

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)

** SCHOOL CLOSED **

THURSDAY 6TH FEBRUARY - WAITANGI DAY

A reminder school will be CLOSED for Waitangi Day
We WILL be open on Friday 7th February as normal

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Tihei mauri ora, nau mai, haere mai, tena koutou katoa, E nga whanau, e nga kaiako, e nga tamariki, e nga manuhiri, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa



Kia Ora Whānau,

Welcome back to 2025. I do hope everyone was able to enjoy some wonderful time with family and friends. We warmly welcome all our new students and families to our Te Totara family.

We have had a wonderful start to 2025 with the children all settling in well. 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.

Thank-you to our community for making sure all our children have all their correct uniform and stationary.

The new eating times are going well and thank-you to the community for making sure your children have plenty of good food in their lunchboxes. They also require their hats and water bottles regularly as it has been very warm this week.

SCHOOL BELL TIMES

8:30am:	Classrooms Open
8.55am:	School Begins and the class roll is taken
10:00am - 10:05am:	Brain food break (5mins)
11:00am - 11:30am:	Play time break
11.15am:	<i>Half-time Duty and playground changeover bell</i>
11.30-11.40am:	Supervised Eating Time - morning tea
1:00pm - 1:40pm:	Play time break
1.20pm:	<i>Half-time Duty and playground changeover bell</i>
1:40pm - 1:50pm:	Supervised Eating Time - lunch
3:00pm	School Finishes

Please make sure if you have any concerns to make time to see your child's teacher. We are always here to help and make time to work through any concerns. Children are always going to have some not so positive interactions with each other, but it is how we deal with that and model it which makes it a learning experience. We must work in partnership to support our children.

There is a lot of information in today's newsletter so please make sure you make time to familiarize yourself with it all. We are going to try putting the newsletter out every 2 weeks. Hopefully all the relevant information is here. We also have the website and the teachers regularly use Seesaw to keep families up to date.

Save the date: Tuesday 18th March in the Matariki Hall from 7.00pm-9.00pm, Rob Cope will be hosting an information evening on the Ultimate guide to understanding our kids online world. He will discuss smartphones, cyberbullying. We require a parent from every family to attend. More information to follow.

We look forward to seeing all our families at our meet the teacher information evenings. Have a fantastic Waitangi day.

James Murray
Principal

TE TOTOARA TOUCH RUGBY

- Register on KINDO by Friday, 7th February

kindo.
The online one stop school shop

Grades:

Years 1&2 - \$26.00

Years 3&4 and Years 5&6 - \$35.00

REGISTER ON KINDO

BY FRIDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY

Playing Venue: Discovery Park, Flagstaff

Playing Dates: Monday 24 Feb, 3, 10, 17, 27, 31 March (6 Weeks)

Playing Rounds: 4.30pm, 5.10pm, 5.50pm or 6.30pm.

The number of rounds will vary depending on the number of fields/entries.

Game duration: Games will be 15 minutes each way with a 2-minute half time. There will be 8 minutes in between rounds.



MEET THE TEACHER EVENING WEDNESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY, 2025 (WEEK 3)

We are very keen to continue to have close links between home and school, so we have arranged for "Meet the Teacher" sessions for families on Wednesday 12th February, 2025. This is a great way to stay connected with your child's teacher and their learning. We look forward to seeing you there.

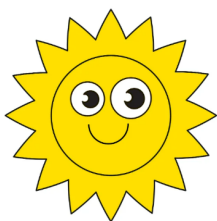
5.00pm - 5.30pm Matawhero, Orion & Neptune families meet with their Teacher
5.30pm - 6.00pm Ra & Earth families meet with their Teacher
6.00pm - 6:30pm Marama & Milky Way families meet with their Teacher

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, 2025

Our Swimming Pool is all set for the season. 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.



Due to the lack of funding we will only be swimming in Terms 1&4 this year. Years 3-6 will have 10 lessons and our Year 2 classes will have one session in the pool at the end of Term 1.

