

TOTARA COLLEGE NEWS

This Term at Totara

Theme:

How Food & Nutrition impacts our personal health and physical development

Value: Respect

Scripture:

The whole Armor of God

Ephesians 6 v 13-18

Therefore take up the whole armor of God...



**TOTARA
COLLEGE**

Vision

Reaching our God-given potential

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

THE ARMOR OF GOD



above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication.



From the Dr's Office...

Greetings everyone

We've had a sad week this week as we remembered our lovely school administrator; Sue Holdaway. Sue passed away last week. She'd been struggling with cancer for the last two years and finally resigned towards the end of the holidays. It's a testament to Sue's dedication and love for the school that even during the holidays, she was still thinking of maybe coming back to work with us.

There was a lovely funeral service for Sue on Tuesday and a number of staff and our Head prefects attended on behalf of the school. We had a farewell memorial on Thursday.

We've purchased two trees. One, a Totara tree in a pot we gave to Mark, her husband to thank him for the time their family gave to us through Sue. The pot was green since that was one of Sue's favourite colours. The other tree was a magnolia and later we'll have it planted on the site in memory of her. I don't know if Sue liked Magnolias but I've got one of these in my own garden and it is a particularly pretty shade of magenta, it flowers twice in the summer months, and as soon as I saw it in the garden centre I thought she'd like it.

I only knew Sue for 2 years, the time I've been at Totara, but she was a lady I hugely liked and valued, we clicked together in our working relationship very quickly. She told me about the cancer diagnosis early in our time together, so I didn't really know her much prior to being sick. But it was easy to forget she was sick – she generally hid it really well and didn't like to dwell on it. She was that sort of person. I was always amazed with how pragmatic she was. She always focussed on the way ahead and the people around her, not her own troubles, even when she was in intense pain, or nauseous which she was sometimes at school. She was that sort of person.

She loved her work and knowing that she was making a positive difference for people, and that she was needed. That's why she stayed so long. She only really resigned because the pain was too much for her to continue on – she was that sort of person.

Sue was focussed on the people around her. She was no-nonsense and liked people to grow and get better. She was very forthright, but extremely caring. She was like the school mum in many ways:

Students and parents would often fill up the office to see her whenever they needed some support.

Staff would often turn up just to chat with her as they were asking her to fix something.

She'd always know the names of the couriers or anyone who just dropped into the school and she'd chat away merrily with them.

She was a craft-maker and she'd often be designing cards and things for people.

She was always ready to laugh and have fun.

We'll all miss Sue and are thoughts are with her family: Mark, Ryan, Chris and her new little granddaughter.

In Psalms it says: 'Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of His saints'

Sue was one of them.

In other news...

We congratulate Bena Haider on her new position at Wellington East Girls' College in Wellington. Her last day here is Friday 28 February. Bena has been with us for 6 years. We will miss her smile, conversation and the click clack of her shoes as she makes her way around the school. We would like to take this opportunity to wish Bena the best for her new adventure.

A big welcome Renee Timmins who has been appointed LC3 teacher in Bena's stead. Renee has been relief teaching here for the last year and brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge. Please introduce yourselves to her as you have the chance.

Best wishes

Peter



We will miss you Sue. You were such an integral part of our lives here at Totara. You were pragmatic, efficient, joyous, kind, confidential, loving, smiley. You were a friend to many and loved by all. Rest well in Heaven.

Year 12 Chemistry students
working hard in the lab.



Bonjour
Year 7 & 8 Students in
French class.

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), 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

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.

Please Remember...

