

TŌTARA NEWSLETTER TERM TWO 2017

To the Parents/Caregivers of the students in Tōtara

Welcome back to the Tōtara team for term two. We hope you all enjoyed a fantastic and relaxing holiday. We warmly welcome our new students to the school and trust they will make friends and settle quickly into their new classes.

To help your child settle quickly into class routines could you please ensure they arrive at school after 8.30 am, but before the 8.55 am morning bell. School starts at 8.55 am. The school day finishes at 2.55pm. Remember classrooms will be locked until 8:30am.

Students should be wearing our school uniform with pride. It is important that the correct uniform is worn however we do understand that there may be times when it is necessary for non-regulation items to worn. An explanatory note would be appreciated. As we are entering the colder season, students should have a school jumper and a raincoat available. If girls are wearing tights, they must be navy or black.

As everyone is wearing our school uniform *please do label all items of clothing*. Please also name all your child's items, especially rulers, coloured pencils, rubbers etc. Teachers expect students to look after their possessions and to take responsibility for putting things in the right places. Students should not bring money to school unless it is requested by the teacher/school. Any money sent to school needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name, room number and the purpose, in an envelope.

Parent help is always welcome and there are many tasks that you can do to assist. For example supervising with trips outside the classroom, coaching or helping with sports teams etc. Please contact your child's teacher if you wish to help. Also we do appreciate assistance with school-wide programmes such as Bookworm and sporting events.

Students will receive a home learning sheet this term, which will give the students a selection of activities to select from. Reading, spelling and basic facts practice does need to continue as well. The home learning tasks are not due until the last week of the term.

Term two will be busy and action-packed. We are very fortunate to be able to continue with the specialisation programmes. We will be participating in the dance and drama programmes for weeks 1 to 5. Te Reo will be integrated into the daily programme to encourage use in authentic contexts.

Literacy skills will be developed through instructional programmes and applied within integrated studies contexts. Planning, drafting, proofreading, editing and publishing skills will be developed so students can begin to apply these skills independently. The students will be using the Long Bay writing carriages within their literacy programme so please ask them why and how they are using these to help their learning. Active listening, speaking clearly, recording legibly and presenting to a high standard will be a focus. Our focus in writing this term is recounts, explanations, research and note-taking.

Mathematics programmes will be based around Statistics (probability) and Measurement (volume, capacity and weight) and Number and Algebra. With the Number and Algebra programme, we will be grouping within the class, based on the needs of the students.

The physical education programme includes daily physical activities i.e. relays, interval training and Jump Jam. We will use our physical activity programme to prepare the students for the annual cross country in week 6. There will be times when we ask students to bring a change of clothes so that they can train for this. They do get very muddy when running around the school. The expectation is for all students to participate in this school event. Our skills and games focus is catching, throwing, kicking in the context of invasion games.

Our learning inquiry will be focussed on health and science. The health focus begins with travelwise, which will involve activities inside and outside the class. This is followed by the "Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme." More information will come home in regards to this, as well as details about a parent information afternoon. Science will be an ongoing focus this term. We are still in the process of planning this. There will be a team trip to the science roadshow on Friday 16th June. Information for this will be coming home soon.

Please feel welcome to pop into the classroom before and after school to view your child's work. There may be times when you wish to discuss your child with us. If we are not immediately available, we will arrange a convenient time to talk. It is very important to have good communication between home and school and we hope you would contact us if you have any concerns or queries.

Our email addresses are :

Mrs Edgoose - Team Leader (Tōtara) dianee@longbayprimary.ac.nz

Mr Keoghan - johnk@longbayprimary.ac.nz

Mr Anderson - stevea@longbayprimary.ac.nz

Upcoming

Travelwise - Week 2 : Monday 8th May to Friday 12th May

- Various activities throughout this week.
- Wednesday 10th May - Wheels Day for Year 4-6
- Friday 12th May - Bright Day - Gold coin donation.

Rippa Rugby Tournament - Week 1 : Thursday 4th May (raindate is 9th May)

Teacher Only Day - Week 5 : Friday 2nd June

Cross Country - Week 6: Thursday 8th June for year 4-6 students (Save Day 12th June)

Rippa Rugby Tournament - Week 7 : Thursday 15th June (raindate is 20th June)

Science Roadshow - Week 7 : Friday 16th June

School Disco - Week 9 - Friday 30th June

Parent Teacher Interviews - Week 10 : Wednesday 5th July

ICAS EXAM Dates for Term Two, for registered students

Tuesday 23rd May - ICAS Digital Technologies

Tuesday 30th May - ICAS Science

Tuesday 13th June - ICAS Writing

Wednesday 14th June - ICAS Spelling

We look forward to an enjoyable and productive term.

Kind regards,

Tōtara Teachers.