

Term: 1 Week: 5

1 March 2024

# TŌTARA COLLEGE NEWS

This Term at Totara

Theme: Cultures

Value: Respect

Scripture: PSALM 117

All you nations, praise the  
LORD.

All you people on earth, praise  
him.

Great is his love for us.

The LORD is faithful forever.

Praise the LORD.



***Vision***  
***Reaching our God-  
given potential***



We are so grateful to KidsCan who donated jackets for our LC1 and LC2 classes. KidsCan believe that tamariki cannot learn if they are cold, wet or hungry, therefore they have provided Totara College with these jackets, various sizes of black lace-up shoes and snacks.

**Thank you KidsCan.**





# From the Dr's Office...

Tena koutou ki nga mātua o tenei kura

The school has been in good heart for the last two weeks, despite having a large number of students and staff in poor health. COVID has again reared its ugly head unfortunately. Thankyou for your patience as we have had to manage the situation where sometimes half of our staff are absent.

## Sickness

The key message for parents is: if your child is sick – leave them at home and call the office. There is now no stand down period for COVID, so, as soon as they recover, they can come back, regardless of how they test. If they test positive but are not symptomatic; it might be a good idea for them to wear a mask, just in case.

If people are unwell, please avoid physically coming to the office since our lovely school administrator, Sue Holdaway, is undergoing treatment and may be immune-compromised.

## Student leaders

We announced our student leaders for 2024 at an assembly on Wednesday. The application process was by written application which was then considered by our leadership team ((Peter Ferrar, Ruth Peters and Carl McIntyre). We then interviewed candidates and asked them three questions:

Why do you want the role?

What special strengths will you bring to the role?

How will you respond if unsuccessful?

After discussion, we decided to appoint a group of 5 school leaders and 4 house group leaders. The school leaders focus on school wide activities, the house leaders focus specifically on house activities.

It is my pleasure to announce our school leaders:

**Head Girl:** Sarah Coker

**Head Boy:** Bradley Locke

**Deputies:** Izzy Lawson, Zach Welsh and Grace Reid

Our House leaders for 2024 are:

**Judah** (last year's winners): Kyle Strydom

**Zebulun:** Adena Green

**Abraham:** Peyton Peters

**Levites:** Hezekiah Tohu

### **New Build**

The proprietors are investigating a new build to further accommodate some of our needs. These plans involve:

- Renovation of the administration area to allow better flow for parents
- Increased resource storage and office space attached to the back of the hall
- Increase in size of staffroom (by taking out a wall)
- Increased size of food technology room to accommodate more students

We do not have a date for commencement as yet.

### **New Logo**

The board has been considering a new logo for the past year and this was given more weight after community consultation revealed an appetite for change. Since that time, the Board has gone back and forth with a professional graphic designer (Icon Design) and reviewed a number of possibilities. There was a desire to have a professional developed logo that encapsulated who we are; particularly the following aspects:

- Our Christian special character
- Our name: Totara College (the tree symbolizes life and growth in Maori culture)
- Our values: Respect, Integrity, Kindness and Diligence
- A link to our history and past logos

On Tuesday night, the Board formally adopted the following as our school logo. This will gradually become well used around the school and will transition in as new signage is purchased. If you have school uniform with the 'now-old' logo – don't worry. It's still valid, we'll just be transitioning things to the new one over time.



Points to note:

- The cross is central – denoting our Christian special character.
- The circular shape links to the running track on the previous logo with our school scripture 'we press towards the mark' having the metaphor of us being runners striving diligently to get where we need to go.
- The four leaves of the totara tree around the cross denote our four school values: Respect, Integrity, Kindness and Diligence.
- The bible under the cross denotes the importance of God's word and also links to a previous logo.
- We are also moving away from the name 'Totara College of Accelerated Learning' to just be Totara College. The macron over the o indicates a long 'o' sound.

We hope you like it

### Board officers

Also at Tuesday's meeting we elected new Board officers. My congratulations to:

Board Chair (sometimes now called the Presiding member): **Calder Woodfield**

Deputy Chair: **Rickie Carnie**

Also appointed to the proprietor trustee position was: **Trevor Viljoen**

Finally, I'd like to thank **Mr Gavin Welsh** who has served the school for a number of years in his various roles. Gavin is stepping down from the Chair due to needing to address the workload of his myriad of responsibilities, but will continue to be a proprietor trustee on the Board and will continue to serve in various capacities.

Gavin – we are very grateful to you for all you have done for the Totara College – you continue to make a lasting legacy.