The Year 5&6 classes begin the year. Our Year 2 classes will have one fun session towards the end of Term 1. The Year 3&4 classes will be swimming in Term 4. The Year 3-6's swim in 4 groups and will have 10 lots of 25 minute lessons.

The timetable for the year can be viewed on our website or by clicking this link: [2025 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.



NEW SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDER CATALOGUE



This week your child was given a Scholastic Book Club catalogue. These orders close at **9.15am on Friday 14th February 2025.**

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.**

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 2025 - Thank you



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.**



SAFETY IN AND AROUND OUR SCHOOL PLEASE COMPLY WITH THESE GUIDELINES

With the return of lots of excited children and new families to our school we need to reinforce some important Te Totara Guidelines and Rules to you all.

- Please cross Hector Drive by **using the pedestrian crossing with the lights**. It is not safe nor modelling good practice to cross to the other side of the road in front of the school as there are multiple ways cars are moving in this area. The staff on duty at the end of the day will be directing the students to the pedestrian crossing. If you park on the other side of the road please use the crossing to go across the street.
- Some good areas to park are on some of the surrounding streets slightly away from the school. We have easy access to many of these streets through some great walkways, one of which is opposite the front of the school. Children can be encouraged to cross the street at the pedestrian crossing, then go through that walkway and meet you at your vehicle on the street at the end of the walkway.



- The **drop-off zone** in front of the school is also a convenient area to pick up your children. **All drivers must remain in the vehicles**, the children are asked to come straight to the front of the school and look for their car. When they see their car the students are taught to go straight to the car if it is in the lane closest to the school buildings, or if the car is in the lane furthest away the students need to come down to **Mr Murray** at the marked traffic hump and she will cross them safely. To ensure everyone's safety with moving cars **no-one (adults or children) is to cross the drop-off zone in any other area than the part that Mr Murray is at.**
- The drop-off zone has two access lanes so you can turn into either the left or right lane depending on where you are going when you exit the drop off. **If you are going to travel north up Hector Drive towards Rototuna Junior High then please use the left lane closest to the school.** Always indicate your intention then turn left onto Hector Drive as you exit the zone.
- Do not change lanes in the drop off zone. We ask that you remain in the lane you are in throughout the drop-off zone, it is dangerous to cross over the lanes.
- Mr Murray monitors the safety of this area, it is a very efficient process and we endeavour to keep it moving well. It is generally all cleared of cars by 3.15pm, so great for those prompt getaways!



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are delighted with the large numbers of students who look really great by wearing their uniform in the correct manner. For your information the school uniform expectations are below:

ALL students are expected to arrive at school and leave from school in their correct Te Totara Primary School Uniform, including footwear.

- *Uniforms are to be worn clean, neat and tidy. Please clearly name your uniform items.*
- *Students are encouraged to take pride in their school uniform and to wear it well.*
- *Hair is to be off the face, tied back if longer than the bottom of the collar, and be the natural hair colour.*
- *Nail polish and cosmetics are not permitted.*
- *Second hand uniforms may be available. Please see the School Office for details.*
- *Variations in relation to the Human Rights Act may be negotiated with the Principal.*
- *All pupils are encouraged to use sunscreen at home before school and expected to wear the regulation school hat while outdoors. No hat – play in the shade (Terms 1 & 4).*
- *All uniform items should be clearly named.*
- *Extras for warmth such as polyprops or singlets, must be plain black.*
- *Plain black school sandals in summer (Terms 1&4) OR plain black school shoes in the winter (Terms 2&3). No other colours on the sandal or shoe, just plain black.*
- ***Any hair accessory is to be plain and of a single school uniform colour – red, white, black, green***



JEWELLERY

Items of jewellery can be easily lost or damaged at school. They may also cause injury to the wearer or other students. **For safety reasons items of jewellery are NOT to be worn.** The school accepts no responsibility in the case of loss, damage or injury.

However, students may wear:

- One small earring stud per ear.
- A watch.
- A necklace of religious or cultural significance – to be worn underneath clothing.
- A Medical Identification Tag as required.



