

**Business Name**

Term 2 Week 1

2 May 2025

# TOTARA COLLEGE NEWS

This Term at Totara

Theme:  
Civilisations

Value: Diligence

Scripture:

Proverbs 3: 5-6

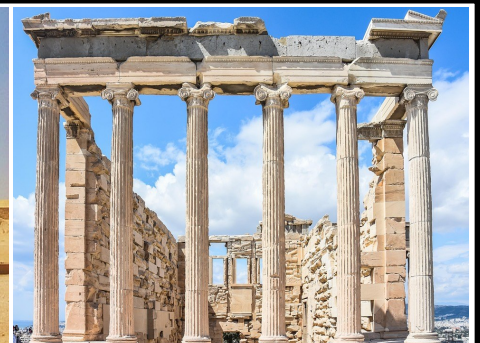
Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
And lean not on your own  
understanding;  
In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
And He shall direct your paths.



**TOTARA  
COLLEGE**

***Vision***

*Reaching our God-  
given potential*





# From the Dr's Office...

Dear parents and whanau

Welcome back to a new term of learning. I hope you've all had a wonderful time with your children and enjoyed having the two statutory holiday breaks that were this time contained within the school holiday period. The government arranged it this way, this year, and it seems like a much better arrangement for parents who, otherwise, can struggle with having their children at home while they still have to work.

In our first assembly back I remarked to the students that it was quite pertinent having the two holidays arranged this way since Easter is the holiday where we remember the death of Jesus on the cross (symbolized by the cross on the hot cross buns and eaten on Good Friday) and his subsequent resurrection to new life, which we celebrate on Easter Sunday with symbols of new life such as eggs and bunnies. The resurrection of Jesus shows us the new life we can have by accepting him as Lord of our lives.

ANZAC day is all about 'Lest we forget' the sacrifices made in the World Wars and this theme is a good one for Easter as well. Lest we forget the sacrifice that Jesus made for us all to allow God's adoption of us into his family.

## Board elections

This year is school Board election year and this will happen formally in term three where nominations will be called for and new members elected for the next three years. School boards are about governance of the overall direction of the school. Individual Board members do not have any power themselves as such, but the Board as a whole votes on governance decisions which help direct the smooth running of the school. Examples of Board direction are: the annual and strategic school plans (on the website), the annual budget and monitoring of this (which allows the funding of the priorities in the annual plan) and the general policy framework (which is currently under review).

If you would like to consider putting yourself forward for the Board, this is something to start thinking about now. Our next meeting is Tuesday week 3 at 6.30pm.

Current Board members are:

- Calder Woodfield (chair)
- Andy Grocott (deputy chair)
- Gavin Welsh (proprietor representative)
- Trevor Viljoen (proprietor representative)
- Isabelle Omundsen (parent representative)
- Myself (principal)
- Ruth Peters (staff representative)
- Adena Green (student representative)

### Staff changes

We congratulate **Carl McIntyre** who has been appointed to the position of Across School teacher for the Kahui Ako (the Christian schools and ECEs in the lower north island). This position will see Carl working for the Kahui Ako on Mondays and Fridays and hence he will not be at the school then. Carl is still the Assistant Principal of course and has various responsibilities which include higher level behaviour management, secondary NCEA courses, teacher of subjects in the humanities and form teacher for LC4. On Fridays, Carl's classes will be taken over by Ranier Arnold. This has necessitated a small timetable change in secondary which students will be made aware of in due course.

I hope you all are enjoying the change of weather even though April seems to have been unusually warm. If things don't change life can become too static. A friend of mine once said 'If you don't like change, don't look in the mirror!'

Best wishes

Peter





**Keanu:**

**Class: Taonga Atua**

Guardian of the door.

Famous for ensuring the secondary block doors are open for male and female, old or young, teacher or student.

**Class: LC4 Science**

Famous for setting off the fire alarms...or was that their teacher?



## Please Remember...

- Tuesday 13 May—World Vision Conference
- Wednesday 14 May—Fundraising Committee Meeting
- Wednesday 21 May—Careers Expo
- Monday 2 June—King's birthday
- Thursday 19 June—Teacher Only Day
- Friday 20 June—Matariki
- Friday 27 June—End of Term Events

### Term Dates for 2025:

- Term 1: Monday 3 February—Friday 11 April
- Term 2: Monday 28 April—Friday 27 June
- Term 3: Monday 14 July—Friday 19 September
- Term 4: Monday 6 October—Friday 12 December

**E-mail: [office@totaracollege.school.nz](mailto:office@totaracollege.school.nz)**

**Phone: 06 374 6165**

## Communicating your concerns

Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. James 1:19

In our school we have students, parents, volunteer adults, teacher aides, office staff, teachers, and senior leadership (assistant principal, deputy principal and principal). With so many people there are always going to be the odd times when something goes wrong.

Points to having your concerns heard appropriately:

The first adult you see about the issue should be the one closest to the problem.

Concerns are important to us. We may only know of a concern if you tell us.

