



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER, 2022



Te Totara Primary School  
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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)

## FINAL NEWSLETTER OF 2022

### \*\* SCHOOL HOLIDAYS \*\*

**School finishes for Term 4 on Thursday 15th December at 3.00pm**

**The School Office will be open on  
Thursday 26th January, Friday 27th January & Tuesday 31st January, 2023  
from 9.00am - 2.00pm for Enrolment enquiries**

**School Begins for the students on Wednesday, 1st February 2023 at 8.55am**

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora Te Totara families

This is our last newsletter of the 2022 school year. A year to certainly test the resilience of us all.

To begin the year in Alert Red Level 4 without our families able to come into school felt very unsettling for us. Unfortunately the Covid virus hit our community in the first week of the school year and we had a very difficult time with lots of students and staff becoming unwell. Staffing the school was a daily challenge. We are very grateful for our wonderful support teachers, learning assistants and guest teachers. Their availability and flexibility meant the school could remain open for every class, every day. I am hugely proud of this achievement and am grateful to our Senior Leadership team of Jo Stewart and Jennie Brook-Watt for maintaining teaching and learning in our school.

The second half of the year was almost 'normal' with students and families back at school, everyone working hard and enjoying events like the Senior Production and Year 5/6 School Camp. The tamariki of Te Totara have again impressed the staff with their adaptability and resilience to make the best of any situation they have been in. You can feel very proud of your children.

Thank you so much for all the support and encouragement that you, as our school community provided in many ways throughout 2022. The positive responses and messages in the more challenging Alert Level 4 days in Terms 1-2, your involvement in Learning Plan discussions, fantastic sports team Coaches and Managers, the Senior Production helpers, our wonderful P.T.A. and B.O.T. members, our library volunteers, shelving/mending literacy resources etc - we really appreciate you!. Also a very big 'thank you' to our school neighbours on all sides who always keep a 'watchful eye' on our buildings and grounds when we are not onsite.

To anyone leaving our community, thank you so much for your contribution and we wish you well in your future. To our 123 Year 6 students, thank you for being such a great group of students during your time with us. Do keep in touch as we love hearing about your new learning journey and the fine young people you are growing into.

To our amazing families, inspiring staff and our students who are always our brightest 'shining stars' - I wish you a wonderful holiday break with your families. This is a very special blessed time, I hope you are able to celebrate the joy of the Christmas season with those you love.

Enjoy all that a New Zealand summer holiday offers to us, be safe and we look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 1st February, 2022 when our students and families return to school.

Ngāa mihi

*Anne Fraser* - Principal

## A MESSAGE FROM THE TE TOTARA SCHOOL BOARD

The Board would like to acknowledge and thank the hard work of all the staff at Te Totara. What an amazing job they do looking after our tamariki. Thank you for your dedication and commitment throughout another challenging year.

In spite of the ups and downs, it has been an amazing year at this wonderful school, and what a pleasure it was to see the performances and applaud the learners on Monday night. The End of Year Celebration evening was a huge success with stunning weather, enthusiastic dancers and singers, and of course Te Totara Stars lighting the way. Congratulations to all of the award winners - well deserved.

To our Year 6 leavers - we wish you all the best with your new adventures. May your stars shine bright at the schools you are moving onto.

To all our tamariki and families - may you have a refreshing, relaxing summer break. And to our hard-working staff - enjoy switching off for a few weeks and we look forward to seeing you again in 2023.

Meri Kirihimete me te Hape Nū Ia!

*Melissa Guyan*

Presiding Member

Te Totara School Board



### STUDENT CLASSES FOR 2023

**LIVE ON PARENT PORTAL ON FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022 @ 3.00PM**

To find out what room your child is placed in next year:

Log onto your @school Parent Portal [www.atschool.co.nz](http://www.atschool.co.nz)

**Enter your user ID and Password** (these were emailed to you on Friday 2nd December, please check your spam/trash folder if you have not received this)

- [Go to My Child](#)
- [Click on Other Details and "Class for Next Year"](#)

**A REMINDER.... Please check the Parent Portal to ensure we have all the correct details on file for your child/ren including mobile numbers, home and email address. If there is a change to make, please contact the School Office on 07 853-0039.**

