

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)

** SCHOOL CLOSED **

TUESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY - WAITANGI DAY

A reminder school will be CLOSED for Waitangi Day
We WILL be open on Monday 5th February as normal

Nau mai haere mai Te Totara Whānau. Welcome to the beginning of Term 1, 2024. We warmly welcome all our new students and families to our Te Totara family. I hope you have had a lovely break over the summer holidays with your whānau with the amazing weather we have been having. It has been lovely to see our Tamariki arrive back into school with huge smiles and enthusiasm to get into their classes and connect with their friends and new teacher.

During the holidays our staff have been busy preparing for the school year. We held two Teacher Only Days before school started for the students yesterday. The teachers are all prepped and ready for a fantastic year of learning.

There is a lot of information in this, the first newsletter of the year. Please take the time to read it carefully. Some of it is about important traffic safety routines around our school. Generally traffic flow works very well at Te Totara as long as everyone is aware of the guidelines and follows them. With patience and kindness we can get the school site cleared within about 20 minutes most days. As we have 673 learners on our roll to clear from the site at 3.00pm each day it is a great achievement.

With the retirement of Mrs Fraser at the end of 2023, Mrs Jo Stewart is the Acting Principal for term one. Mrs Maree Lewis is the Acting Deputy Principal with Mrs Caron Ace working as the Assistant Principal.

We look forward to having a wonderful year of '**Growing and Learning Together**' in 2024.

Ngaa mihi

Jo Stewart - Acting Principal

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY, 2024 (WEEK 2)



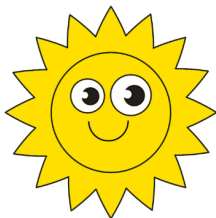
We are very keen to continue to have close links between home and school, so we have arranged for a Meet the Teacher session for families, a great way to stay really connected with the school.

5.30pm - 6.00pm Matawhero, Orion & Neptune families meet with their Teacher
6.00pm - 6.30pm Ra & Earth families meet with their Teacher
6.30pm - 7.00pm Marama & Milky Way families meet with their Teacher

The different timings above allows those of you, with children in different year levels of the school, to get to each of the presentations relating to your children.

Please Note: Students are not required to attend "Meet the Teacher Evening" however, they are most welcome to play on the playground while they wait for you.

HOT DAY PROTOCOL



When we have very hot weather we operate a Hot Day Protocol at school. Usually our children go outside during the breaks to play with friends and enjoy the benefits of being active. We recognise that with the very hot weather this can pose some risks, especially around dehydration and heat related concerns. So on very hot days we will be having an indoor option for the children to use at break times, typically anything over 25 degrees in the forecast will trigger the Hot Day Protocol. We are fortunate that all our inside areas (*apart from the Matariki Hall*) are air conditioned so it allows for optimum learning and teaching conditions.

SUN SAFETY

During the summer (Terms 1 & 4), all pupils are encouraged to put on sunscreen at home before school and **MUST** wear a named regulation school hat while outside.

Our Sun Sense Policy is: No hat – play in the shade



SWIMMING - TERM 1, 2024

Our Swimming Pool is all set for the season starting today, 1st February with the Year 2 students in Rooms 24 & 25. Our swimming instructor from Kelly Sports is really looking forward to seeing the children and helping them with their swimming skills. Looking at the statistics of swimming rescues this year has certainly shown the value of having our swimming programme up and running for our Tamariki.

The Year 0-2's are split into 6 groups for 10 lots of 20 minute lessons. The Year 3-6's will be in 4 groups and will have 10 lots of 35 minute lessons. The timetable for the year can be viewed on our website or by clicking this link: [2024 Swimming Timetable](#)



Your classroom teacher will let you know via Seesaw when it is your child's swimming block. Please make sure all their towels, togs, swimming bag and school uniform are clearly named so items can be returned to the owner quickly.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child will be away from school then please let us know by either:

- School App (**our preferred option**)
- Phoning the school on **(07) 853-0039**
- Texting the School Office on 027 207-4466 with name, details and reason for absence. Please note that we do not send a reply to text messages.

We would appreciate any absence messages **before 9.00am.**

Please remember to update your child's classroom number for 2024 - Thank you



SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS RECOMMENCE NEXT WEEK

Our school lunch service will commence **Monday 7th February, 2024.**

All orders are placed through **KINDO** by [clicking here!](#) Simple and easy!

You can order (or cancel) by 9.00am on the day of delivery or schedule in advance. Your lunch will be delivered to the school in time for lunch. Our caterers are:



Monday, Thursday & Friday	Tuesday & Wednesday

Click [here](#) to view the sample menus for both Subway and Feedzone (Fastlane Fitness). **ezlunch orders are made online through your myKindo account.**

One account for the whole family! Get started now and be ready... visit www.mykindo.co.nz to start ordering!