If your concern is about another child. Please do not approach the child. Approach the school and we will handle it.

Please be respectful to staff. They are expected to be respectful to you.

Please don't approach teachers when they are teaching or on the way to a class – book an appropriate time – this can be done by email.

Please don't discuss your concerns through social media – we prefer to be able to sort them privately. Inappropriate use of social media can lead to unintended privacy invasions which, in extreme circumstance, may lead to court action.

## When there is an issue/concern/complaint please follow this process:

### Student concerns

#### **See the person concerned in the first instance.**

Most issues occur between children in the classroom or the playground and so generally the **classroom teacher** is the first person to speak to. Most issues can be dealt with at this level. The classroom teacher may also involve some professional support (e.g. senior leadership) if they need it.

#### **If you are not satisfied with the response.**

Please put your concern in an email to the office ([office@totaracollege.school.nz](mailto:office@totaracollege.school.nz)), stating that you have seen the teacher and been unsatisfied with the response. You will be contacted by a person (usually senior leadership) delegated to handle the issue.

#### **If you are still not satisfied with the response.**

Write a letter (email) to the principal directly [principal@totaracollege.school.nz](mailto:principal@totaracollege.school.nz)

#### **If you are still not satisfied with the response.**

Write a letter to the Board of the school which will be tabled at the Board's next meeting (generally there are 2 meetings per term). Letters intended for the Board can be left at the front office for the Board secretary.

### Staff concerns

If you have an issue with a staff member, please see the person concerned first then, if unresolved, a senior leadership member. If not satisfied with the response go to 3 above.

### Senior leadership concerns

If you have an issue with a senior leadership person, please see the person concerned first then, if unresolved, go to 3 above.

### Principal or Board concerns

Please see the principal first and follow this up with an email documenting your concerns. If the issue is unresolved, see another senior leadership person to assist. If issue is still unresolved, go to 4 above.



**DANNEVIRKE  
SOUTHSCHOOL**



*125 years*  
**REUNION**

*30 May - 1 June*



Register on the Dannevirke South School website:  
[www.dannevirkesouth.school.nz](http://www.dannevirkesouth.school.nz)  
or phone 06 374 8915

Merch Available here: [www.mangatera.co.nz](http://www.mangatera.co.nz)



# Picky Eating

## IN PAHIATUA

LEARN HOW TO REDUCE STRESS AT MEALTIMES  
OVER THREE SESSIONS



"BEST THING EVER! Dinner times in our house have gone from battles, tears, time outs, bargaining, bribing, and tantrums, to legitimately pleasant experiences."

Eating can be more challenging for children than we realise.






How food looks, smells and feels, both on the plate and in their mouths can all impact a child's experience with food.

Sensory processing, genetics and neurodiversity can also play a part in picky eating.

Join other parents over 3 weeks in a non-judgemental space to learn about the spectrum of picky eating.

## Details

-  10:00am - 12:30pm
-  Thursday 15, 22 and 29 May
-  Tararua Community Services Pahiatua
-  Koha Appreciated
-  Refreshments available

**To Register, contact  
Tararua REAP**

**TARARUA REAP**  
Rural Education Activities Programme

-  15 Gordon Street, Dannevirke
-  06 374 6565
-  office@tararuareap.co.nz
-  www.tararuareap.co.nz



# **READY FOR NEW SEASON**

**DANNEVIRKE SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB  
(DSRC) INVITING RETURNING AND NEW  
JUNIORS TO THE CLUB FOR THE 2025  
SEASON**

Are you a Year 7 or 8 and want to have a go at Smallbore Rifle Shooting? Boys and girls both welcome. Our junior shooting season starts every Tuesday from 6 May 2025 from 5:30-7pm. There are very limited spaces available, with year 8 students given priority. Parental help is a necessity. Cost for the 8 weeks is \$150 which includes targets, ammunition, rifle use, coaching, final parents vs child shoot, Southern Hawkes Bay competition and awards. Please register your child's interest by the 1 May 2025.

**For more Information contact  
Ruth McNair (0210777952) or  
Julla Blacklaws (0273311660) or  
email [jullaanddean@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jullaanddean@xtra.co.nz)**



# **READY FOR NEW SEASON**

## **DANNEVIRKE SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB (DSRC) INVITING NEW HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS TO THE CLUB FOR THE 2025 SEASON**

**Are you keen to give something new ago?**

**Have you completed the DSRC junior program and want to  
continue shooting?**

**Our Smallbore Rifle Shooting season is upon us.**

**Boys and girls both welcome. If you are Year 9 and over your  
shooting is every Tuesday from 7pm starting 8 April at the range in  
Anderson street. Parental help is a necessity as well. Joining costs  
are \$110 for the season's membership plus ammo cost for the  
season.**

**The DHS Smallbore Shooting Team has had huge success in the last  
few years with NZ Reps so let keep this going with some new keen  
shooters!**

**Contact Ruth McNair  
(0210777952) or  
Julla Blacklaws  
(0273311660)  
email**

**jullaanddean@xtra.co.nz**