- Monday 17 March—Totara College Swimming Sports
- Wednesday 19 March—Year 7 Immunisations
- Monday 24 March—Country Swimming Sports
- Friday 28 March—Teacher Only Day
- Tuesday 1 April—Interschool Swimming Sports
- Friday 11 April—Honour Roll

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

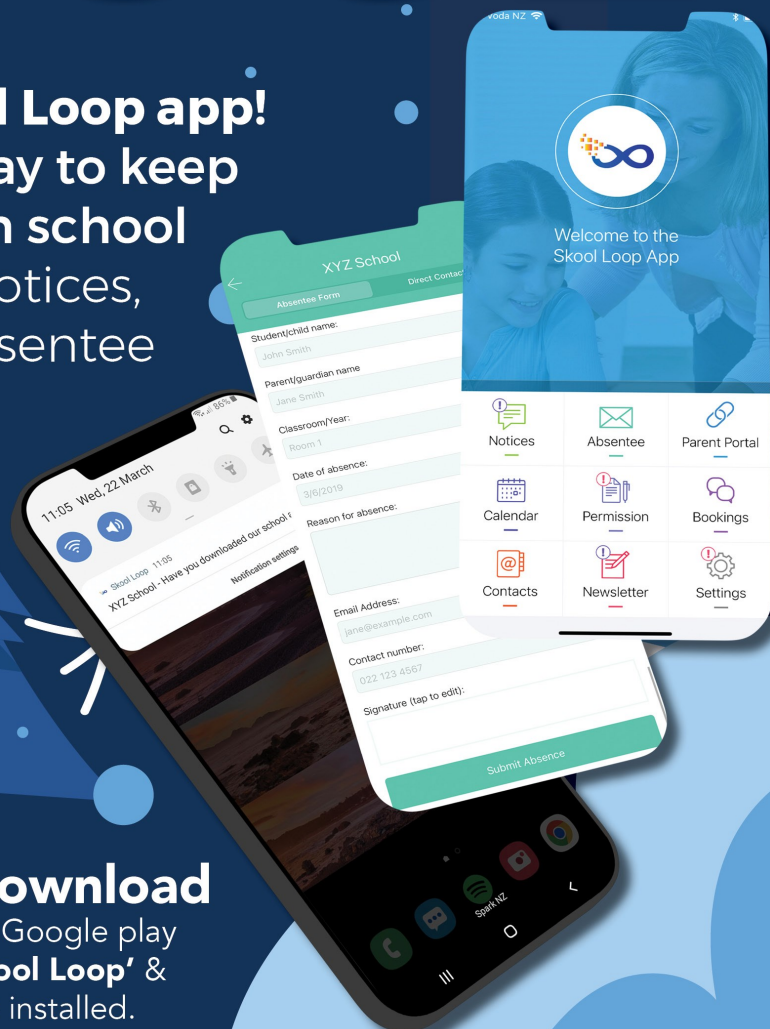
Phone: 06 374 6165

Totara College

Communication Tool

Keeping It COOL

With our Skool Loop app!
Download today to keep
up to date with school
information. Notices,
newsletters, absentee
notifications and much
more.



Simple free download

Scan the QR code or In Google play
& App Store search '**Skool Loop**' &
choose our school once installed.



Sunday 2nd March 2025 - 11am

TRIATHLON 2025

ALL AGES & ABILITIES



CHOOSE YOUR CHALLENGE AND DISTANCE.

DISTANCE	SWIM	CYCLE	RUN
7 YEARS & UNDER SPLASH & DASH	50 M	-	250M
SHORT TRI	50 M	2 KM	1 KM
MED TRI	100 M	4 KM	1 KM
LONG TRI	150 M	6 KM	2 KM

Dannevirke High School Winter Sports Registration 2025

Thursday 20th February

1.30pm

At the Dannevirke High School Gym

If you attend Totara College, Home Schooled or Te Kura Kaupapa Maori O Tamaki Nui A Rua. Please get your Sports Co Ordinator/ Parent to email Mrs. Robertson JessicaRobertson@dannevirkehigh.school.nz with the student's names and what sport they would like to play.

Dannevirke High School sets a limit on the number of outside student's playing for our school. By putting your name down, it does not mean that you will be included into our sports teams.

School Bus Drivers Wanted!



- **A Class 2 Licence or P endorsement preferred**
or
- **A Full Class 1 Licence for at least two years (full training provided)**

**To apply
call Michelle
on 0212811401**

**Minimum
15hrs
per week**





Picky Eating

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CHILD AND THEIR
FOOD PREFERENCES



"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 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

-  9:30am - 12.00pm
-  Thursday 13, 20, 27 March
-  Tararua REAP,
15 Gordon Street
-  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

