

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)

JUNIOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION - YEARS 1&2

"How Does Your Garden Groove?"

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY 15TH MAY
THROUGH KINDO ONLY

Cut-off date is Thursday 15th June
at 3.00pm

Tuesday 20th June 2023 @ 2.00pm & 6.00pm

Both performances by: Orion 7 & 9, Matawhero 4 & 5 and
Neptune 25 & 27

Wednesday 21st June, 2023 @ 2.00pm & 6.00pm

Both performances by: Orion 8 & 10 and Neptune 24, 26 & 28



ALL TICKETS ARE \$6.00 EACH

Children 3 years old and under are **FREE**, provided they are sitting on the knee of a paying adult ticket. Otherwise, you must purchase a separate ticket for them.

kindo.
The online one stop school shop

Limited to 300 tickets each performance. Sorry, **NO** door sales on the night.



PINK SHIRT DAY (MUFTI DAY) - FRIDAY 19TH MAY

Celebrated annually around the globe, **Pink Shirt Day** began in Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against bullying, after another student was bullied for wearing a pink shirt. In Aotearoa, **Pink Shirt Day** aims to create schools, workplaces and communities where all people feel safe, valued and respected.

Our school will be supporting **Pink Shirt Day** on Friday next week. Students are welcome to come to school wearing mufti clothing (**not school uniform**) wearing something pink e.g. t-shirt, ribbon or something similar to support **Pink Shirt Day**.

Please note: There will be **NO** collection of money for this day.

More information about "**Pink Shirt Day**" can be found at www.pinkshirtday.org.nz **Pink Shirt Day** is led by the Mental Health Foundation.



Principal's Message

Please read the important message below regarding school attendance. You may have seen in the media recently the major concern about school attendance which has been dropping since 2015 (well before Covid). It would be easy to think that this is an issue for other schools however, we do have attendance concerns and have set goals for improvement in our Strategic Planning as well.

Achievement success at school depends on regular school attendance so the learning is consistent and targeted to the needs of your children.



WHAT DOES REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL MEAN?

Being at school everyday matters. The more knowledge ākonga (learners) get at school, the more choices they will have when they leave.

Those missing school more frequently are likely to have bigger gaps in their learning which is why it is important to know how often individual students miss school. To do this, schools are required to provide attendance data to the Ministry of Education which is analysed each term, each student is allocated to one of four attendance categories:

- **Regular attendance: students with over 90% attendance**
(missing fewer than five days of school in a standard 10-week term)
- **Irregular absence: students with more than 80% and up to 90% attendance**
(students missing 5 – 9 1/2 days of a standard term)
- **Moderate absence: students with more than 70% and up to 80% attendance**
(missing 10 – 14 1/2 days of school in a term)
- **Chronic absence: students 70% attendance or less**
(missing 15 days or more of school in a term)

These categories tell us how often students are attending school each term, and how many are missing school frequently, but provide no information on why they do not attend.

There is a Ministry of Education expectation of **90% and above** for “regular attendance” for **each child** in New Zealand schools. Only **67.2 %** of our school community currently reach that expectation. We receive reports on our attendance rates, these are analysed for trends. In our Annual Plan for 2023 (available on our website) we have Attendance Goals set to lift attendance each year 2023 - 2025.

FAMILY HOLIDAYS TAKEN DURING TERM TIME

We have noticed a trend of parent condoned holidays taken during the school term. **Please consider the effect this has on your child's learning by taking holidays at this time.**

In general terms the Ministry of Education expects families to schedule holidays during the approved school holiday breaks.

We have approximately 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. This code is one of the codes classified by the Ministry of Education as an '**unjustified absence.**' We regularly monitor student absence and report to the Ministry of Education weekly and at the end of each term.

Email address for our Principal, Anne Fraser, is: principal@tetotara.school.nz

c.c. officeassistant@tetotara.school.nz (for the Attendance Register)

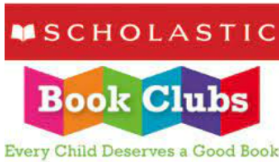
Does my child have to go to school every day?

Yes, your child must go to school every day. Under the Education Act 2020, 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.

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

Thank you for your attention to this.

Anne



REMINDER!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDER CLOSING TOMORROW FRIDAY 12TH MAY

The Scholastic Book Club orders close at **9.15am on Friday 12th May, 2023.**

Please Note: We DO NOT ACCEPT CASH at all. This means you will have three options to order your scholastic books:

1. **Through the Scholastic Book Club website - [scholastic.co.nz/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.co.nz/LOOP)**
2. **Through the Scholastic LOOP app**
3. **In person using EFTPOS at the school office.**

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOOL KIDS LIT QUIZ TEAM

Congratulations to our two Kids' Lit Quiz teams who came 1st and 4th out of all the Year 5/6 teams in the Waikato heat of the Kids' Lit Quiz. The Kids' Lit Quiz is a literary quiz that is open to students in Years 5, 6, 7 & 8. The competition is designed to be huge fun, offer reading challenges and broaden literary horizons.

Our teams, their reserves, and the wider Kids' Lit Quiz squad all showed their love of reading and competitive spirit as they practised for the competition. We are very proud of all of them.



PLEASE PACK A SPARE CHANGE OF UNIFORM IN YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL BAG

Due to the wild wet weather we have been experiencing recently, the School Office is seeing lots of students coming in with wet uniforms after slipping or playing outside in the wet grass. The Office has a very limited amount of spare uniforms for emergencies which we lend out, but our supply is dwindling fast. **Can you please ensure your child has spare clothing in their bags for such wet weather emergencies.** Also if your child comes home in the School's spare clothing, can you please ensure that it is returned to the School Office washed. Thank you for your understanding.