Best wishes

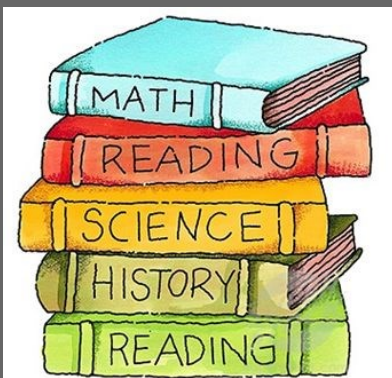
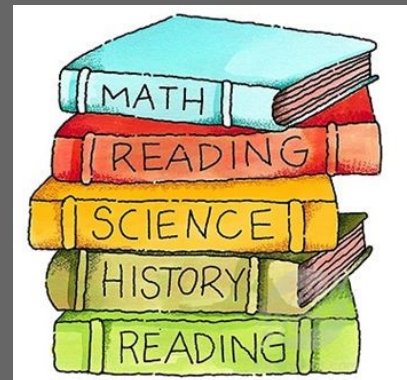
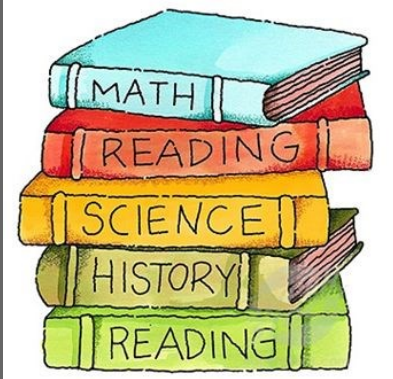
Peter



Our Head Girl—Sarah getting some Careers advice from the  
Assistant Principal—Mr McIntyre



## LC1 and L2





Step into a vibrant tapestry of diversity as our school transforms into a kaleidoscope of cultures on Culture Day!

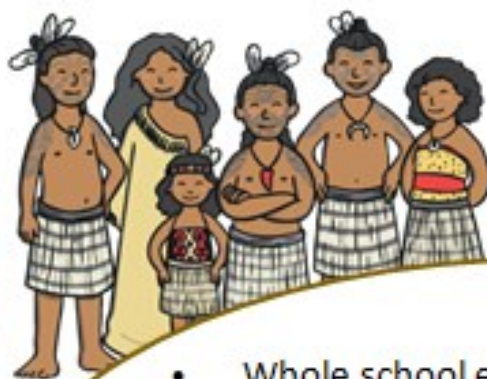


# Culture Day



**UNITY IN DIVERSITY**

Come and join us in celebrating the rich heritage and traditions of our global community that make our school a mosaic of unity and understanding.



- Whole school event on last day of term
- Shared lunch—Send online a dish from your chosen culture to share.
- Dress up—wear clothes that represent your chosen culture.
- House competition parade—watch the tamariki showcase their style.



# Junior Disco

Year 1-8

Neon Theme

March 15, 2024

School hall

6pm – 7pm

\$ 2 entry

Or

\$4 entry and this gets you a bag

Chips

Drink

Lollies

Glowsticks





## Community Notices:



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2024**

**Wai Splash Triathlon**  
**All ages & abilities**  
Includes a splash & dash  
~limited entries~

\$10 Entry includes cap, swim bag & drink bottle ~ Splash & Dash \$5 includes swim bag & cap



### Please Remember...


- Wednesday 13 March—Swimming Sports 11.30am to 3pm
- Thursday 14 March—School photos
- Monday 19 March— Parent Interviews 1.30pm onwards
- Friday 22 March—Teacher only day—no school
- Friday 29 March to Tuesday 2 April—Easter—no school
- Friday 12 April - Term 1 ends
- Monday 29 April —Term 2 starts

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

Phone: 06 374 6165



# SKOOL LOOP APP



## Stay “in the loop” with our communication app!

**Events | Cancellations | Notices**  
**Newsletters | Permission slips**  
**Instant notifications | Absentees**  
**Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Simple free download:**  
In Google Play & App Store search **‘Skool Loop’** & choose our organisation once installed.



## Downloading the Skool Loop app - a step by step guide

Once you have downloaded the Skool Loop App, via either your Google Play or App store, please follow the below instructions to select your school -

- Open the Skool Loop App - you will land on a welcome page.
- Click the ‘Select your schools’ this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school or follow the country/region prompts.
- Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side.
- Tap the ‘select schools’ button in the top right corner.
- Tap the big orange choose button. This will load your school and bring you to the settings page.
- Subscribe to the groups that are relevant to you, then click the ‘go back’ button on your phone, which will bring you to the main screen of your schools app.



# Blended Family Success

1-DAY WORKSHOP FOR COUPLES NAVIGATING STEPFAMILY LIFE



*Do you and/or your partner have children from a prior relationship?*

Discover how your blended family can adjust to stepfamily life, deal with common issues and create a happy home – all in one day!