**Note: Students will meet their new 2023 classroom teacher on Tuesday 13th December between 1.30pm - 2.00pm.**

## ORGANISATION FOR 2023

Orion Year 1	Room	Neptune Year 2	Room	Earth Year 3/4	Room	Milky Way Year 5/6	Room
Julianne Wink	7	Jennifer Dalton	24	Jessica Grimson	34	Niki Collins	18
* Caron Ace	8	Komal Kumar	25	* Krissy Tantrum	35	*Levi O'Hallahan	19
Sarah Gill	9	Bridget McLaughlin	26	Brittany Linn	36	Kurdt Webber	20
Maree Lewis	10	* Suzie Goile	27	Ashleigh Morgan	37	Rochelle Lingard	21
		Shontae Black	28	Chantelle Lindsey	38	*Kristy Hanks	23
Matawhero Year 0/1	Room			Ra Year 3/4	Room	Marama Year 5/6	Room
* Bridie Carr-Neil	4			Ashleigh Campbell	29	Daniel Turner	12
Ruth Crackett (when required)	5			Sarah Brister	30	Dori Villasol-Alonso	13
To start in 2023	3			Learning Support	31	*Renee Morgan	14
To start in 2023	2			* Kären Langley	32	Tracey Smith	15
To start in 2023 (New classroom)	1			Natalie Gillies	33		
* = Team Leader							

### - Part time Teachers - Kelly Fletcher, Emma Cathcart, Nerida Laybourn & Brenda Wollen

Some points around our classes:

- We do realise that this is a time of change and that this can cause anxiety, it can also be viewed as an opportunity to experience new classmates and a teacher with a wonderful range of new skills
- We deliberately "mix up" our children so by the time they progress through the school they have been exposed to a wide range of their peer group, building valuable and important relationships within the year group cohort
- We do find that the first transition within the school i.e. Year 1 to Year 2 can cause some concern as the children may be with others that are unknown, similarly moving to a new area of the school. This is understandable and we ask that families support the move with a positive approach
- We do ask that if there are any issues around class placement that families support what is in place and if there are any challenges then liaise very early with the new teacher in 2023.
- If there are ongoing concerns then please feel free to contact School Leaders after three weeks of the new school year which allows for the child to settle in and build valuable relationships
- Any requests to change a class from now on is highly likely to be declined as a class change can create a "knock on" effect and not give an opportunity to the child to take on the challenge of a new teacher and make the most of this new opportunity
- To find out more about our approach to how we put our classes together, please see our website. [How we put our classes together](#)

## OTHER STAFF CHANGES FOR 2023

**Angela Sweeney** will be on leave from her teaching position in 2023. She is looking forward to some travel and completing some projects during this time and will return to school in a full-time teaching role in 2024. We wish her well on her refreshment leave and may see her during the year on our guest teacher list.

One of our long serving Learning Assistant's **Jo McMillan** is moving to Wellington with her family in the new year. Her children were students at Te Totara and are rising stars in the football scene with the Phoenix Academy Women's Development Squad based in Wellington. Jo has been with us for 9 years and we are very appreciative of all her fantastic work and passion for our learners over that time. We wish the McMillan family all the very best in their move.

We would like to thank the following teachers for their wonderful work in fixed term positions for the 2021 school year:

### **Mike Thornley, Kobie Pretorius & Jodie Hansen**

We are very grateful for all that you have done for our school community over the past year in the way you have taken over or established a class. It has been fantastic that we have high quality teachers able to step in and continue the learning programmes and keep our students secure and happy through a time of change.

We hope to see you all again soon within our staff, guest teacher or wider school family or as a visitor to our school.

We welcome new teachers **Daniel Turner** and **Ashleigh Campbell** into Te Totara School in 2023. We are excited to be working with Daniel and Ashleigh and know you will enjoy getting to know the staff and your new students in Marama 12 and Ra 29 at the beginning of next year.

**Rochelle Lingard** is taking a break from her Team Leader role in 2023 to concentrate on her classroom teaching for the year. This is a good way to refresh and re-energise and also guide two other Milky Way teachers as professional development in this role. **Levi O'Hallahan** is to be Milky Way Team Leader in Terms 1 & 2 and **Kristy Hanks** will take over in Terms 3 & 4.

## LEARNING PLANS ONLINE NOW VIA THE PARENT PORTAL

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

We sent emails on Friday 2nd December & again on Monday 6th December using the email address we have on file, it contained 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 did not receive an email with login codes, please contact Marise Crow by email at [receptionist@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:receptionist@tetotara.school.nz)** It may be that we do not have your correct email address on file.