For a full description of our Uniform Expectations for our school uniform, please check the noticeboard in the School Office or the school website. If you have any queries, please contact me at principal@tetotara.school.nz

NAMING OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please, please, please can you make sure all items of **school uniform are clearly named**. If an item of clothing is found out on the fields it can not be returned unless it is named.

PRE-LOVED TE TOTARA SCHOOL UNIFORMS FOR SALE

We have a large number of smaller sizes available for sale at the moment, these are pre-loved and in very good condition - Sizes 4 and 6. All items are \$10 each - available to purchase from the School Office. Sorry, no cash - EFTPOS only please.



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 James Murray (Principal) at principal@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.

2025 FEES, SPORTS REGISTRATIONS & DONATIONS PAID VIA KINDO

This online system allows you to pay school fees, order school lunches etc and is the **ONLY** way to register/pay for your child for sports teams and class trips.

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

Fees for 2025 will be loaded to student accounts next week, however the following is available to pay/register via KINDO now:

- **Touch Rugby - Years 1&2 (\$26.00) and Years 3-6 (\$35.00)**

Cut-off Date is 3.00pm on Friday 7th February, 2025

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



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).

MATHSEEDS (Years 1-2) & MATHLETICS (Years 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 2025. Please pay this fee by KINDO. Fees will be loaded within the next few weeks, we will let you know via the newsletter.

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>

SCHOOL LUNCH PROVIDERS - ezlunch

Available every day! Order by 9.00am

NOTE: WE HAVE SPECIFIC DAYS FOR EACH LUNCH PROVIDER:



Monday, Thursday & Friday

Tuesday & Wednesday

SUBWAY



All lunch orders are placed through **KINDO** 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 at 1.40pm.

kindo.
The online one stop school shop

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 2024.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES- MATARIKI HALL

School assemblies will be held **in the Matariki Hall at 2.00pm every Friday.**

Friday 7th February: Welcoming assembly for **Matawhero, Earth & Milky Way** Pods.

Friday 14th February: Welcoming assembly for **Orion and Ra** Pods



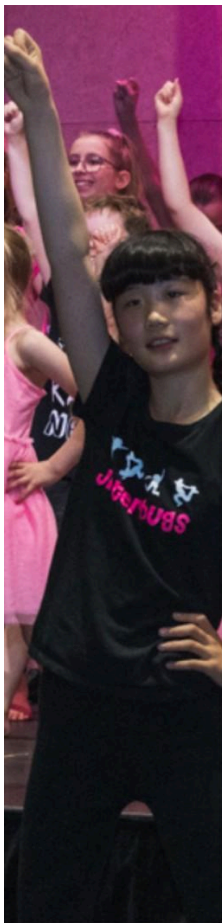
DATES COMING UP

Thurs 30 Jan	TERM 1, 2025 Students began school at 8.55am
Thurs 6 Feb	Waitangi Day Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Frid 7 Feb	Te Totara Play Day
Wed 12 Feb	Meet the Teacher Evening
Wed 12 Feb	PTA Meeting at 7.30pm in Staff Lounge
Thurs 27 Feb	Board Meeting @ 6.30pm
Wed 12 & 13 Mar	Learning Plan Interviews
Wed 13th Mar	Cluster Swimming Sports
Tues 18 Mar	Rob Cope - Cyber Safety Presentation 6:30pm in the Matariki Hall
Fri 21 March	Waikids Vision & Hearing Checks in School
Fri 11 April	END OF TERM 1, 2025
Mon 28 April	TERM 2 BEGINS



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**



LIMITED SPACES LEFT FOR TERM 1 2025!

