

Te Totara Primary School
PO Box 28134
Rototuna, Hamilton 3256

31 Hector Drive
Rototuna North, Hamilton 3210
Ph: (07) 853-0039
www.tetotara.school.nz
principal@tetotara.school.nz

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEDNESDAY 5th FEBRUARY, 2014

WEEK 1

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)

Welcome to the new School Year!

Our school is up-and-running really well and it's so neat to see all the smiling faces (children and adults) over the last few days. My thanks to our school community for all their efforts to make sure all is well and our children are happy!

The school holidays have seen much activity at our school with building and car park work going on. In about three weeks the car park work will be completed, and we will update everyone on the traffic management plan a little closer to the completion of this work. Meanwhile, thanks for your co-operation, it is appreciated!

INFORMATION

We try to keep everyone informed and our systems are web based so that you can see this any time. Key information can be found at:

School Website

<http://www.tetotara.school.nz>

School Facebook Page

[Te Totara Facebook Page](#)

Link to Weekly Notices for your child's team

[Te Totara Weekly Notices](#)

Link to School Calendar

[Te Totara School Calendar](#)

KEY DATES COMING UP

Click [here](#) to see our school calendar

Date	Event
Thu 6 Feb	School Closed for Waitangi Day
Fri 7 Feb	2.00pm Assembly for Milky Way, Orion and Ra Teams to welcome new students
Sun 9 Feb	Weet-Bix TRYathlon 82 students entered
Tue 11 Feb	7.30pm PTA meeting
Wed 12 Feb	Meet the Teacher 5.30 pm Marama, Kopu, Milky Way

	6.00 pm Orion (except R12) & Matawhero 6.30 pm Earth & Ra
Fri 14 Feb	2.00pm Assembly for Marama, Kopu, Matawhero & Earth
Fri 21 Feb	2.00pm Assembly for Milky Way, Orion & Ra

MEET THE TEACHER WED 12TH FEBRUARY

Come along and visit your teacher, who will outline the class programme, routines, expectations and answer any general queries that you may have.

We have staggered the times to help with families who have children in different areas of the school and to help with congestion.

Times are:

5.30pm Marama, Kopu, Milky Way

6.00pm Orion (except R12), Matawhero

6.30pm Earth & Ra

WELCOME OUR NEW TEACHER

We welcome Sarah Corkill, our new teacher in Matawhero 15 to the team. She has been very busy preparing for the year (along with all our staff) and we really appreciate her efforts. To find out a little more visit...[Sarah Corkill](#)

NEW PERSON IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE

We welcome Michelle Druett to the team. Michelle works part-time and you will see her smiling face alongside the other STARS in the office area.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES FRIDAYS 2.00PM

We have changed our format for School Assemblies. We will alternate, with roughly half the school one week and the other the next. This will make the assemblies relevant to the children attending.

Our first assembly is **Friday 7th February @ 2.00pm** and Milky Way, Orion & Ra Teams will be attending. We will be welcoming new students to the school from these teams. Parents are more than welcome to attend.

After the first two weeks we move into our normal format with a class sharing their learning. To see who is sharing, visit our school calendar [School Calendar](#)

SCHOOL HOURS - 8.55AM TO 3.00PM

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 child's learning area.**

LATE ARRIVALS TO SCHOOL (AFTER 8.55AM)

Have you ever arrived at a meeting late, everyone is settled in their chair, the presenter has welcomed them and is now outlining what the day has in store..... and as you walk in they all turn and look at you?

That is what it can be like for your child when they arrive late at school and their class is all settled. So please, 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.

NAMING OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please, please, please can you make sure all items of school uniform are clearly named. It is not good enough to assume that your child will know that something belongs to them "because it has a black dot on the tag". If an item of clothing is found out on the fields it can not be returned unless it is named. We go out of our way to identify and return lost property, but patience runs thin when clothing is not named.

HEALTH WAIKATO HEARING & VISION TESTING FOR STUDENTS THAT HAVE NOT COMPLETED ROUTINE TESTS

A Vision & Hearing Technician will be visiting our school on **Wednesday 12th February 2014** to complete routine tests for those students who have missed their pre-school/prior school checks.

OUR INTERNET BANKING DETAILS HAVE CHANGED

If you wish to pay any fees or donations via internet banking please note the change of bank details for our school. New details are:

Account Name: Te Totara Primary
Bank: ASB Bank Chartwell
Account Number: 12-3171-0270973-00

Please place your child's name, (or surname only if making payment for more than one child) and what the payment is for, in the reference boxes).

SCHOOL DONATION FOR 2014

Thank you for the fantastic support we are receiving for the school voluntary donation, it is appreciated and the funding will be used for resources for the children.

If you wish to pay your voluntary School Donation, we are happy to accept payment by cash, internet banking, cheque or EFT-POS at the School Office. The Board of Trustees has set payment at:

\$100.00 for the first family member
\$50.00 for each subsequent child

Please check with the School Office as the voluntary School Donation is adjusted depending on which term your child/ren started school.