**For those families who will not be receiving a Learning Plan for their child/ren, you are still able to log-in to the Parent Portal to see your child's 2023 class.**

## 2022 YEARBOOKS COMING HOME FRIDAY

For those families who have ordered a 2022 Yearbook through KINDO, teachers will be handing these out to students tomorrow. Please check your child's school bag.

If you have ordered a Yearbook through KINDO but did not receive your copy, please contact the School Office on (07) 853-0039.



## MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY

### URGENT: All Library Books Due Back Now Please

All library books should have been returned by Monday this week, however we still have **179 books outstanding**. Could you please have a good look for any library books around the house, no students should have any books at home.



#### Library Open to Parents/Guardians

Just a reminder that **the library is open from 8.15am-9.00am on Friday 9th December** so that parents/guardians can borrow books for their children (*provided they are returning to school next year*). All books are due back after the holidays are over.

We will also be open for parent/guardian borrowing from 8.15am-9.00am every morning next week (*12th December - 15th December, 2022*).

#### 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. Minecraft, Pokemon, arts and crafts, skateboarding, cooking, animals.
- Read graphic novels. These comic books can be really appealing for children.

#### Library School Holiday Open Dates for 2023

We are happy to confirm that our library will be open over the school holidays on these dates:

Thursday 5th January	1.00pm - 4.00pm
Thursday 12th January	1.00pm - 4.00pm
Thursday 19th January	1.00pm - 4.00pm
Thursday 26th January	1.00pm - 4.00pm

If you are staying in Hamilton then we would love to see you. It is a nice way to meet up with friends, stay cool in our lovely air-conditioned library, and take home some good books to read.

In order to borrow books during the holidays, students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian, be returning to school in 2023, and have no outstanding invoices or overdue library books. We will increase our lending limits to a maximum of six books per student, and parents/guardians can also borrow up to six books for each child.

**All books will be due back by Friday 10th February, 2023**  
*(the end of the first week back of school)*



## STUDENT STATIONERY FOR 2023

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

We know getting ready for the first day back at school can be a challenge for parents and kids. That's why we've teamed up with OfficeMax to make your back to school shop super easy.

**If you order in December 2022, you'll go in the draw to WIN 1 of 5x \$1000 cash prizes — plus, you'll get a FREE A4 Magnetic Whiteboard Family Organiser\*.**

**You can choose to receive your order straight away or in January.**



You'll find your child's school stationery list **online by visiting:**

[www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara](http://www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara) (click on the link)

**Simply select your child's year level in 2023** and follow the instructions on the website.

**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, 2023 your child will be classified as a Year 1.**

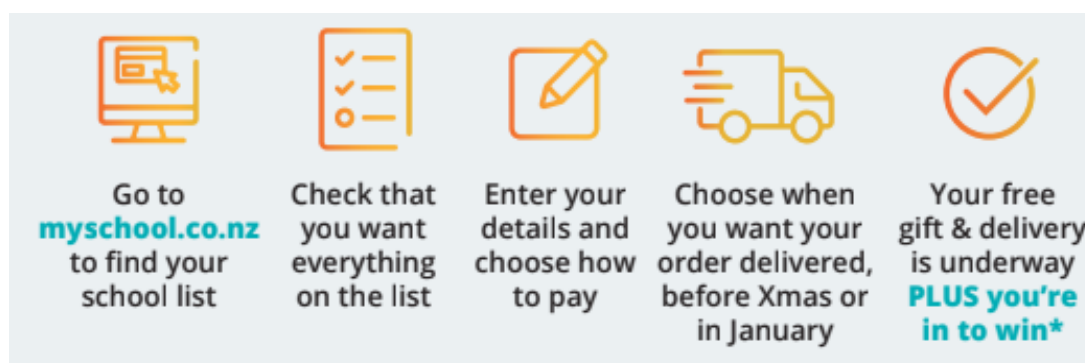
**OfficeMax MySchool makes Back to School easy for you with these great benefits:**

- **Order the easy way** - online at [myschool.co.nz/tetotara](http://myschool.co.nz/tetotara) OR call the OfficeMax My School Team on Freephone 0800 724 440 from Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.00pm.
- **Pay now or in easy installments** - internet banking, credit cards, debit cards or pay in 6 weekly, interest-free payments with Layby\* \* **Terms & Conditions apply, see [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) for details**
- **Price Match Promise** - shop with confidence, if you find a lower price OfficeMax will match it. Conditions apply, see [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz) for details.
- **Free Delivery - for orders over \$60.00**  
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](http://myschool.co.nz) for delivery windows.
- **Beat the back to school rush** - avoid busy shopping malls and traffic queues by shopping online from the comfort of your home so your child starts the school year with the correct stationery supplies.
- **School Rewards** —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.

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](http://www.myschool.co.nz/tetotara)

**If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the School Office on 07 853-0039.**



Please ensure you have placed your online order no later than **Thursday 12th January, 2023** to ensure delivery before school starts on **Wednesday 1st February, 2023.**

**Please ensure your child/ren have all their school stationery items before Term 1 begins.**

## DIRECT GROUP, SCHOOL UNIFORMS - 2023 PURCHASING

Our uniform supplier, Direct Group has advised they will be open weekdays from **Monday 9th January 2023 onwards from 8.00am - 5.00pm** for all your uniform requirements. They have very good supplies of all uniform items.

Sorry the store will be closed on Saturdays, however online ordering is available. Check out their new website: [directgroup.co.nz](http://directgroup.co.nz)

## 2022 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.**

- **Aquatics \$18.00 or \$60.00** (depending on number of lessons)
- **2022 School Camp \$180.00** (Years 5&6 Students only)

**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.**



## OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS - TO BE PAID THROUGH KINDO

As at today's date, the following amounts are still outstanding:

<b>Lost Library Books</b>	<b>\$854.50</b>
<b>Mathletics/Mathseeds</b>	<b>\$3,435.00</b>
<b>Voluntary School Donation</b>	<b>\$28,447.00</b>
<b>2022 School Camp</b>	<b>\$4,765.00</b>
<b>Aquatics</b>	<b>\$11,162.00</b>

**We would really appreciate all outstanding fees being paid by the end of the school year.**

**Voluntary School Donation payments can be made at the beginning of the year or throughout the year; the funds will be used for resources and activities for all the children.**

Any queries regarding your invoice, please email Wendy Bulloch, our Business Manager at [wendyb@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:wendyb@tetotara.school.nz)

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE - 2023 BOOKINGS OPEN

Bookings for 2023 are now open! All bookings must be made online by going to the School website then clicking on 'Enrol Now' on the Before and After School Care page. Once registered and logged in you will be able to make all your 2023 bookings. Please feel free to contact Katrina on 027 8530032 or [offerschoolcare@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:offerschoolcare@tetotara.school.nz) if you have any questions or issues making your booking. Alternatively you are welcome to pop in to see Katrina at ASC in the Matariki Hall on a Wednesday or Friday afternoon.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Dear BSC/ASC Families: We wish to thank you for your continued support throughout the school year. Our commitment to you and your children is very important to us and we are dedicated to providing your child with quality care and a fun and safe environment. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your children's daily routine and we would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and New Years!

*From the team at Te Totara Before and After School Care*



## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held on **9 December 2022 in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm**. Students from **Marama and Milky Way Pods** will attend assembly for special Class Awards. Families from these classrooms will be invited to attend via their classroom teachers.

## STUDENTS LEAVING TE TOTARA AT THE END OF YEAR

If you have not already notified us and are planning to leave our school at the end of 2022 (*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](mailto:receptionist@tetotara.school.nz)

If you have a child coming to Te Totara in the near 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 PRIMARY SCHOOL? 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.

If you are closing your account, and you have a credit balance, you have the option to spend the balance before you close your account, or you can donate the credit balance. Donation options will be provided within the myKindo Close account feature.

*If you are moving from one school to another school that uses myKindo, then you do not need to withdraw or close your account, as you can continue to use your existing account and funds at the new school.*

Click on the link for further information: [KINDO Customer Support - Account Balance Withdrawals](#)

For further support, contact the KINDO Helpdesk: **Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm - (09) 8695200 | 0508 4KINDO. [helpdesk@kindo.co.nz](mailto:helpdesk@kindo.co.nz) OR [support.kindo.co.nz](http://support.kindo.co.nz)**



## FINDING OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING

We have many ways of keeping up-to-date regarding events that are happening at school:

Online school calendar: [Online School Calendar](#)

School App: [Download the School App](#)

School Website: [Te Totara Website](#) *this has the option to translate the newsletter into other languages*

Weekly notices: [Weekly Notices](#)

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/TeTotaraPrimarySchool230374533681330/>

We have a great team at school who keep these all updated in real time.



## TE TOTARA SPORTS PLAYER OF THE DAY

If you are a Coach or Manager, please email the POD by **Wednesday 1pm** to [stephy@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:stephy@tetotara.school.nz)

### Touch

No games this week

Stormers Jordy Marquand (last week's game)





## DATES COMING UP

Fri 9 Dec PTA Ice Block Day  
Thurs 15 Dec 3.00PM - END OF SCHOOL YEAR

Wed 1 Feb TERM 1, 2023 Begins at 8.55am  
Mon 6 Feb Waitangi Day Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

## TE TOTARA PTA NEWS

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



### ICE BLOCK DAY TOMORROW

Join us for our final event of 2022. Remember to bring along your \$2 and support the PTA with your purchase of a delicious ice block. Thank you kindly to all who have volunteered to help us. Your support of these events is greatly appreciated and we would not be able to hold them without your support.

**When:** Friday 9 December at lunchtime  
(after eating for learning)  
**Cost:** \$2.00 per ice block (lemonade flavour only)  
**Where:** Outside Matariki



### JUNGLE JAM DISCO

We have now loaded some photos from our Disco on the PTA Facebook page, to view them please visit and 'like' our Facebook page @ [www.facebook.com/TTPTA](http://www.facebook.com/TTPTA)

### ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP

Stuck on what to get that person that is impossible to shop for? An Entertainment Membership is a great gift idea. If you use the link below, 20% of every membership purchased goes to support Te Totara Primary School PTA. <https://subscribe.entertainmentnz.com/fundraiser/15502m5>

### MERRY CHRISTMAS

The PTA would like to wish every member of our school community a very Merry Christmas. May you have a wonderful festive season filled with joy and happiness. We value your support and want to say Thank You to everyone that helped us in one way or another during 2022. We will be back in 2023 with more exciting events and opportunities.



### UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

**Ice Block Day** Friday 9th December

Your PTA Committee: *Kenni, Adelle, Navreet, Kerry & Angelique*

# 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.**



**ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN FOR TERM 1 2023**

## Jitterbugs

DANCE LESSONS



### Monday (Rototuna Junior High School Dance Studio)

- 3.40 Jitterbugs Seniors (by selection only)
- 4.10 MiniJam (girls & boys aged 3 - 5½)
- 4.35 Jitterbugs Advanced (by selection only)
- 5.05 Senior Hip Hop (girls aged 9- 14)

### Tuesday (Flagstaff Fitness - now called Common Ground)

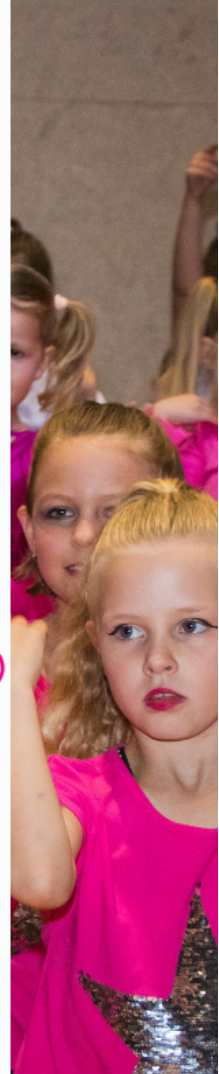
- 3.40 Jitterbugs Junior (girls aged 5 ½ - 7)
- 4.10 Jitterbugs Junior Plus (girls aged 7 - 8)
- 4.40 Jitterbugs Intermediate (girls 8 - 14)

### Wednesday (Flagstaff Fitness - now called Common Ground)

- 3.30 Jitterbugs Mini's (girls aged 3 - 5½)
- 4.00 Jitterbugs Junior (girls aged 5 ½ - 7)
- 4.30 Jitterbugs Intermediate (girls 8 - 14)

LESSONS START 7 FEB 2023 (MONDAY SESSIONS START 13TH FEB)

Every term the kids learn two dances and get to go on stage and present these to friends and family at a show. Outfits/t-shirts are provided for the show. Cost: \$120 for one kid, or \$230 for two kids  
Email jolie at [jitterbugsdancelessons@outlook.com](mailto:jitterbugsdancelessons@outlook.com) or check out the [jitterbugs dance lessons facebook page](#) or [website](#) for more info





DECEMBER 2022  
JANUARY 2023

# HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

AT WAIKATO



CONTACT

**KIM & MARK INNES**

WAIKATO@KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ

**07 839 9017**

BOOK ONLINE AT

 **KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ**