

Term: 3 Week: 3

8 August 2024

TOTARA COLLEGE NEWS

This Term at Totara

Theme:

Looking after God's Creation

Value: Kindness

Scripture:

ROMANS 5:8

'God demonstrates his love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.'



**TOTARA
COLLEGE**

Vision

Reaching our God-given potential

Caltex Westlow are again sponsoring us—Thank you Westlows

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Feels good :)



From the Dr's Office...

Greetings everyone

School is in full swing and the students are well engaged in learning (well, that's my perspective anyway, hopefully your child agrees).

My thanks to everyone who attended the parent teacher interviews on Tuesday – we had very frank and informative discussions and it was great for teachers and parents to have the opportunity to get on the same page with how the children are going.

New Curriculum

You may have read some of the media articles on the focus the new government has on schools. Last month Literacy was the buzz word and this week it has been Mathematics. In the sector we have had a flurry of emails back and forth, and meetings, on what this means for schools. Please be aware that: yes, mathematics and literacy education is going to change (hopefully for the better) in the next year or two, but no, there is nothing you need to do to prepare for it. It will all happen at a school level. Personally, I'm reasonably confident that any changes will be beneficial to the learning of our children at Totara, so I'm seeing this as a positive, although it probably will have to happen faster than I envisaged.

School Lunches 2025

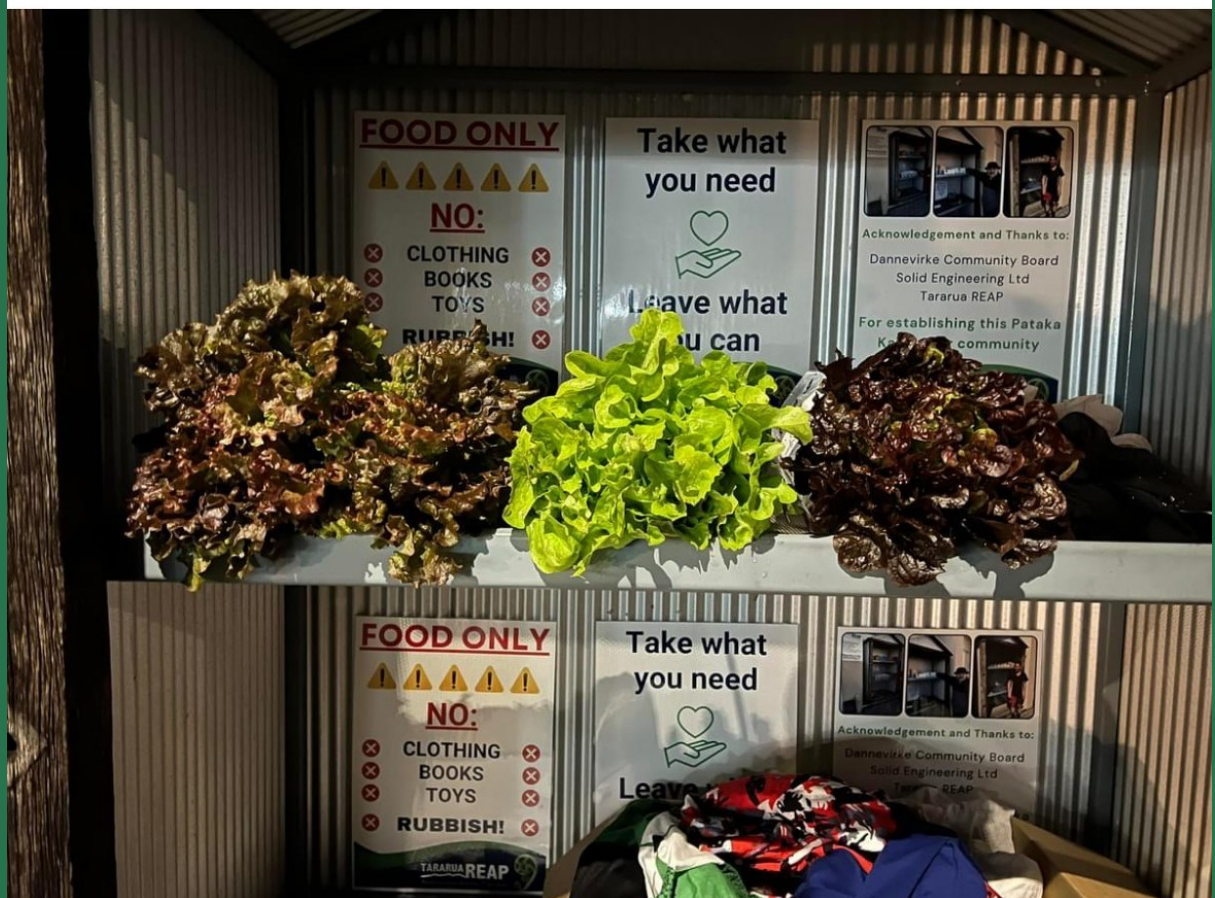
I've held off this announcement just to see if anything changed, but it seems reasonably certain now that we will no longer be having lunches supplied for students at Year 7-13 next year. This is a great shame since we have had excellent service from the wonderful team in the Wharekai at Dannevirke High School, but none the less, this is set to change. I have approached another provider to see how Year 1-6 lunches can be sourced and will let you know in due course.

It's fun seeing all the focus schools are getting at the moment in the media. I must confess, I like it. Even if some of the attention is not positive, it can only result in the Education sector in NZ giving a better outcome for our students, your children, and that is our job. I'm never afraid of a little accountability and I think that's how schools and principals should respond – not defensively, but using the attention to get better: that way everyone wins.

Have a great weekend

Peter

Totara College students have been growing lettuces in our school garden and we would like to share them with the community. 😊



SAVE THE DATE

15
NOV
2024

Totara College Senior Ball

Theme: Under the Sea

More information to follow

Alani and her Teacher Aide Iona having swimming lessons at the local pool.



Activities around the school



Totara College

Communication Tool



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.



Community Notices

- A member of our school community has a sleeping bag in very good condition to give away. If your child requires one for school camp, let the office know and we will arrange for it to be collected on your behalf.



- Dan from CCC Palmerston North will be at the Hub this Sunday from 10am to 3pm. Lunch will be provided. Everyone welcome.
- No youth group in Palmerston North this Friday.

Please Remember...

- Wednesday 14 August—World Vision Assembly
- Friday 23 August— afternoon—Convention Showcase
- Monday 26 to 30 August— Convention
- Friday 6 September—Junior Disco
- Friday 13 September—Teacher only day—no school
- Thursday 19 September—Kapa Haka
- Friday 15 November—Senior Ball
- Fridays—Term 3 onwards— Office closed every Friday

E-mail: office@totaracollege.school.nz

Phone: 06 374 6165