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORMS



School office
\$10.00 per item - EFTPOS ONLY
Beanies \$5.00

Just a reminder we have a small supply of pre-loved winter jackets, shirts, skorts, shorts and beanies for sale in the School Office.

We have quite a few smaller sizes in stock at the moment - Size 4, 6 and 8, but also some bigger sizes are available.



SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This week's and next week's assembly will be held **in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm on Friday, 12 May 2023.** This week students from **Matawhero, Ra and Marama Pods** will attend assembly and **Ra 33** will be sharing. Families from this classroom will be invited to attend via their classroom teacher.

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

Hockey

Blue Sticks
Lions
Red Sticks
Strikers

Bhanvika Jetti
Isabelle Stevens
Ivy Zhang
Luke Van Zyl

Netball

Te Totara Ferns
Rockets
Invaders

Phoenix Gothorp
Evie Bourne
Florence Johnston

Miniball

Te Totara Ballers
Tigers

Ethan Sun
Paige Van Zyl



DATES COMING UP

Fri 19 May	Pink Shirt Day - Muffi Day (no money collection)
Thurs 25 May	Board Meeting at 6.30pm
Fri 2 June	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 5 June	King's Birthday Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Wed 14 June	PTA AGM & Meeting @ 7.00pm
Tues 20 June	Junior School Production - "How Does Your Garden Groove" <i>Performances at 2.00pm & 6.00pm (Tickets on sale 15th May via KINDO))</i>
Wed 21 June	Junior School Production - "How Does Your Garden Groove" <i>Performances at 2.00pm & 6.00pm (Tickets on sale 15th May via KINDO))</i>
Thurs 29 June	Board Meeting at 6.30pm
Fri 30 June	END OF TERM 2, 2023
Mon 17 July	TERM 3 BEGINS



ROTOTUNA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Open Evening

(For 2024 Enrolments)

Tuesday 9 May

Wednesday 31 May

6:15pm - welcome and overview

6:30pm - tour the school / experience RJHS

Meet in Te Rangimāreikura (large theatre)

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



THE PTA AGM MEETING DATE SET

The PTA Meeting date has been set so book out your calendar now as it would be great to meet you!

When: Wednesday 14 th June 2023
Time: 7:00pm to be followed by a general PTA Meeting
Where: Staff Lounge (turn right as you enter into Matariki Hall)
Who's invited: Anyone who is a parent or caregiver of a child who attends Te Totara Primary School.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE AGM?

The AGM is where the Committee decides who will be on the Executive Team for the following year (Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Communications Officer). The PTA is on the lookout for a new Communications Officer this year coming year and other people who are keen to help out when required. If you would like to put your name forward or would like further information on the Comms position please email the PTA at pta@tetotara.school.nz.

WHAT IS THE PTA?

PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association. It's a group of parents and families associated with Te Totara whose aim it is to bring the school children and school community together, to fundraise and coordinate fun activities for the children and community.

I'D LIKE TO JOIN THE PTA BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME?

We hear this a lot from people. The PTA isn't as much of a time commitment as you think. Meetings are approximately 1 hour long and are held roughly 8 times a year. A bit more time is required for event planning, but the events we are likely to hold over the next year will be smaller and won't need large amounts of planning time.

WANT TO SEE YOUR FRIENDS ON A REGULAR BASIS?

Join the PTA with another school parent and you will be able to catch up with them on a more regular basis while organising fun and exciting fundraising activities for our school community.

WHAT DOES THE PTA DO?

- Does your child like having a dry space to play in like the Galaxy on a wet day? They do. The PTA contributed funds when the artificial grass courts were covered.
- Does your child like the playground by Matariki? Great. The PTA fundraised to provide this and also the shade sail overhead.
- Do you like seeing the new memorial garden between the Staff Lounge and Orion block? Wonderful. The PTA provided the funds to the School to enable this to be developed.
- Has your child played with the Lego Spike Education sets in their class? They have - awesome! The money they raised in the Spellathon in 2021 funded these sets.
- Does your child like the new confidence course on the back field.

DO I NEED ANY SPECIAL SKILLS?

No. The PTA requires a diverse range of skills. Some examples include:

- Organisation and planning skills
- Communication or written skills
- Physical lifting or transporting purchases for events to the school.
- All kinds of skills are welcome and needed to make the PTA successful. This helps share responsibilities and load across more people.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

You can take on an executive role, attend meetings as a committee member or help out at events, such as selling drinks at Disco's.

ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP

Do you want to help your Mum save on the things she loves, if so the good folk at Entertainment Membership are currently running a Mother's Day promotion.

From 8.00pm Monday 1st May to 2.00pm Wednesday 24th May 2023 every 12 month single city of multi city Membership purchased will receive a \$20 Sephora or Farmers eGift card, and every 24 month single city of multi city membership purchased will receive a \$40 Sephora or Farmers eGift card. By clicking on the link below, 20% of the purchase price will be donated back to Te Totara Primary School PTA.



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

PTA AGM	Wednesday 14th June at 7.00pm (Staff Lounge)
PTA Meeting	Wednesday 14th June at 7.30pm (at the conclusion of the AGM)

Your PTA Committee: Kerri, Adelle, Navneet, 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.**



KIDS

Self defence classes
Enrol Now

FIRST LESSON FREE!

TE TOTARA - TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 6-7PM

EMPOWERING OUR KIDS

BOOKINGS 027 497 0499

tkma.co.nz