

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), Salām (Muslim)

### Kia ora Te Totara Whānau,

It is Week 5 already and we are almost half way through the term. Seeing Easter Buns and chocolate in the shops certainly reminds us that we are coming to the end of a glorious summer and the beginning of cooler weather.

This week is **Transport Week** at Te Totara. It is a good time to remind ourselves of the importance of keeping our tamariki safe when they are coming to and leaving from school. Please role model safe actions by using the crossing signals on Hector Drive and Borman Road to cross these roads. It is so important that our tamariki see the right thing to do by the adults around them.

If your child bikes or scooters to school they **must** wear a correctly fitted helmet.

Swimming Trials were held on Wednesday for selecting children to go to the Fairfield Cluster Swimming Sports in a couple of weeks. Thank you Mrs Collins for organising this for our tamariki.



This week also brought the exciting news of our new Principal appointment. You will have received an email about the appointment on Tuesday afternoon. For those who missed this, please see the information below from the Board Presiding Member, Melissa Guyan. We look forward to warmly welcoming James to the Te Totara Whānau later this year.

Have a great week everyone.  
Ngāa mihi

*Jo Stewart - Acting Principal*

## NEW PRINCIPAL OF TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM TERM 3, 2024 - JAMES MURRAY

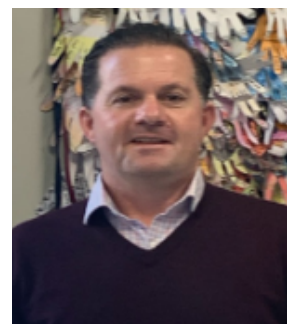
Dear Te Totara Community,

After a robust process that took into consideration community, staff and student survey responses, plus consultation with an experienced advisor, we are pleased to announce that we have offered the role of new Principal to James Murray, and he has accepted.

James is the current principal of St Mary's in Tauranga and will be starting with us in Term 3, 2024. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with him and starts his decision-making with the important question, "What's best for the students?"

The Board is very excited for this next phase in Te Totara's journey where we will continue to see high levels of student achievement and well-being.

We'd like to acknowledge and thank Jo Stewart for agreeing to remain Acting Principal until James is able to start. Thank you for all your hard work so far, Jo, we really value all you are doing for the school.



*Melissa Guyan, Presiding Member, Te Totara School Board*

Here are a few words from James Murray:

*"Although I have always felt at home in the classroom, it is in my position as a Principal where I have been most fulfilled in my life's work. The principalship provides me the chance to work collaboratively with teachers on a daily basis, while also remaining connected to young students learning and rowing in the classroom. I firmly believe that every child can excel and that the partnership between home and school builds confidence in students to use their powers to shape their future and the future of our community.*

*I am committed to always exploring new ways to meet the needs of all students and to more effectively communicate with parents and community members.*

*To our students, I cannot wait to meet you all!*

*In closing, please know that my door is always open. I heartily welcome your conversation and positive input throughout my tenure. Let us always keep our students the primary focus of our work. I*

*look forward to celebrating our collective successes."* **James Murray**

## **LEARNING PLAN DISCUSSION BOOKINGS**

### **BOOKINGS OPEN TOMORROW - FRIDAY 1ST MARCH @ 9.00AM**

#### **School finishes at 2.00pm Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st March, 2024**

Learning Plan Discussions will take place for all students on the above dates, starting at 2.15pm.

We have arranged **15 minute time slots** for the discussion, there will be a change over bell so that everyone is aware of timings. If you have more than one child, you might like to have a break between each interview. To ensure the smooth running of our Learning Plan Discussions, we would be grateful if all our parents/caregivers kept to the timetable. There will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress on:

**Room 7 ONLY- Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th March starting at 3.15pm**

**Rooms 7 & 9 ONLY - Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th March starting at 3.15pm**

**ALL other Rooms - Wednesday 20th March & Thursday 21st March starting at 2.15pm**

#### **Monday 18th March, 2024 (Room 7 only)**

3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm, 5.00pm, 5.15pm & 5.30pm

#### **Tuesday 19th March, 2024 (Rooms 7 & 9 only)**

3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm, 5.00pm, 5.15pm & 5.30pm

#### **Wednesday 20th March, 2024 (ALL ROOMS - Except Room 7)**

2.15pm, 2.30pm, 2.45pm, 3.00pm, 3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm, 5.00pm, 5.15pm & 5.30pm

#### **Thursday 21st March, 2024 (ALL ROOMS - Except Rooms 7 & 9)**

2.15pm, 2.30pm, 2.45pm, 3.00pm, 3.15pm, 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm, 4.15pm, 4.30pm, 4.45pm (teachers break between 5.00pm-5.30pm) 5.30pm, 5.45pm, 6.00pm & 6.15pm

#### **How do I book a time?**

To make an appointment time for your child/ren, please use our online booking system

[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) – our school code is **92rj5**

**Bookings close on Monday 18th March, 2024 @ 3.00pm. Sorry, we will not be able to accept bookings after this date/time.**

**NOTE:**

Your child will be bringing home a **Student Goal Setting Letter** soon to discuss with you. Please complete this with them and return it to their classroom teacher by Friday 15th March, 2024.