WIN A VOUCHER!

Order **ezlunch** for delivery dates 12 – 23 February to enter the draw!

Every order goes in the draw for a chance to win. Three chances per order. Winners will be drawn on Friday 23 February 2024 and will be notified by phone or email. No correspondence will be entered into.

Visit ezlunch.co.nz to order.

\$50

to do something you love

2024 FEES & DONATIONS PAID VIA 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.

Fees for 2024 will be loaded to student accounts next week.

Please Note: Aquatics will be charged after your child's class has had their lessons.

- **Touch Rugby (Years 1-6) Term 1, 2024**
Registrations close at 3.00pm Thursday 8th February, 2024
- **2024 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.



Registering for KINDO using our School App

Go to the App store on your Apple or Android device and search “School Apps NZ” to download the App to your phone or tablet and then add “Te Totara”.

From our school app, click the “Fees & Donations” icon (bottom right) and register for KINDO by entering the email address that the school has on file for you - it's that easy!



Registering for KINDO using our School Website

Visit our School Website at www.tetotara.school.nz and select the “Fees & Donations” tab from the red “Quick Links”. This will take you through to the KINDO Login screen where you can register using the email address that the school has on file for you..

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

Questions? If you need help, just pop in and see us at the School Office OR give us a call on (07) 853-0039 OR call the [KINDO HELPDESK on 0508 454636 \(toll free\)](tel:0508454636).

2024 YEAR 5&6 SCHOOL CAMP

School Camp is payable **through KINDO ONLY**. If you are not registered for KINDO, please refer to our school website www.tetotara.school.nz and follow the instructions in the red quick link tab labelled “Fees & Donations” OR access KINDO through our School App.

Please do not pay for School Camp through internet banking OR send any money to the school.

\$180.00 full payment OR pay in smaller installments through KINDO.

2024 Camp fees are now loaded on KINDO.



kindo.
The online one stop school shop

There is also a “**Pay it Forward**” option to contribute towards the Camp Fees of other students whose families are experiencing financial hardship. You can contribute \$10.00, \$20.00 or even \$50.00 if you wish. This option will be available to our wider school community as well. *Thank you for your kindness, it is very much appreciated!*

The **MARAMA** Team will be at Camp from **Monday 12th February to Wednesday 14th February, 2024.**

The **MILKY WAY** Team will be at Camp from **Wednesday 14th February to Friday 16th February, 2024.**

MATHSEEDS (Yrs 1-2) & MATHLETICS (Yrs 3-6) TO HELP LEARNING

Teachers are encouraging their students with this interactive computer programme as it helps with important maths skills; you will also find teachers using it in their daily maths programmes.

We have been so impressed with how motivated the children have been producing excellent results. Shortly, we will be invoicing families \$20.00 per student to join Mathletics for 2024. Please pay this fee by KINDO. Fees will be loaded within the next few weeks.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

We have an optional ‘Bring Your Own Device’ procedure at school for Year 3-6 students only. We have very clear protocols around this which need to be adhered to. The Team Leaders and Teachers will outline these to families in this area of the school as part of their Meet the Teacher presentations on Seesaw. We will have the BYO iPad Agreement Forms available at this time. Check our website as well around this.

<http://www.tetotara.school.nz/77/pages/87-bring-your-own-device-faqs>

FINDING OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING

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

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

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

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/>

Library Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063546728535>



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

CHANGE OF DETAILS/ADDRESS

Just a little reminder that if you have changed any of your details i.e. phone, address, email etc; to please advise the School Office so we can update your records accordingly.

We encourage our families to check your contact details are correct through the parent portal at www.atschool.co.nz using the User ID and Passwords that were emailed to you in December 2023.



SCHOOL HOURS

Just a reminder that school starts at **8.55am sharp** and it is important for children to be here at that time. We appreciate your efforts however; if for any reason you do arrive late (after 8.55am) please report to the School Office where a "Late Card" will be issued to your child before heading to your learning area. School finishes at 3.00pm.

EARLY ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL BEFORE 8.15AM

Children are welcome to arrive at school from **8.15am onwards**. The school gates are closed until 8.15am each day. Teachers have planning to do before school in their classrooms and are unavailable to supervise any students arriving before 8.15am. We offer a Before School Care facility; Enrolment Forms are available from the School Office or via our School website www.tetotara.school.nz

LATE ARRIVALS (AFTER 8.55AM)

We ask parents to ensure their children arrive at school with at least five minutes to spare, for them to organise themselves by hanging up their school bag and sorting their book bag independently. We understand there may be rare occasions where your child arrives late at school (after 8.55am). We require families to report to the School Office for your child to be issued a Late Card prior to heading to their learning areas. **We appreciate your effort in ensuring your child/ren arrive at school in good time before the first bell at 8.55am.**



PROCEDURE WHEN STUDENTS ARE AWAY DUE TO FAMILY HOLIDAY ETC

From time to time families wish to take their children out of school for various events not related to illness. Simply notifying the teacher/school verbally is not sufficient.

