

Kia ora koutou te whanau

What a glorious summer holiday break we have had with the weather encouraging many of us to be near swimming facilities to cool off. Hopefully you also had opportunities to create special memories with your families with adventures to share and talk about in the future.

Special welcome to all our new families who have joined us. We also welcome new staff, Hollie Reed, Kara Billing, Dylan Maloney and Carol Bennett who have joined our teaching staff.

Thank you to everyone who has organised payment for your child's stationery and upcoming trips and camp. You will have noticed that we have not asked you for a school donation as our school has opted into the Ministry of Education Donation Scheme again. However, if you would like to make a voluntary donation, GST is not payable and tax credits can be claimed. This would be gratefully appreciated.

As you are aware we are all in readiness for the possibility that the COVID-19 variant, Omicron could affect us all. If there is a case of COVID-19 in our school it could mean your child and family may need to isolate for a period of time. This will only affect those students identified as being a close contact. If your child is affected you will be contacted by our school or Ministry of Health. During this time students not at school will receive hybrid learning (hard copies and/or distance learning through devices). For other students we will endeavor to keep our school open as long as we are able to maintain safety. Further communication will be made to everyone if this is needed. These are challenging times and we appreciate all your support as we navigate our way through this.

*"Waiho i te toipoto,
Kaua i te toiroa"
Let us keep close together,
Not far apart.*

Judith McLean (Principal)

SAVE THE DATE

24 Feb	Team 2 Bike Day
3 Mar	Team 2 Tryathlon
17 Mar	Team 2 Hamilton Zoo Trip (TBC)
22–25 Mar	Team 1 Camp (TBC)
14 Apr	Last day of term
15 Apr	Good Friday

TEAM ONE (Rooms 2, 3, 4, 5, 20) Stephani Preston

"Tungia te ururoa, kia tupu whakaritorito te tutū o te harakeke. Set the overgrown bush alight and the new flax shoots will spring up." In order to change, we may need to leave some ways behind in order to do things differently

Tēnā koutou katoa! Welcome back to our old whānau and welcome to all our new whānau who have joined our kura this year. It has been awesome meeting new families and reconnecting with old students who have returned. We have enjoyed hearing stories from whānau about how well their tamariki have settled into Tokoroa Intermediate etc, so we are pleased their year has started well too. Change is inevitable, yet our tamariki have done well to adapt and modify to what is becoming the norm.

Students in Team One have been doing an array of activities - from critical thinking about the Treaty of Waitangi, Scavenger Hunts, Class Treaties and All About Me activities to name a few. It's great to see them outside a lot while the sun is shining. Ask your child something they learnt in their day!

MASKS

Thank you for sending your child to school with a mask. It is new for us all and they are doing so well with these changes.

SUMMER SUN

The summer days have seen the temperatures hitting some big highs. Please remind your children to slip, slop, slap and wrap! You can still purchase the recommended school hats for \$14 - recommended for the wide rim for optimum protection, otherwise please send a hat with your child.

SWIMMING

Swimming started on the first day. Please encourage your child to bring their togs for swimming. If camp goes ahead, they will be kayaking and swimming in the Blue Lake as well as the Rotorua Aquatic Centre. In order for their teacher to assess their swimming skills and teach them swimming/water survival skills, they need to take part in this swimming programme. Lets make the most of our amazing resource (school pool!). Lunch time swims on Mondays and Wednesdays

CAMP

Please bear with us as we navigate EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) in a COVID world. Ministry Guidelines evolve continuously and we have to follow these in order to make camp safe for all. The proposed dates at this stage are: Tuesday 22 March to Friday 25 March. Thank you for your patience.

2022 SWIMMING TIMETABLE					
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
9.00			6	20	
9.30	7	6	20	2	9
10.00	5	5	2	18	19
INTERVAL Room 1					
11.00	20	7	9	7	18
11.30	6	17	5	8	2
12.00	19	8	17	13	15
LUNCH Team 1 Team 2 Team 1 Team 2 Team 3					
1.15	8	14	19	16	14
1.40	13	16	1	10,11 & 12	1
2.05	18	9	10, 11 & 12	15	10, 11 & 12
2.30	17	13	15	14	16

STATIONERY

Thank you to those who have already ordered stationery. Please remember it is OK to order stationery and pay by setting up an automatic payment.