We do expect that ALL families will attend the Learning Plan Discussions and that all children attend as well to be part of the discussion and decision making about their learning goals.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

School will finish at 2.00pm both **Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st March for ALL students**. Students will need to be collected at 2.00pm - Thanks.

**TEACHER PAID UNION MEETINGS -SCHOOL REMAINS OPEN**

Under law, teachers can meet to discuss Union matters twice a year for up to two hours. The New Zealand Education Institute (NZEI) has called their first meetings for teachers in the Hamilton area on a couple of dates in March: **Wednesday 20th March** from 9.30am - 10.30am & **Wednesday 27th March, 2024** from 9.30am - 10.30am or 1:30pm-2:30pm. These meetings are just over an hour long so the staff will be back on site for the next time block of the school day.

Our teachers have in past years been very helpful in rostering themselves on different meeting times so that there are at least two teachers in each team at school during the meeting times, ensuring that there is adequate supervision on these days for the children. On these days we will run different learning programmes at these times to help cater for the children. We will be well prepared for this day. Please send your children to school as normal.

The logo for NZEI Te Riuroa, featuring the text "NZEI TE RIU ROA" in white capital letters on a blue rectangular background.**MEASLES****Are you and your whānau protected from measles?**

With people travelling overseas again, there's a risk that someone with measles could unknowingly bring the disease back to Aotearoa.

Measles spreads easily and quickly, usually between people who are unimmunised or only partially immunised. It can be serious and life threatening. In the 2019 measles outbreak in Aotearoa, more than 30% of the people infected had to be admitted to hospital.

The best protection against measles is the free MMR vaccine. It will protect you and your whānau, and prevent the virus from spreading.

You will be protected against measles if you:

- **had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine**
- **had measles before**
- **were born before 1 Jan 1969**

If you're unsure if you or your tamariki have had any or both doses of the MMR vaccine, check by calling your Family Doctor. Alternatively, check your Plunket Well Child Tamariki Ora Book. If you're still not sure, be safe and get immunised – there are no safety concerns with having an extra dose. MMR vaccines are free at your local health provider and many pharmacies.

As measles still occurs in many countries, if you're travelling overseas these holidays it's especially important to be immunised to prevent the risk of being unknowingly infected and causing an outbreak in Aotearoa on your return.

More information about the measles vaccination can be found here:

[Measles vaccination – Ministry of Health](#)

A graphic with the text "PROTECT AGAINST MEASLES" in large, bold, yellow and blue capital letters on a light blue background.

## TE TOTARA CELLPHONE RULE - COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

At Te Totara our approach towards cellphones is "away for the day", meaning the device should be **turned off, and handed in to the teacher to be locked away during the school day.**

We strongly recommend students **do not** bring communication devices to school with them. If a student does bring their cellphone for emergency contact, it **must** be handed to the teacher when they arrive at school to be locked away.



We understand that some parents like their children to have a phone to be in contact with them after school and these can be collected from the classroom teacher at the end of the day. If a parent of caregiver needs to contact their child urgently during the day, they should call the front office 07 853 0039

If students do make the decision to bring a cellphone onto the school grounds, they do so at their own risk. The school is not responsible for any loss or damage caused to any cellphone or communication device.

If we see or know of a student using a personal digital device (including smart watches) without permission during the school day, we will confiscate it. It will be placed in the office to be collected at the end of the day by a parent or guardian.

If you have any questions regarding this rule please contact Jo Stewart: [jos@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:jos@tetotara.school.nz)

## 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 have now been loaded to your child's KINDO account



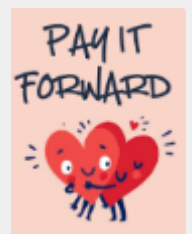
**Please Note: Aquatics will be charged after your child's class has had their lessons.**



- **Fairfield Cluster Swimming (Selected Students ONLY)**
  - Cut-off date for registrations is 3.00pm Thursday 7th March
- **Aquatics** (added to your KINDO account when your child's class is swimming)
- **Voluntary School Donation** (\$120.00 Eldest/only child at school / \$60.00 each sibling)
- **Mathletics/Mathseeds \$20.00**
- **2024 School Camp \$180.00 (Years 5&6 Students only)**

You are able to pay this in installments, just change the amount to pay on KINDO.
- **Pay it Forward - \$10.00, \$20.00 or \$50.00**

Currently, any "pay it forward" monies we receive will go towards the 2024 Year 5&6 School Camp fees for some of our families who may be struggling to cover the entire camp costs



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.**



## **AN UPDATE FROM KINDO REGARDING ONLINE EFT-POS PAYMENTS**

We know the start of the school year is always extremely busy and hope it has gone smoothly for you.

At KINDO, we pride ourselves on offering a diverse array of payment methods to make your transactions as convenient as possible. Our current options include credit/debit cards, bank transfers, POLi, and Online Eftpos.

We want to keep you informed about an important update regarding payment options. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we've encountered a significant increase in costs associated with processing payments through Online Eftpos for high-value transactions. Our goal has always been to provide you with the best possible service without imposing additional fees.