The correct procedure is to write or email Jo Stewart (Acting Principal) at jos@tetotara.school.nz and cc. officeassistant@tetotara.school.nz in order to follow the Education Act.



ALLERGIES/MEDICAL CONDITIONS

In the event of a medical emergency, if your child has a medical condition, is taking regular medicine/tablets or has an allergy (including sticking plasters etc), please advise the School Office (if you haven't already), so we can amend your records accordingly.

We also have several children in school with allergies and we have procedures in place to keep these children safe, including not sharing food/drink, washing tables, and hand washing before and after eating. Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

APPOINTMENTS AT SCHOOL

We love to see families at school and appreciate the home and school partnership. However, we are finding that we have a number of "cold callers" arriving and expecting to see either a leadership person or a teacher. This can pose problems as we often have commitments elsewhere and can't do justice to any queries that you may have. We certainly don't want to stop the great communication in place, but would appreciate either a phone call or email so that we can make an appointment to give you the time needed to sort out any queries. This phone call or email will need to be done a day or two prior to the appointment.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE - 2024 BOOKINGS OPEN

Bookings for 2024 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 2024 bookings. Please feel free to contact Katrina on 027 8530032 or afterschoolcare@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.

PART-TIME SCHOOL CARETAKER VACANCY

We are looking for a reliable and energetic person to work as a Part-time Caretaker to support our current Caretaker with his duties.

Approximately 10-15 hours per week (*negotiable*) but must have flexibility to cover leave or the odd day when our Caretaker is away from school.

The successful applicant will require a clean police record, excellent health, flexibility and a willingness to learn and have basic handyman skills to carry out repairs and maintenance. It is important the school is maintained as a clean, safe and secure environment.

Please contact Kylie Cocurullo by email: kyliec@tetotara.school.nz in the first instance for further information.

2024 School Term Dates

Term 1 (Note: Teacher Only Days 25th & 26th January, 2024 - No school)

Wednesday 31st January - Friday 12th April (11 weeks)

Public Holidays (no school):

Tuesday 6th February (Waitangi Day)

Friday 29th March (Good Friday)

Monday 1st April (Easter Monday)

Tuesday 2nd April (Easter Tuesday)

Term 2 Monday 29th April – Friday 5th July (10 weeks)

Friday 31st May - Teacher Only Day (no school)

Monday 3rd June - King's Birthday Public Holiday (no school)

Friday 28th June - Matariki Public Holiday (no school)

Term 3 Monday 22nd July – Friday 27th September (10 weeks)

Monday 26th August - Our Mid-Term Break (no school)

Term 4 Monday 14th October – Tuesday 17th December (10 weeks)

Friday 25th October - Teacher Only Day (no school)

Monday 28th October (Labour Day) (no school)



DATES COMING UP

Wed 31 Jan

TERM 1, 2024 Students began school at 8.55am

Tues 6 Feb

Waitangi Day Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

Wed 7 Feb

Meet the Teacher

Tues 20 Feb

Board Meeting at 6.30pm

Wed 21 Feb

PTA Meeting at 7.30pm in Staff Lounge

Fri 23 Feb

Ice Block Day

Wed 28 Feb

Routine Vision & Hearing Checks by WaiKids

Fri 8 March

Ice Block Day

Fri 29 March

GOOD FRIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

Mon 1 April

EASTER MONDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

Tues 2 April

EASTER TUESDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

Fri 5 April

School Disco

Fri 12 April

END OF TERM 1, 2024

Mon 29 April

TERM 2 BEGINS

ICE BLOCK DAY



\$2 EACH

**LEMONADE ICE BLOCKS FOR SALE
AFTER EATING FOR LEARNING
OUTSIDE MATARIKI**

FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

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



WELCOME BACK

Wow it's hard to believe the Summer holidays are over and our children have already had their first day back at school. The PTA hopes everyone had a great time relaxing and enjoy the sun with their family and friends.

The PTA will be organising more fun events for our tamariki and school whanau so please keep an eye on this newsletter, or our Facebook page to find out when and where these are happening so you don't miss out.