A GST receipt will be issued. A % of your donation may be claimed as a tax rebate using a "Rebate Claim Form" – please refer to Inland Revenue for further details.

SCHOOL LIBRARY OPEN FRIDAY MORNINGS

Our school library will be open every Friday morning from 8.30am-9am for lending to parents. We would love to see you, please pop in!

2014 WEETBIX TRYATHLON

WHEN: Sunday 9 February 2014

WHERE: University Fields, Hamilton East, Waikato

Allow plenty of time on the morning of the event:

Make sure you allow plenty of time to get to the event venue (which is open **from 7 am Sunday**, February 9th) and to find a car park. Please leave enough time to get through the numbering, check in and transition process before transition closes (at 8.15 am). The more time you allow, the easier it will be. There will be lots of people and it will be very, very busy, so please be patient and listen to all instructions.

Our Te Totara Team

The purpose of entering a team is to encourage our Te Totara STARS to give it a go! We also have a chance to win great prizes and to have a school team photo taken at the end. Each child must have a parent or caregiver with them on the day. The School Gazebo is a good meeting place for parents and their child. There will be lots of people there on the day so it is essential that parents/guardians are responsible for their own child. **Please note that ALL PARTICIPANTS must CHECK-IN though the bar code scanning system as they enter transition or at the Admin tent. Any child not checked in by 8.15am (will not be permitted to participate).**

Approximate distances for event:

7 year olds (approximate distances) - 50m swim, 4km cycle/ 1.5km run

8 – 10 year olds (approximate distances) - 100m swim, 4km cycle/ 1.5km run

11-15 year olds (approximate distances) - 200m swim/ 8km cycle/ 1.5 km run

What to take into transition checklist:

Take everything that you will need for the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon into the Transition Area & leave it with your bike.

Official Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon T-shirt with Bib Number attached to the front

Bike with your event number sticker attached to the handle bars

- Helmet with your event number sticker attached to the front
- Running Shoes (please note that closed in shoes are compulsory for both the bike & run legs of the event)
- Socks (optional)
- Towel
- Drink bottle
- Any medication you may need use of during the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon (EG: Asthma puffer)
- It's a good idea to have a small plastic box so that

all your items are kept together & also to make your bike stand out somehow so it will be easier for you to find during the event. For example, you could use a brightly-coloured towel on your seat or handlebars.

The transition area will close 15 minutes prior to the Official TRYathlon Briefing & will only be able to be accessed by those currently participating. It will reopen at the completion of prizegiving.

For Health & Safety reasons bikes cannot be removed from the transition area until the completion of prizegiving

After the bike is racked in Transition where do I go?

Once you have set your gear up in TRANSITION, take your time to do one last check & make sure you have not left your togs in transition! You will need these along with your SWIM CAP & GOGGLES for the first leg of the event. Before you leave transition check that you have your event bib number written on your arms & legs. Once you have done this you can leave transition & enjoy your complimentary breakfast at the Weet-Bix Breakfast Tent. Just make sure you have your voucher that was in your event kit! While you are waiting for the Event Briefing you can enjoy the fun activities in the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon Village area and it is also a great time to check the INFORMATION BOARD so that you are familiar with the course & how many laps you need to do on the bike & run legs. Straight after prize giving we will be called to have our School Team Photo taken. Please stay close and listen for our school name to be called so no one misses out on a photo. They get through the photo taking quite quickly so it is essential that participants self-manage around this.

The official Weetbix TRYathlon website, tryathlon.weetbix.co.nz is an excellent source of information - I encourage you to have a look before Sunday's event. Finally, thank you families for encouraging and supporting your child/ren to participate in this wonderful event. Good luck to the participants; do you very best and have fun! Paula Wine

SPORTS AT TE TOTARA

Welcome back to 2014 sports. Here are the sports on offer this year:

Term 1:

Cricket, Touch, Volleyball

Term 2 and 3:

Hockey, Netball, Miniball and Fun Ferns

Term 4:

Summer Hockey, Touch and Cricket

If your child may be interested in playing any of these sports now is an opportunity to discuss this with them. **It is their responsibility to listen out for notices over the loud speaker to receive the first interest letter. Children who do not come and collect an interest letter or do not bring it back on time will miss out on being a part of a sports team.** Multimedia is now being used to inform families of when sports teams are being called for so remember to keep checking our website and facebook and remind children to listen out for the interest letters. It will also be in printed form in the weekly newsletters. Sports are called months before

the season begins to give our staff enough time to organise what is required.

A reminder that all children playing in a sports team must now purchase the red polo shirt as part of their sports uniform.

Friendly Reminders:

- We could not enter any sports teams without the amazing help from parent coaches and managers. Often these parents have little to no experience in coaching and would appreciate any help available.
- We want children to join a sports team to learn many different skills including fair play, co-operation, working together as a team, being a good sport, competition and encouraging team mates. Encourage that the time spent at practices and games are focused on learning these skills and learning more about the sports game.

If you need more information please take the time to read our questions and answer sheet and codes of behaviour found under sports on our website.

Interest Notices:

Interest notices for Touch and Cricket will be called for next week. Children please listen for notices over the loud speaker.

Brian Sheedy
Principal

TE TOTARA PTA



NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2014 @ 7.30pm

Welcome to 2014. Another great year about to unfold. Swimming pool and car park completion in sight. Our first PTA meeting for the year will be next Tuesday 11th February at 7.30pm in the staff room. We would love to see some new parents and old get involved especially with our Te Totara Primary School Gala and Food Festival 2014 on Saturday 29th March 2014, 10am-2pm. Hope to see you there

PTA BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Name: Te Totara Primary School PTA
Account: 03-1355-0711498-00
(please ensure your child's name and class are used as a reference)
E-mail: tetotara.pta@gmail.com
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-Totara-Primary-School-PTA/30090011661692>

DATES COMING UP

Thurs 6 Feb Waitangi Day, School closed
Tues 11 Feb PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm
Thurs 6 Feb Waitangi Day, School closed
Wed 12 Feb Meet The Teacher
Wed 12 Feb Vision and Hearing Tests
Thurs 27 Feb BOT Meeting at 6.30pm
Sat 29 Mar PTA School Gala & Food Festival

Thurs 17 Apr END OF TERM 1 @ 3.00PM

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.

CREATIVE MINDS ART CLASSES AT TE TOTARA

Creative Minds are offering another exciting after school art classes in Term 1 after school once per week at our school for ages 5-12 years. This "Dynamic Drawing" class begins in Week 2 and runs with creative and knowledgeable art tutors. Registration is required. For more information and to register, please visit: www.creativeminds.co.nz

SMART WATER STARTS WITH YOU!-ALERT LEVEL 2

The Waikato is moving to Water Alert Level 2. Due to a long spell of warm dry weather and an increase in average temperatures Waikato District, Waipa District and Hamilton City Councils made the decision this week. When making the decision to increase the water alert levels a number of things are taken into consideration including increased temperatures, rain forecasts as well as infrastructure ability to treat and distribute water.

From **Wednesday 5 February** sprinklers and watering systems can only be used on alternative days (e.g. even street numbers on even days; odd street numbers on odd days between 6- 8am and 6- 8pm), while hand held hosing can be used any time.

While showers are expected in the long range forecast there needs to be a long period of rain for us to remain at Water Alert Level 1 which is why the decision has been made to move to Alert Level 2.

The ongoing water consumption efforts of the community have not gone unnoticed. It's important we continue to use our limited water resource responsibly and appreciate everyone's ongoing consideration this summer.

Here are ways you can be Smart with your water:

Take shorter showers

Full washing machine and dishwasher loads, and use the quick cycle

Wash the car, the dog and the kids on the lawn!

Use the water slide when it rains or when the Alert Levels are removed

Empty and refill swimming pools only when absolutely necessary

Stick to Alert Level 2 sprinkler requirements

Te Totara Primary School

What the Water Alert Levels 2 means:

Water Alert Level 2

Use sprinkler systems on alternate days between 6-8am and 6-8pm

Hand-held hosing can be used anytime

DYNAMIC SPEECH CLASSES 2014

RING: Roslyn 027 248 2888 www.chatterbox.net.nz

Group classes from 7 years. For fluent speaking in public – Stage work & exams - in Hamilton

BODYWISE

This is a family based programme aiming to manage over weight issues in children aged 5-12 yrs. Participation in a 6 week group programme is supported by on going individual visits for a further 15 months. Programme topics include: healthy eating for families, school lunches and snacks, getting active, promoting self esteem and confidence, tips for dealing with bullying, problem solving and goal setting. Bodywise is now accepting referrals for groups that will run in 2014

For more information contact:

Helen, Bodywise Dietitian:

P: 07 838 3565 ext. 22142 or e-mail:

helen.stockman@waikatodhb.health.nz

Soroya, Bodywise Active Families Co-ordinator

P: 858 5388 E. soroyam@sportwaikato.org.nz

THE HAMILTON ROLLER SKATING CLUB

A great way to get out there and get active with your kids.

If you would like any further information please ring Kathy Moody on 8552523 or Pearl Best on 8474527

THEATRE CATS SPEECH AND DRAMA

Creative Speech and Drama groups for Girls 8 yrs.+ begins on Monday, 10th Feb. at the Vine Community Centre, Borman Road.

Sessions commence at 3.15pm. Lessons incorporate the Trinity College of London speech and drama syllabus.

Private lessons are also available. Please contact highly experienced and qualified speech and drama teacher, Sandra Timlin for details.

Ph: 8590377 or email: lynn18@xtra.co.nz

WADOKAI KARATE CLUB AT TE TOTARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hamilton North branch – Te Totara Primary School

Monday	6—7pm Children New Children Beginners 5yrs and above
Thursday	6—7pm Children New Children Beginners 5yrs and above

Contact Details: Website: www.wadokai.co.nz

Email: Robbie@wadokai.co.nz

Tel: 07 8592252 / 021365677