You will be inspired and equipped with practical strategies that work!

## Details



8:30 am – 3:30 pm



Saturday 6 April



Tararua REAP,  
15 Gordon Street



\$40 per couple  
50% discount for Community  
Service Card holders



Lunch Provided



Childcare Available

Delivered by leading stepfamily presenter, Adele Cornish and her husband Mike. Together they have a blended family with five children



Blended Family  
**SUCCESS**

**Contact Tararua REAP to register**

For more information visit  
<https://www.blendedfamilysuccess.nz/>

**TARARUA REAP**  
Rural Education Activities Programme



15 Gordon Street, Dannevirke



06 374 6565



[office@tararuareap.co.nz](mailto:office@tararuareap.co.nz)



[www.tararuareap.co.nz](http://www.tararuareap.co.nz)





NORSEWOOD

# Plant-Based Cooking & Healing

LEARN TO USE WILD WEEDS & NATURAL REMEDIES TO SELF HEAL



Whether you are a newbie to plant-based food, looking for healthy alternatives or simply a food lover, this course is for you!



**A fun and tasty day of  
cooking and eating  
plant-based, whole food**



*Delivered by Renee Timmins*

## Details



9:00 am - 3:00 pm



Sunday 24 March



Norsewood &  
Districts School



\$30

50% discount for Community  
Service Card holders

For more information or to  
register, contact Tararua REAP

**Payment confirms your place**

**TARARUA REAP**  
Rural Education Activities Programme



15 Gordon Street, Dannevirke



06 374 6565



office@tararuareap.co.nz



www.tararuareap.co.nz





# Sign Language for Beginners

NZSL LEVEL 1A




Starting from the very beginning, this class goes through Deaf culture and Deaf awareness and will teach the basics.

Classes are fun, engaging and for all ages, so the whole whānau can be involved.

Available online, or in a classroom setting.

**NZSL**  **U**  
NEW ZEALAND SIGN LANGUAGE FOR YOU

## Details

-  7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
-  8 Weeks starting Wednesday 1 May
-  Tararua REAP,  
15 Gordon Street, or
-  Online from home  
Personal computer required
-  \$40 per registration\*  
50% discount for Community Service Card holders

**To Register**  
**Contact Tararua REAP**

\*Registrations can be as an individual or family group

**TARARUA REAP**  
Rural Education Activities Programme

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



# WHĀNAU DAYOUT

Celebrating Children's Day

Brought to you by



**Strengthening  
Families**

Te Huarahi ki te  
Whakapiripiri I Ngā Whānau

Fun, free, interactive day  
for whānau to connect  
with Service Providers  
in Tararua

**SATURDAY**

2 MARCH, 2024



**10.00AM TO 3.00PM**



**DANNEVIRKE A&P  
SHOWGROUNDS  
INDUSTRIES HALL**



**TARARUA REAP**

Rural Education Activities Programme

📍 15 Gordon Street, Dannevirke

☎ 06 374 6565

✉ office@tararuareap.co.nz

🌐 www.tararuareap.co.nz

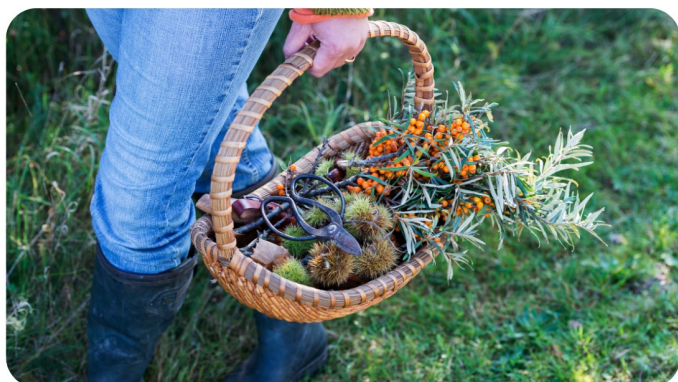




WOODVILLE

# Plant-Based Cooking & Healing

LEARN TO USE WILD WEEDS & NATURAL REMEDIES TO SELF HEAL



Whether you are a newbie to plant-based food, looking for healthy alternatives or simply a food lover, this course is for you!



**A fun and tasty day of  
cooking and eating  
plant-based, whole food**



*Delivered by Renee Timmins*

## Details



9:00 am – 3:00 pm



Sunday 10 March



Te Ahu a Tūranga  
Marae, Woodville



\$30

50% discount for Community  
Service Card holders

For more information or to  
register, contact Tararua REAP

**Payment confirms your place**

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