First up in Term 1 we have 2x Ice Block Days planned; the first being held on Friday 23rd February and the second a fortnight later on Friday 8th March. After these we begin to prepare for a School Disco on Friday 5th April. Gosh Term 1 is going to be over before we know it!

PTA MEETING

We have our first PTA meeting on Wednesday 21st February at 7:30pm in the Staff Lounge at school, (Turn right as you come in the main doors of Matariki).

All parents and caregivers of students of Te Totara Primary School are welcome to attend. It would be great to meet a few more parents who are willing to help the PTA during the year. We hope to see you there.

ICE BLOCK DAY

Our first ice block day will be held after Eating for Learning on Friday 23rd February, 2024.

We need at least 3x parent/caregivers to come along and assist the PTA with this. This involves taking cash, counting it and supplying ice blocks to the students. If you are able to give up an hour of your day from 12:15pm, please email the PTA on pta@tetotara.school.nz

ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP

An Entertainment Membership is an easy-to-use App packed full of incredible savings of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers, so you can save on takeaways, dining, shopping, gift cards, activities and more.

Throughout the year various promotions are run, so if you are looking for a great deal keep an eye on this newsletter or click on the link below:

Currently, until **2:00pm, Thursday 29th February 2024** you will receive **a bonus Membership extension** based on your chosen Membership. (Please note, 3-month Memberships are excluded from this promotion.)

- If you purchase a **12 or 24 month Single City Membership**, you will **receive an extra two months added on to your chosen Membership.**
- If you purchase a **12 or 24 month Multi City Membership**, you will **receive an extra four months added on to your chosen Membership.**

By using the link below, 20% of every membership purchased is donated back to support the Te Totara Primary School PTA <https://subscribe.entertainmentnz.com/fundraiser/15502m5>. We thank you for your continued support.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 21st February – PTA Meeting

Friday 23rd February – Ice Block Day

Friday 8th March – Ice Block Day

Friday 5th April – School Disco

Your PTA Committee: Kerri, Adelle, Navreet, Kerry and Garima

ICE BLOCK DAY 



\$2 EACH

**LEMONADE ICE BLOCKS FOR SALE
AFTER EATING FOR LEARNING
OUTSIDE MATARIKI**

FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

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.**



LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP FOR TERM 1 2024

Jitterbugs

DANCE LESSONS

Monday (Rototuna Junior High School Dance Studio)

- 3.40 Jitterbugs Seniors (by selection only) **FULL**
- 4.10 MiniJam (girls & boys aged 3 - 5½) **1 Space**
- 4.35 Senior Hip Hop (girls aged 9-15) **7 Spaces**
- 5.05 Jitterbugs Advanced (by selection only)

Tuesday (Common Ground Gym in Flagstaff)

- 3.40 Jitterbugs Junior (girls aged 5½ - 7) **6 Spaces**
- 4.10 Jitterbugs Junior Plus (girls aged 7 - 8) **1 Space**
- 4.40 Jitterbugs Intermediate (girls aged 8 - 15) **FULL**

Wednesday (Common Ground Gym in Flagstaff)

- 3.30 Jitterbugs Mini's (girls aged 3 - 5½) **4 Spaces**
- 4.00 Jitterbugs Junior/Jitterjam (girls & Boys 5½ - 7) **1 Space**
- 4.30 Jitterbugs Intermediate (girls aged 8 - 15) **5 Spaces**

ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN FOR TERM 1 2024

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: \$125 for one kid, or \$240 for two kids
Email jolie at jitterbugsdancelessons@outlook.com or check out the jitterbugs dance lessons facebook page or website for more info



WAIKATO BOP SCHOOLS XC MTB CHAMPS 2024

Sponsored by Evans Doyle Accounts + Advisors

Track suitable for all abilities - Open from Year 5 - Year 13
Enter through your school by Tuesday 5th March
NEW FOR THIS YEAR - TEAM RELAYS

Thursday 14 March
Te Miro MTB Park

Please email
temiromtbevents@gmail.com
for any queries

Food and drink available - please bring cash



For more information, please read the Event Manual on the Te Miro MTB Club website

Te Miro Twister XC Mountain Bike Race



3rd March 2024

Choose from the below

- 2.5km Suitable for Littlies or Beginners (2 or 4 Laps will finish after 45 minutes)
- 7km, 14km, 21km or 42kms (Approximately)
- E-Bike Classes Available in 21 and 42kms

Plenty of Awesome Spot Prizes
Sausage Sizzle and Drinks for Sale
No Eftpos Available Please Bring Cash

For more information and course maps go to:

temiromtclub.co.nz

Any queries email: temiromtbevents@gmail.com

Registration opens 25th January

Click on the below link to register

<https://www.webscorer.com/register?pid=1&raceid=338828>

