0508 4KINDO
helpdesk@kindo.co.nz OR support.kindo.co.nz



CHICKENPOX

We have a few students away with chickenpox currently. According to the Ministry of Health Infectious Diseases Guidelines:

- Early signs are a fever and spots with a blister on top of each spot.
- The child is infectious from up to 5 days before the appearance of the rash until lesions have crusted (usually about 5 days).
- Time between exposure and sickness is 13-17 days.
- This disease is spread by coughing and sneezing and by direct contact with weeping blisters.
- Exclusion from school is approximately a week from the date of the appearance of the rash.

If you are unsure whether your child should return to school, please see your family doctor.

A copy of the Infectious Diseases Guidelines can be found on the school website under the Health & Medical red quicklink tab.

TE TOTARA SPORTS PLAYER OF THE DAY

If you are a Coach or Manager, please email the POD to stephy@tetotara.school.nz.

CRICKET

Green Slade McMurray, Kyle van der Merwe, Aaryan Jasti, Josh Verma, Peyton Ellis
Red Yuvi Koloty, Livia Gibson, Dhairya Jagdale

2022 SCHOOL TERM DATES

- Term 1** **Wednesday 2nd February – Term 1, 2022 Begins**
(Tuesday 1st February - Teacher Only Day)
Public Holiday: Monday 7th February (Waitangi Day Holiday)
Thursday 14th April – End of Term 1 (11 weeks)
- Term 2** **Monday 2nd May – Friday 8th July (10 weeks)**
Teacher Only Day - Friday 3rd June
Public Holidays: Monday 6th June (Queens Birthday)
Friday 24th June (Matariki Celebration)
- Term 3** **Monday 25th July – Friday 30th September (10 weeks)**
Our Mid-Term break - Monday 29th August
- Term 4** **Monday 17th October – Thursday 15th December (9 weeks)**
Teacher Only Day - Friday 21st October
Public Holiday: Monday 24th October (Labour Day)

DATES COMING UP & CANCELLATIONS DUE TO COVID ALERT LEVELS

- Fri 3 Dec** Learning Plans go online via the Parent Portal at 3.30pm
~~Mon 6 Dec~~ ~~End of Year Celebration~~ ~~Cancelled~~
~~Tues 7 Dec~~ ~~Postponement Date~~ ~~End of Year Celebration~~ ~~Cancelled~~
Fri 10 Dec Year 6 Leavers Celebrations (in-house with students and staff only)
Fri 10 Dec 2022 Classes for students online through the Parent Portal @ 3.30pm
Tues 14 Dec End of Term 4 - School Finishes at 3.00pm
- Wed 2 Feb** Term 1, 2022 Begins

Ngā mihi,
Anne Fraser
Principal

TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

EMAIL: pta@tetotara.school.nz www.facebook.com/TTPTA
Please 'like' our Facebook page to ensure you keep in the news loop:
www.facebook.com/TTPTA



SPELL-A-THON FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who learnt their words, raised money and returned their forms. **As a school, \$8,095 was raised as part of the Spellathon - a wonderful effort.** The exciting part of this fundraiser is the donation that the PTA will be able to make to school. \$8,000 will be donated to school to help purchase the Lego Spike Kits - a wonderful educational tool. **Also as part of this fundraiser the PTA had some lego prizes up for grabs! Simply by returning the form, put the child in the draw....**



Congratulations:

Matawhero:	Nate Fletcher Room 2
Orion:	Julianna Withy Room 7
Marama:	Kingston Afoa Room 12
Milky Way:	Zander Beumer Room 19
Neptune:	Arya Bange Room 25
Ra:	Hamish Campbell Room 33
Earth:	Ciara Watts Room 35
Whole School Draw:	Jerry Lin Room 21

Mrs Fraser is arranging for the prizes to be given to these lucky children. We wish we could present them to you, however we can imagine the big smiles and joy that will come from the Lego set.

Thank you again to all the participants of the Spellathon.

Your PTA committee: *Shelley, Julian, Rilesh, Kerry & Kerri*

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.**



KELLY SPORTS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

CONTACT
KIM & MARK INNES

WAIKATO@KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ
07 839 9017

BOOK ONLINE AT
KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ



asthma
NEW ZEALAND



HAMILTON MUSICAL THEATRE'S PRODUCTION OF

Disney
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN AND TIM RICE BOOK BY LINDA WOOLVERTON

ORIGINALLY DIRECTED BY ROBERT JESS ROTH

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

DIRECTOR: **TONI GARSON**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: **JONTY CLIMO** CHOREOGRAPHER: **TESS BENSEMAN**

TICKETS FROM:
ITICKET.CO.NZ
JANUARY 18 - 22, 2022
RIVERLEA THEATRE

HMT HAMILTON MUSICAL THEATRE LICENSED EXCLUSIVELY BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALASIA). ALL PERFORMANCE MATERIALS SUPPLIED BY HAL LEONARD AUSTRALIA. ITICKET

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

Asthma NZ has put together a source of information that will help parents to look after their children / young people who have a respiratory condition in what essentially is a respiratory pandemic. Whilst this is a fearful time for many parents, there are many things that can be done to be prepared. [Click here.](#)