Jitterbugs

DANCE LESSONS 

Monday (Rototuna Junior High School Dance Studio)

- 3.40 Jitterbugs Seniors (by selection only)
- 4.10 MiniJam (girls & boys aged 3 - 5½) **6 Spaces**
- 4.35 Senior Hip Hop (girls aged 9-16) **1 Space**
- 5.05 Jitterbugs Advanced (by selection only)

Tuesday (Common Ground Gym in Flagstaff)

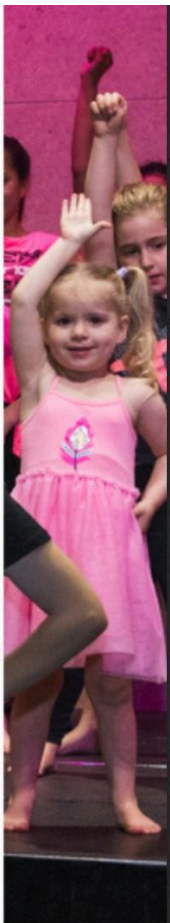
- 3.30 Jitterbugs Junior (girls aged 5 ½ - 7) **3 Spaces**
- 4.00 Jitterbugs Junior Plus (girls aged 7 - 8) **1 space**
- 4.30 Jitterbugs Intermediate (girls aged 8 - 16) **5 Spaces**

Wednesday (Common Ground Gym in Flagstaff)

- 3.30 Jitterbugs Mini's (girls aged 3 - 5½) **2 Spaces**
- 4.00 Jitterbugs Junior/Jitterjam (girls & Boys 5 ½ - 7) **1 Space**
- 4.30 Jitterbugs Intermediate (girls aged 8 - 16) **6 Spaces**

Classes start Monday 10th February 2025. 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: \$140 for one kid, or \$270 for two kids.

Email jolie at jitterbugsdancelessons@outlook.com or check out the jitterbugs dance lessons facebook page or website for more info








8 Weeks of FUN!

TT Kidz (NZ) gives children aged 6-11 a great first experience in table tennis.

REGISTER NOW!



TT Kidz - Waikato


Venue: Waikato Table Tennis Stadium, Edgecumbe Park, Edgecumbe Street, Whitoria, Hamilton, 3200
 Start Date: Saturday, starting 15th February 2025
 Time: 10am to 11am
 Cost: \$100 (new participant) or \$60 returning participant (Already have equipment pack)

Equipment pack included!
 T-shirt, Bag, Bat and balls.





www.tabletennis.org.nz/tt-kidz

**FUTURE TE AROHA
ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS**




**THE
ENCHANTED
STORYBOOK**

DECEMBER 3RD-17TH
AN INTERACTIVE STAGE PERFORMANCE FOR ALL AGES

BOOK NOW



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TE AROHA
(07) 884 9489
FUTURETA@XTRA.CO.NZ

Hamilton BMX Club Brings You A Day At The Track To:

BE A BMX QUEEN



**WOMEN, LADIES, GIRLS, MUMS,
DAUGHTERS AND EVEN GRANDMAS**

COME TRY BMX

Sunday | 24th Nov | 9am-11am
Morning Tea Provided
Hamilton BMX Club, Minogue Park, Forest Lake

Must Bring: Long-sleeve Top, Pants, Covered Shoes
Can Bring: Off Road Bike, Gloves, Helmet
(Available from Club: BMX Bikes, Gloves, Full Face Helmets)



FUN - FAMILY - FRIENDSHIPS - EXHILARATING - SUPPORTIVE - POSITIVE

Positive Performing Arts Method[®]

Afterschool Dance & Drama Classes

Affordable **Everyone Welcome** **Make Friends**





Ages 4 to Adults **Build Confidence** **Fun & Engaging**

Enrol at ppamnz.com

Hamilton East Frankton Chartwell Morrinsville

COMPUTER | MOBILE | TECHNOLOGY CODING LESSONS



A BRIGHT FUTURE

Our lessons encourage students to create with technology, instead of just consuming it. Your child will learn skills to prepare them for success in our increasingly digital world. Together we'll create technology products (even make games!) while learning useful skills.

SIGN UP FOR A FREE TRIAL



Give your child the opportunity to learn to code:
codingnz.com

WHO

Years 5 & 6, 7 & 8,
9 & 10, 11 to 13.

WHAT

Beginner to advanced
technology lessons!

WHEN & WHERE

One hour per week.
Your choice of 4pm, 5pm or
6pm weekdays.
Attend online from home.



codingnz.com/signup