Totara College News

Term 4, Week 4

02/11/2026

This Term at Totara

Value: Integrity



He makes me to lie down in green pastures

TOTARA COLLEGE

Vision

Reaching our God given Potential

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of the righteous

For his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of

the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For you are with me;

Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;

My cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me

All the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house of the LORD

Forever

Hi Everyone

I hope you're all well and enjoying the slow drift out of winter as the days get longer (but not yet much warmer).

We are very excited to be able to report a new staff member is joining our team next year: Mr Joshua Fail. Josh is a secondary teacher with a wide range of strengths to his bow despite the fact he will start as our youngest staff member. He has a political science degree from Canterbury University and has also done tertiary theology courses. He is able to teach History, Social Studies, IT, Biblical studies, German and English. He has been with us this year as a student teacher learning his craft, but before that, he spent time in Germany and in Africa doing a Discipleship Training Course with YWAM (Youth with a Mission). Josh is a caring and sensitive young man and we are looking forward to him joining our team next year.

This week we've had a few staff out with professional development, learning about how we teach the new curricula and other things. Hopefully, every time we have staff out, they come back a little bit better and more able to give your kids the best learning we can.

Last week we had the senior ball which Peyton Peters did an outstanding job of coordinating, and this week we had the junior disco, organised by a group of teachers. Dance isn't really my thing, but it's always good seeing the students having a good time and staying safe as they let their hair down.

We're on the run down to the end of the year and the term will disappear quickly; it's week 4 next week. The next six weeks will see familiar things such as:

- Athletic sports
- End of year testing
- Swimming lessons
- Camps and day trips
- Course preparation for secondary students
- Reports
- Prizegiving
- End of year event (at the Lido in Palmy this year)
- Etc.

And within all that will be preparation for Christmas and, of course, the election. Exciting times.

Best wishes
Peter

Calendar of events

- Tuesday 10 November—Athletics Day
- Wednesday 11th November—Armistice Day
- Thursday 12th November—School Photos
- Wednesday 18th November—Interschool sports
- Wednesday 25th to Thursday 27th November—Secondary Camp
- Thursday 27th November Junior Tabloids
- Tuesday 8th December to Wednesday 9th December—Senior retail course
- Thursday 10th December—Honour Roll
- Friday 11th December—Prizegiving