

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER THURSDAY 16TH MAY, 2024



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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), Salām (Muslim)

#### PINK SHIRT DAY MUFTI DAY - TOMORROW



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 tomorrow, Friday 17th May. 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 <u>NO</u> collection of money for this day.

Kia Ora Whanau,

Thank you to the parents that attended the Team Expo's this week. It was wonderful to see the large number of you coming in to hear about the teaching of Reading, Writing and Maths at your child's level of the school. It is a great chance for Team Leaders to answer any of your questions in these curriculum areas and I know the children love seeing their parents when there is the opportunity to have a look at the programmes in action in the classrooms. The Year 5&6 Expo is being held on Tuesday next week and I look forward to seeing our Year 5&6 whanau.

We are holding a Mihi Whakatau today in Matariki to welcome all new staff to the school. This is a student led process with our Kapa Haka students taking lead roles. A Mihi Whakatau is less formal than a Powhiri.

The most exciting news this week is that Te Totara has won a visit from the Chiefs rugby team. Thank you to all of the families that nominated the school for this special treat. The plans for this visit are in the early stages and we will keep you all updated.

With Pink Shirt day being held tomorrow it is time to talk about what bullying is. Here is the **Definition** of **Bullying** from the Te Totara Bullying Prevention Policy.

Bullying behaviour is **not an isolated action**. We understand that:

- Bullying is **deliberate** harming another person intentionally
- Bullying involves a misuse of power in a relationship
- Bullying is usually not a one-off it is **repeated**, or has the potential to be repeated over time
- Bullying involves behaviour that can cause harm it is not a normal part of growing up.

Bullying behaviours can be physical, verbal, or social, and can take place in the physical or digital world.

Children are encouraged to wear something pink for the day and classes will be doing activities that help our tamariki to know what bullying is and what to do if they are being bullied.

Noho ora mai

Jo Stewart - Acting Principal



## WHAT CAN I DO?

- Remember your Stars
- Talk to someone you can trust
   a teacher, parent, friend
- Ignore it walk away
- Drop anchor and breathe mindfully
- Respond... Reacting can make it worse
- It's OK to feel scared
   sharing is the right thing to do



#### SCHOOL DENTAL ASSESSMENT UNIT

CONTO DE DENTAL ACCESCAMENT CHA

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora



Our friendly dental staff will be visiting Te Totara School to see children who have not yet been seen for their annual dental assessment ONLY. Children who have consent on file will be called from class. If you wish to attend your child's appointment, please visit the mobile unit on site or call 0800 825583 to advise. If we do not have consent on file we will send a Dental Form home for you to fill in and return to school. Children without consent will NOT be seen.



Kia ora,

Once we have seen your child we will send home information, this may include whether your child is complete for the year or if they require a follow up appointment at our fixed clinic for treatment.

### Fairfield Dental Clinic Team

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand



#### TE TOTARA WHANAU RECYCLING SURVEY

Te Totara School is becoming an Enviroschool and a Pare Kora (zero waste) school. We are working towards creating a healthy, peaceful, sustainable world through people teaching and learning together.

As we begin our journey, we want to know how our families are dealing with soft plastic and garden waste at home.





#### 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.



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

- Gymnastics Festival (Selected Students ONLY) \$15.00 per person.
   Cut-off date is 3.00pm Thursday 16th May, 2024
- Tough Guy & Gal Challenge (Year 5&6 Students ONLY) \$44.00 per person. Cut-off date is 3.00pm Wednesday 29th May, 2024
  Limited to first 40 registrations only



Kindo Questions? Kindo Helpdesk on 0508 454636 (toll free) Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm
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.

#### UPDATE FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE



#### Blowing your nose can keep your ears healthy

We need to blow our nose every day to keep our ears clear and stop them from getting blocked. Blowing your nose can help stop you getting glue ear. Glue ear is a condition where the middle ear can become filled with fluid, which can stop you from hearing properly.

Children should blow their nose when they get up in the morning, when they are at school, when they get home from school, and before they go to bed.

If you have any concerns about your child's ears, contact the Ear Clinic (07 838 3565) to make an appointment, or talk to your GP.



#### Handwashing

Washing your hands is one of the best ways to keep people from getting sick and spreading illnesses. It also gets rid of germs you pick up from other people, animals or surfaces you touch. Teach your children how to wash and dry their hands properly and this will help to keep them well.



When should I wash my hands?

- before eating
- before, during and after handling or preparing food
- after sneezing, coughing or blowing your nose
- after playing outside
- after having contact with animals, their toys or waste
- after going to the toilet

#### and....

- after touching rubbish, cleaning cloths, or garden soil
- before dressing a wound, giving medicine or putting in contact lenses
- after contact with blood or body fluids (like vomit or saliva
- after changing a nappy
- more often when someone in your home is sick
- whenever they look dirty

If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based wipe or hand gel



#### SCHOOL ASSEMBLY- MATARIKI HALL

This week's assembly will be held in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm Friday 17th May, 2024. This week students from Neptune and Milky Way Pods will attend the assembly. Milky Way 23 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 1pm** <a href="mailto:stephy@tetotara.school.nz">stephy@tetotara.school.nz</a>