We welcome to our teaching team Matua Dylan in Room 5 and Whaea Rhiarn is back in Room 20. Nau mai, hoki mai korua!

TEAM TWO (Rooms 8, 9, 17, 18, 19) Karen Tyrrell

It was wonderful to welcome back our tamariki last week, admittedly under slightly different circumstances. The Year 4 students are doing brilliantly with their masks, most remembering to bring and wear them. Kapai. We have had a terrific response to stationery. Please try to return these asap so the students can get started using their new books. With this hot weather there are heaps to remember, togs, towels, sunhats, sunblock, water bottles, morning tea and hats. Please help your child to ensure they have all the things they need for a successful day at school. Tamariki have all settled into their new classes enthusiastically although there is none of the cheerful singing coming from the classes that we are used to hearing at this time of the year. Students will soon start bringing readers home and possibly homework. Please support them by making time to listen to them read and talk about what they have read, encourage them to do as much homework as they can and read to them as often as you can.

TEAM THREE (Rooms 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16) Kim Lannon

Tolafa, Kia Orana, Harae mai
Welcome back whanau and friends of Team 3.
We welcome two new kaiko to our team. Miss Reed in Room 15 and Miss Billing in Room 16. Miss Reed has come from Amisfield Primary. Miss Billing is from the Hawkes Bay. Everyone is happy to be back with their teachers setting up their new routines for the year. Each class has been talking about one of our school shared beliefs and values "Manaakitanga". Ask your child what Manaakitanga is.

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PASIFIKA FORUM

Kia orana, talofa, kia ora and greetings. Just a brief update. Our programme continues to be impacted by covid and we are really looking forward to getting things underway. Our Pasifika tile sign is almost complete and we looking forward to sharing it. Sadly one of our key staff has left and we will miss Regina leti hugely. We wish her well with her future plans. She was so enthusiastic and brought many skills to the team. Ministry funding has enabled us to appoint a Teacher Aide to support us with the continuation of the Pasifika programme and Luenoira Leiataua will start shortly. She volunteered last year and we are excited she can join our team. We are having to change her programme with the Red Zone and she will be in classes, doing games and dance at lunchtimes with interested children and using our Pasifika room for specific activities. We look forward to a fono meeting when we are able

We are so lucky to have the swimming pool. The days have been extremely long and hot for the little ones. It's a great way to cool down while also learning how to be safe in the water. Swimming is part of our Physical Education programme. It is important that your child participates by bringing their togs and towel to school on their swimming days. Please label these items as you'll be surprised at how easily they forget which towel is theirs or leave/drop their togs.

Your child will come home with poems, rhymes, songs or jingles. This is their reading. Please listen to your child. Your child's success depends on us working as a team.

I will not be at school this term as I was diagnosed with stage 4 ovarian cancer at the end of last year. Please take any concerns you may have to your child's teacher. It is helpful if you make an appointment to meet your child's teacher as they are often busy in the morning or could be going to a meeting in the afternoon.

ACHIEVEMENT BY PROMOTING SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (APSEL) Raewyn Whiteman-Thorne

2022 and I hope you have all enjoyed the very hot summer holidays and just as school opens we are all having to cope with red Zone, with frustrations around travel in and out of NZ with isolation impacting on many and so on. So often I hear "its a 1st world problem" and I sometimes wonder if people who throw some of these expressions around know what they are implying.

We are living in a time when we are all coping with change, not least being the increased mask wearing, which many of us find uncomfortable. I want to acknowledge our year 4 -year 6 students who have adjusted so positively to mask wearing and the restrictions linked to the Government safety rules for Red Zone. Well done to your children and to you for supporting the guidelines. I know some of us agree and some don't, even in my family so that's another challenge.

I guess the question is what's next for us all? The answer is clear; "None of us really know! And what do we do? My thoughts are follow the lead of our students: Use masks, stay safe and look after yourself and those around you. What stands out though is not just their wearing of masks, it's their attitudes that go along with it. An attitude of accepting the situation, changing what we can change and getting on with what we have to.

PIKI KŌTUKU (Room 1 & 3) Whaea Lisa

Kia ora, and greetings to all our school whānau. You may have noticed the name change to our learning space. The name 'Piki Kōtuku' means darling, treasured and unique. As a chick, the Kōtuku bird has soft downy feathers which represents our younger tamariki.



As it grows, the Kōtuku bird has long graceful feathers which represents our older tamariki. The change of name encapsulates our tamariki and the changes they make along their educational journey.

This year our learning space is being shared between two rooms. We are all loving having the extra space with less distraction towards our teaching and learning. Our tamariki are enjoying swimming this term. They are lucky to have Shelley and Ksharna in the pool with them assisting with their water confidence.

He waka eke noa ~ We are all in this together
We can do it whanau, lets get over the frustrations and do the best we can to "Just Do It".

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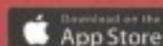
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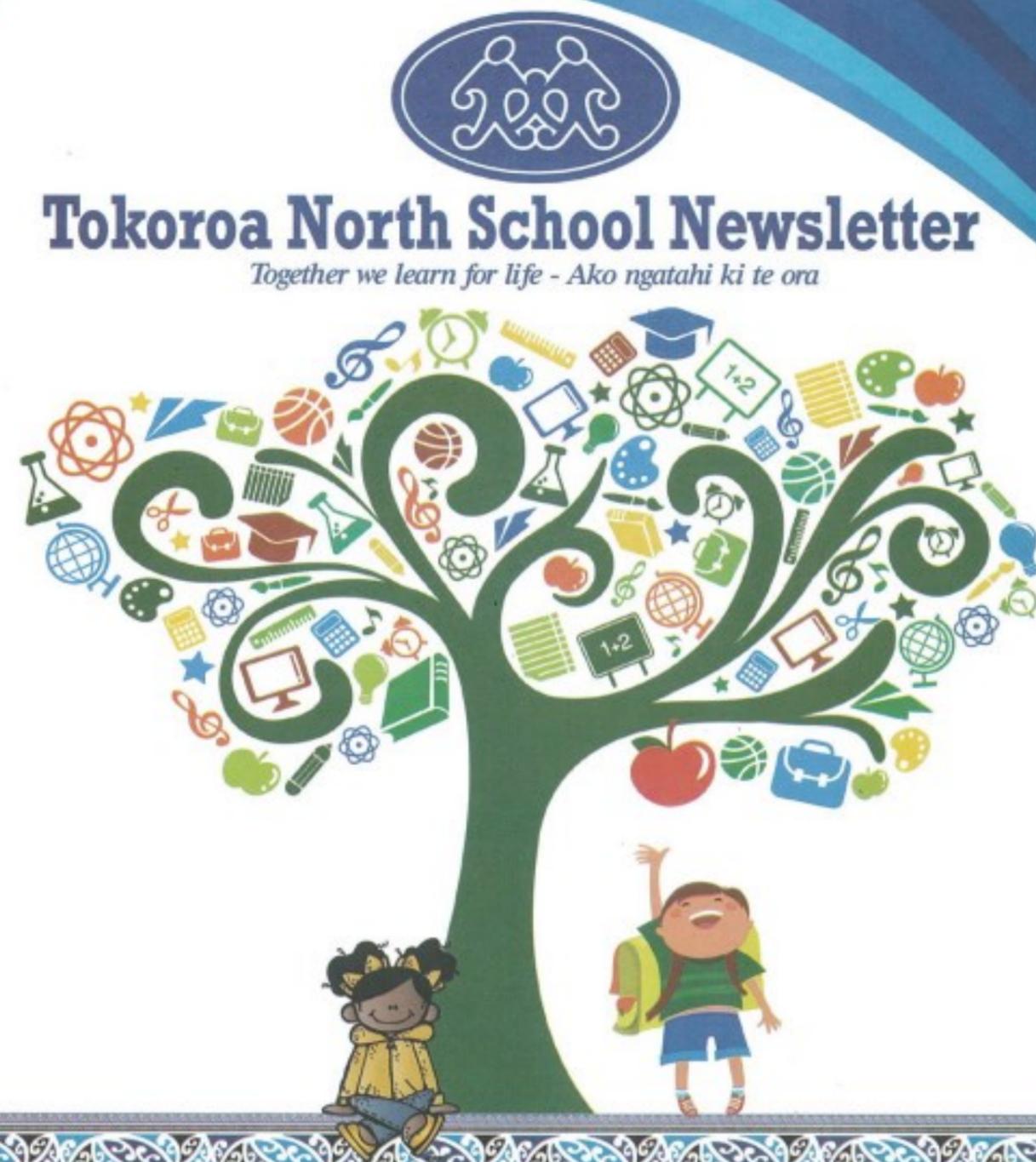
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