To maintain this commitment, we've made the decision to temporarily suspend the use of Online Eftpos for top up transactions exceeding \$250. This change is effective immediately and will remain in place until we can find a solution that aligns with our values of affordability and convenience for our customers. Please be assured, Online Eftpos will continue to be available for transactions under \$250.

We are actively working with Online Eftpos to address this issue and hope to bring back this option for all transaction sizes in the near future. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate this challenge.

Thank you for your continued trust in KINDO. Should you have any questions or need assistance with alternative payment methods, our Helpdesk Team is here to help. Their details are: **KINDO Helpdesk on 0508 454636 (toll free)**



## **SIBLING OUT-OF-ZONE ENROLMENTS FOR 2024**

### **Enrolment Period of 6th July, 2024 - 17th December, 2024**

The Board is looking to accommodate, if possible, younger siblings and children of staff in the 2024 school year, starting Term 3. To help determine this, we urgently need to have OUTZ Enrolment Forms into the School Office to help with this process. Please complete an Enrolment Form for each child, which is available online from our school website by clicking on the following link: [www.tetotara.school.nz](http://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 **6th July 2024 - 17th December, 2024**. 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 TOMORROW - Friday 1st March, 2024.**

## **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY- MATARIKI HALL**

This week's assembly will be held **in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm on Friday 1st March, 2024**. This week students from **Matawhero, Rā & Marama Pods** will attend the assembly. Rā 32 will be sharing and 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 1.00pm** to [stephy@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:stephy@tetotara.school.nz)



### Touch Rugby

Pacers

Eldric Sun (last week)

Year 5&6 Stormers

## DATES COMING UP

Fri 8 March	Ice Block Day - \$2.00 each
Thurs 14 March	Fairfield Cluster Swimming <i>(Selected Students Only)</i>
Mon 18th March	Learning Plan Discussions - Room 7 only <i>(starting at 3.15pm)</i>
Tues 19th March	Learning Plan Discussions - Rooms 7 & 9 only <i>(starting at 3.15pm)</i>
Wed 20 March	Learning Plan Discussions - <b>SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2.00PM</b>
Thurs 21 March	Learning Plan Discussions - <b>SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2.00PM</b>
Wed 27 March	PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm
Fri 29 March	GOOD FRIDAY - <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Mon 1 April	EASTER MONDAY - <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Tues 2 April	EASTER TUESDAY - <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Fri 5 April	School Disco
Fri 12 April	END OF TERM 1, 2024
Mon 29 April	TERM 2 BEGINS
Tues 7 May	Kids Lit Quiz @ 6.30pm <i>(Selected Students only)</i>

### 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 the 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 have excellent handyman skills to carry out repairs and maintenance around the school. It is important the school is maintained to a high standard.



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

# 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

Our first Ice Block day of the year was held last Friday and even though the weather wasn't as hot as it had been earlier in the week, it was a great success and we sold just over 500 ice blocks. Thank you to all the students who came to support the PTA.

A HUGE thank you to Karlien and Ashlee for your help on the day, we appreciate you giving us your time.

We are holding one more Ice Block Day this term on Friday 8th March and again we need at least 3 helpers. If you are keen to help out, please email the PTA now on [pta@tetotara.school.nz](mailto:pta@tetotara.school.nz) It will only take up an hour of your day from 12:15pm and involves taking cash, counting it and supplying ice blocks to the students.



## 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:

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.

## NEXT PTA MEETING

Our next PTA meeting is Wednesday 27th March at 7:30pm so book this date and time into your calendar now. We meet in the Staff Lounge at school, turn right as you come through the main doors into Matariki.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Ice Block Day
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	School Disco

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

## 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.**

**GLASS CEILING**  
ARTS COLLECTIVE



**Spark LIVE**  
A multisensory theatre Production

23rd March - Whangārei Theatre Company - Whangārei - 11am and 1.30pm  
25th March - The Turner Centre - Kerikeri - 11am and 1.30pm  
26th March - Kaikohe Memorial Hall - 11am and 1.30pm  
27th March - Te ahu - Kaitiaki 0410 - 11am and 1.30pm  
28th March - South Hokianga Memorial Hall - Opononi - 11am and 1.30pm  
30th March - Lighthouse function centre - Dargaville - 11am and 1.30pm  
2nd April - Otamatea Repertory theatre - Maungaturoto - 1pm and 6.30pm  
Get your tickets at [www.humanitix.com](http://www.humanitix.com)

arts access aotearoa  
Pūtakea Toi ki Aotearoa  
Pūtakea Toi ki Aotearoa

ihc  
iHUMANITIX COLLECTIVE

creative nz  
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAAROA

**WAIKATO BOP SCHOOLS  
XC MTB CHAMPS 2024**  
Sponsored by Evans Doyle Accountants - Advisors



Track suitable for all abilities - Open from Year 5 - Year 10  
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](mailto:temiromtbevents@gmail.com)  
for any queries

Food and drink available - please bring cash



**Evans Doyle**  
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS



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