2024 Dates to

Remember



#### Hockey

Red Sticks Blue Sticks Lions

Shay Torr-Williams 4/5 Brahmvir Singh 11/5 Evie Bourne

Ayla Yalden

Strikers

4/5 Holly Shanks 11/5 Libby Clark



#### Netball

Meteors Ferns Rockets Invaders Charlotte Haycock Cayla Blake Kailah Apaapa Aaliyah Jasti

#### DATES COMING UP

Fri 17 May

Pink Shirt Day - Mufti Day

Wed 22 - Fri 24

Mobile Dental Unit onsite

Wed 22 May PTA Meeting at 7.30pm in the Staff Lounge

Thurs 30 May School Board Meeting @ 6.30pm

Fri 31 May Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED

Mon 3 June Kings Birthday Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

10-14 June Book Week

Fri 14 June Book Character Day - time to start thinking about costumes!

Tues 18 June Tough Guy & Gal Challenge - Year 5&6 Registered students ONLY

Wed 26 June PTA Annual General Meeting at 7.00pm in the Staff Lounge

Wed 26 June PTA Meeting, to follow AGM, Staff Lounge

Thurs 27 June Whanau (Grandparents) Day 9.00am-10.30am

Fri 28 June Matariki Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

Fri 5 July END OF TERM 2 @ 3.00PM

Mon 22 July TERM 3 BEGINS (10 weeks)

#### 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: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/TTPTA">www.facebook.com/TTPTA</a>



#### SCHOOL DISCO WRAP-UP

The Fluro Party School Disco run on Friday night by the PTA was a huge success with many students and parents coming along to boogie along to the music. It certainly looked like everyone was having a great time, especially when they walked past the UV lights and their fluro costumes "glowed!". We even unexpectedly had a panda turn up during the second disco session. If anyone is wondering the panda came with some friends who had a child at the disco. Mrs Stewart was put on Panda Duty and the tamariki loved following it around!



To all our wonderful volunteers who manned entry and exit doors, sold food, drink and glow toys at the selling tables, made sure the UV lights

stayed in one piece and took photos, the PTA is truly grateful that you put your hand up to help. Without your support the PTA wouldn't be able to hold such wonderful events. We would also like to thank Mrs Stewart and her amazing leadership team, the office ladies, and the teaching staff who turned up on the night. You all helped ensure the disco ran smoothly.







The PTA is happy to announce that we made a profit of just over \$2,200 on the night, and the money will be donated back to school to help with future projects, some of it may even go towards our commitment to becoming an Enviro School. Did you see it in action at the Disco? If you missed it, our bins had labels on them to promote recycling and we thank the many students who used the right bin. Neptune 26 under the watchful eye of Mrs McLaughlin washed 80 plastic drink bottles and recycled a mountain of chippie packets and plastic wrap. Great job team in preventing these from going into landfill. This is sure to become a regular feature at future Discos.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Our next PTA meeting is this coming Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7:30pm in the School Staff Lounge (turn right as you enter into Matariki), and our PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 7:00pm to be followed by a general meeting of the new committee at 7:30pm.

Our Chairperson Kerri Shanks has indicated that after holding the roll for the past 2 years she will not be standing for Chairperson at this year's AGM, which means the PTA is needing a new Chairperson. If you are interested in finding out more about this role, please send the PTA an email <a href="mailto:pta@tetotara.school.nz">pta@tetotara.school.nz</a>

For the past 2 years we have been running the PTA with a skeleton of 5-6 people, so we really need parents and caregivers to get behind the PTA and come on board and join us. Events such as the

School Disco, Ice block days, Spell-a-thon and Knowledge-a-thons don't just happen, the PTA make them happen! If you are interested in becoming part of the committee, come along to May's meeting and book the AGM date of 26<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm in your diary. Please read below to find out what the PTA is and what we do...



#### What is the PTA?

PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association.

It is a group of parents and families associated with Te Totara Primary School whose aim is to bring the school children and school community together, to fundraise and coordinate fun activities for the children and community.

## What kind of skills are required to be part of the PTA?

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.

#### Want to see more of your friends?

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

## I'd like to join the PTA but I don't have time!

We hear this a lot from people.

The PTA isn't a huge commitment,
approximately 8 x 1 hour meetings per
year. A few extra hours will be required in
the lead up to events.

#### In the last few years the PTA has...

- Held a Knowledge-a-thon and donated \$10,000 towards the Confidence Course on the back field.
- Contributed funds towards the senior camp to ensure all children are able to attend.
- Held a Spell-a-thon, and all the money raised was given to the school to purchase Lego Spike Education sets.
- Provided funds to turn the unused area of grass between the Staff Lounge and Orion block into a wonderful friendship garden.
- Provided funds for the playground by Matariki and once this was installed, we funded the shade sails.
- Contributed funds to our school so the artificial grass courts in the Galaxy could be covered, to give your child a dry place to play on wet days.

## Interested in coming to our next meeting?

Please visit the Te Totara School PTA Facebook page for details

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - PTA Meeting at 7:30pm, Staff Lounge Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June - PTA Annual General Meeting at 7pm, Staff Lounge Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June - PTA Meeting, to follow AGM, Staff Lounge

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