Newsletter  
Term 2 Week 8 

June 23, 2021

# What's going on?

| 23 June | House Captains to GRIP Conference  Footsteps Dance Company |
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| 24 June | Lunch order day |
| 25 June | Whole school assembly |
| 30 June | Footsteps Dance Company  BOT meeting 7 pm |
| 6 July | Paid union meeting for teachers - School closed from midday |
| 8 July | Whole school planting day-Tomarata Lakes |
| 9 July | Parent Teacher Interviews: children at home  Last day of Term 2 |
| 26 July | Term 3 begins |
| 6 August | Whole school assembly |
| 18 August | Rodney College visiting Year 8’s |
| 20 August | Whole school assembly |

# NB: Friday 9 July is like Day 1 interviews. School is open for interviews only. The children DO NOT come to school as usual. They can come with you ( parents) for the Interviews if you wish them to be there.

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# Birthdays

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## Mrs Neel’s Musings

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## Dear families & whanau

Kia ora, kia orana, talofa, malo e lele, kon’nichiwa, hello

The end of Term 2 is rapidly approaching, & I am happy that we have passed the shortest day of the year. Arriving at & leaving school in the dark most days becomes a bit exhausting, & it’s rather cold! Having said that, we have had some glorious days, like last Friday, & our children really enjoy being outside, even with a chill in the air.

Friday was an awesome day for our Year 4-8 students at the Rodney Rural Schools Soccer/Hockey Tournament.. Everyone had a marvellous time. We may not have won many games but the behaviour & sportsmanship of our children made me proud. I would like to thank Miss McGuinness again; the many parents who came to transport children, & supervise games; and Talia Watson-Walker for her coaching skills.

Our mid year reports will be going out in a totally different way this year. They will be accessed by you digitally, using HERO. Look out for the information on how this will look, & how you will access them. You also have the opportunity to book an appointment online, for an interview with your child’s teacher . Please go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) & enter the code wxdjp.

As part of the school vision, the students are using the produce from the school to create products. We still have a few jars of honey available; all the lip balms have gone BUT… we now have jars of lemon honey for $5 a jar. Thanks to Room 7 & our orchard!

[**principal@tomarata.school.nz**](mailto:principal@tomarata.school.nz)

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# Our Vision

***Knowing what makes each child tick enables us to cater for each of their unique gifts even if that sits outside of traditional approaches of the National Curriculum.***

It is a long process to understand & know every child in depth. This is made even more difficult by the fact the teachers have not just 1 child to get to know about, but many. As parents you know your children well, which is why Day 1 interviews, parent/teacher interviews & regular home/school communication is so important. In saying that teachers use a variety of strategies to learn about each & every child by observations, conversations, assessments & teaching sessions. At Tomarata School we use a variety of ways to engage our students in learning, that is not necessarily traditional e.g. the Bush Block; making honey; Art with Geva & Mindy. In this way we are creating our own special Local Curriculum that is just for us.

[**Tomarata School Shared Vision can be read in full here.**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XODboho0oPxNrrgrYJLnFEDEXMDfTnPQM5TEWitL2wk/edit?usp=sharing)

# Reminders

Please return any Show Day trophies that you may have at home as soon as possible.

# PB4L Focus

Our PB4L focus this week is on being able to follow instructions correctly & quickly. This is by making sure that we encourage active listening; which means really focussing on what is being said rather than listening but not engaging. This is a good exercise to practise at home. How often do we say mmmm mmm when our children are talking to us, but can’t say what they said if asked. I know my daughters managed to get a treat when I said yes, without really listening to what they were asking. Cell Phones take a lot of our attention these days, & we need to learn to put them down, turn off the TV & actually listen when conversations are being held.

[Tomarata School Behaviour Plan can be read here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/12XgEtYd8ZOOrOE3T_Z4Pi6A_nCeBv83t/view?usp=sharing)

# Shout outs

**Students**

Awesome effort to the following students who received the Values mascots on Tuesday: Teilah Rm 6 for Growth; Jack Rm 5 for Respect; Jacko Rm 2 for Ownership ; Arya Rm 7 for Working Together Harmoniously.

Community

"Thank you to everyone who voted on the Tomarata School Fireworks Evening Initiatives. We appreciate you taking the time to be involved and it's important that the school community voice be heard. In total 47 people voted and there was a clear winner with nearly 40% votes going to the 'