

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

*** IMPORTANT NOTICE ***

WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH, 2023

SCHOOL CLOSURES AT 12.30pm

TEACHERS UNION MEETING

On Wednesday 1st March, Teachers have a Union Meeting which they are required to attend if they are part of the Teachers Union.

Due to the large number of staff involved in this meeting we will not be able to operate as usual. Therefore, children will **need to be collected at 12.30pm** on this day.

After School Care will be available for those children who are normally enrolled from 12.30pm until 5.30pm.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Most of Hamilton's Primary and Intermediate schools are taking this action. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me on (07) 853-0039



Anne Fraser (on behalf of Te Totara Primary School Board)

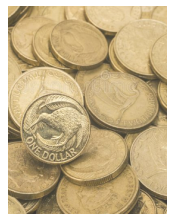
TE TOTARA MUFTI DAY - FRIDAY 3RD MARCH

Te Totara will be holding a **Mufti Day next week on Friday 3rd March** to help support the flood victims from Cyclone Gabrielle. We feel that it is important to show our children how we can support our wider communities, families and friends in their time of need.

Children can come to school wearing Mufti clothing (*no school uniform*) and **donate a gold coin**; there will be Student Leaders positioned at the front gate, Orion gate and near the bike racks from 8.30am to collect your donation. **We encourage our children to wear red and white, which are the Red Cross colours, if they have it. Please do not go out and buy new clothing for this event, what you have at home will be perfect.**

All donations will go to the New Zealand Red Cross who will distribute funds to help victims of Cyclone Gabrielle.

If you would like to read more about the work that the Red Cross does, please go to www.redcross.org.nz



Thank you for your support.

TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

Casual Vacancy for a Parent Representative

A casual vacancy has occurred on the School Board for an elected parent representative.

The Board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection. If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the Board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Any eligible voter who wishes to ask the Board to hold a by-election should be sent to: melissapearlguyan@gmail.com
by: **Friday 24th April, 2023**



Melissa Guyan
Presiding Member (Chairperson)
Te Totara School Board

FAMILY HOLIDAYS TAKEN DURING TERM TIME

We are seeing an increase in families wishing to take their children out of school for a family holiday during term time. A specific "G" Attendance Code was introduced by the Ministry of Education (MOE) to keep track of these "unjustified" absences.

"G" Code Definition as per the MOE: When a student is on a New Zealand or overseas holiday during the school term, the absence is unjustified. A parent's note does not provide justification.

Our school would prefer family holidays to be taken outside of term time, we have approx. 12 weeks of school holidays available each year to do so. Events like a Birthday aren't considered a valid reason for your child/ren being away from school either.

We do appreciate there may be some circumstances beyond the control of families whereby children will need to be away during term time, in this instance simply notifying the teacher/school verbally that your family is going on holiday is not sufficient.

Our school procedure is to email the Principal with the dates your child/ren will be absent from school and the reason why.

Your email will be acknowledged and the Attendance Register will be coded as a "G" during their absence from school. We regularly monitor student absence and report to the Ministry of Education each term. Please consider the effect this has on your child's learning by taking a family holiday during the school term.

There is a Ministry of Education expectation of **90% and above** for regular attendance for each child in New Zealand schools.

Email address for our Principal, Anne Fraser, is: principal@tetotara.school.nz
c.c. officeassistant@tetotara.school.nz (for the Attendance Register)

Does my child have to go to school every day?

Yes, your child must go to school every day. Under the Education Act 1989, parents and carers of school children up to 16 years old can be prosecuted if their child is away from school without a good reason.

Why do they need to go every day?

Going to school every day really is the key to getting the best out of school because:

- It sets up good habits for going to school right from day one

- Learning to read, write and do maths takes a lot of practice and is easier to master if your child goes to school regularly
- Each day is a chance to learn something new
- School offers your child regular, dedicated help to master the many skills they need
- It teaches your child life skills like commitment, being reliable, having a good work ethic and sticking with things when they get hard.

For more information on attendance at school, please click on the following link: [Education.govt.nz website](https://www.education.govt.nz)

SCHOOL PARKING EXPECTATIONS

NO PARKING ON/OVER FOOTPATHS

Please.... No parking on or over the grass or footpaths at all. Several cars were seen parking over the footpaths at our recent Meet the Teacher event, mainly on Hector Drive right in front of our school, blocking access for all pedestrians. This is a very serious health and safety risk so please show consideration for others when parking.



NO PARKING IN DISABLED PARKING SPACES

Just a reminder a mobility car park space is a specially designated car parking space for disabled people. You must have a mobility card to use a mobility park. Please DO NOT park in these car parks unless you have a mobility card.

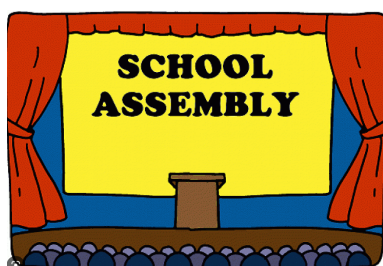
SIBLING OUT-OF-ZONE ENROLMENTS FOR 2023

Enrolment Period of 1st July, 2023 - 15th December, 2023

The Board is looking to accommodate, if possible, younger siblings and children of staff in the 2023 school year. To help determine this, we urgently need to have OUTZ Enrolment Forms into the School Office to help with this process. Please complete a form for each child, which is available online from our school website by clicking on the following link: www.tetotara.school.nz or by visiting the School Office.

The Board will look at the number of enrolments, the level of projected student growth and determine how many spaces for out-of-zone students are available for the upcoming enrolment period of **1st July 2023 - 15th December, 2023**. This will be completed early May, allowing for lots of time for families to know what is happening. Further information around the number of out-of-zone spaces to be released will be communicated via the school newsletter over the next few weeks.

Please return the completed OUTZ Enrolment Form, including the relevant documentation, to the School Office by Thursday 16th March, 2023.



SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's assembly will be held on **24 February in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm**. Students from **Matawhero, Ra & Marama Pods** will attend assembly and **Marama 13** will be sharing. Families from this classroom will be invited to attend via their classroom teacher.

LOCKING OF BIKES AND SCOOTERS

Recently, we have had a few families advise us that their child's scooter or bike has been taken or stolen.

We do have security cameras scattered throughout the school however, our best advice is to **PLEASE LOCK YOUR CHILD'S BIKE OR SCOOTER.**

If your child intends to play on the playground after school for a short time, please ask them to go and get their bike/scooter first and have it with them.

We would expect that all of our children who are not enrolled at After School Care would have left the school premises by 3.15pm.



2023 FEES & DONATIONS PAID VIA KINDO

Fees have now been loaded onto KINDO for 2023. 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** (added to your KINDO account when your child's class is swimming)
- **Voluntary School Donation** (\$120.00 first/only child / \$60.00 each sibling)
- **Mathletics/Mathseeds \$20.00**
- **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.

kindo.
The online one stop school shop



Voluntary School Donation - what is it used for?

We want to provide our children with the full benefits of extensive resources, additional learning programmes and special opportunities that we can all be very proud of. This can only be achieved with your help and support.

School Donation funds are used to purchase additional sports gear, reading resources, library books, music, art equipment and helps subsidise our swimming programme.

The voluntary school donations are currently set at \$120.00 for the first or only child and \$60.00 for the second and subsequent children. There has been no increase in our school donation since 2016.

School donations are voluntary, but we would be highly appreciative of any payments.

This donation is tax deductible and a 1/3 can be claimed back from the IRD. The IR526 form is downloadable from the IRD website.

Mathletics or Mathseeds

Mathletics is a web-based programme that can be adapted to meet student's individual abilities. Mathletics provides instant feedback on each student's performance which helps to maintain a high level of student motivation. We have been impressed with how engaged the students are and how quickly they start to improve their mathematical skills and mental arithmetic.

It can be beneficial in the earlier years for an adult to sit with their child while on the programme. Although this is a great way for parents to engage with their child's Maths learning, we realise that this is not always possible for busy families.



This programme has been so successful in previous years and we are excited to be able to provide you with a subscription to Mathletics for **\$20.00 per child** for a year (*usually a one-year subscription costs \$99 per child*). Subscribing to Mathletics will entitle students to 24-hour web access both at home and in school. A User ID and Password will be distributed to your child by the classroom teacher shortly after they start at Te Totara Primary School.

Aquatics

On our school website www.tetotara.school.nz you will find Swimming Pool information. The fees are currently \$60.00 per student per year.



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 illustrate their individual progress.
- Track all students' achievements through the National database.

We would like to thank our families for your continued support, it is very much appreciated.

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



Touch

Pacers: Sam McCosh & Taimania Greenwood

DATES COMING UP

Fri 24 Feb	PTA Ice Block Day - \$2.00 per ice block
Wed 1 March	Teachers Union Meeting - SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12.30PM
Fri 3 March	Muffi Day (no school uniform) GOLD COIN DONATION for Red Cross to support victims of Cyclone Gabrielle
Wed 15 March	PTA Meeting in Staff Lounge at 7.30pm (all welcome)
Thurs 16 March	Cluster Swimming Sports
Fri 17 March	Ice Block Day
Wed 22 March	Learning Plan Discussions
Thurs 23 March	Learning Plan Discussions
Thurs 30 March	Board of Trustees Meeting at 6.30pm
Thurs 6 April	3.00pm END OF TERM 1, 2023
Mon 24 April	TERM 2 BEGINS



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



ICE BLOCK DAY

To celebrate the start of the year the PTA will be selling Ice Blocks at school. We hope to see many smiling faces coming to buy an Ice Block.

Thank you to the parents that have volunteered. We appreciate your support.

DATE: Friday 24th February, 2023
TIME: After eating for learning
COST: \$2.00 per Ice Block
FLAVOUR: Lemonade only
WHERE: Outside Matariki Hall



ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP

Entertainment Membership have a serious case of flash fever and for a limited time only are offering you 4 months free when you purchase a 12 or 24 month single or multiple city membership. Be quick as this offer will be gone in a Flash! Starts 6pm, 23rd February and runs until Midday, 25th February 2023.

SINGLE CITY

12 months + 4 months FREE = \$69.99 (works out at just \$4.37 per month)

24 month + 4 months FREE = \$119.99 (works out at just \$7.49 per month)

MULTI CITY

12 MONTHS + 4 MONTHS free = \$119.99 (works out at \$7.49 per month)

24 MONTHS + 4 MONTHS free - \$229.99 (works out at just \$14.37 per month)



If you use the link below to make your purchase you will be supporting Te Totara PTA as 20% of the purchase price will be donated back to us. We thank you for your continued support.

<https://subscribe.entertainmentnz.com/fundraiser/15502m5>

PTA MEETING

We invite all parents and caregivers of Te Totara students to join us for our next PTA meeting. This is an opportunity to meet new people and get involved in the activities we host.

We will meet in the Staff Lounge (turn right when entering Matariki) on Wednesday 15th March at 7:30pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ice Block Day – Friday 24 February

PTA Meeting - Wednesday 15 March

Ice Block Day - Friday 17 March

Your PTA Committee: Kerri, 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.**

Register today for
**Football
2023**



**We offer Community Play 4–8 years,
First Kicks 5–6 years, Juniors 7–14,
Youth 13–15 and Seniors 16+.**

**Early bird discount applies till the 28th Feb
Registrations close 12th March**

For more information or to register
check out our website
www.northernunitedfootball.co.nz



*Build a new home in Rototuna Village
with us...*

**AND WE WILL DONATE \$5,000
TO TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*T&Cs APPLY



Contact Stacey to learn more
027 225 0405
staceys@generation.co.nz

Please make sure that you mention a connection to Te Totara Primary School so that the \$5,000 donation from Generation Homes can be allocated to our school. This offer is open to all Te Totara friends, staff, parents, grandparents etc. Thank you for your support.

WAIKATO BOP SCHOOLS XC MTB CHAMPS 2023

**Sponsored by Ebbett VW
Wednesday the 15th March held at
Te Miro MTB Park.**

**Track suitable for all abilities.
Open to year 5 to year 13's.
Enter through your School
by the 6th March.**

**Food and drink available
please bring cash.**

**Email temiromtbclub@gmail.com
or send a message
through fb with any queries.**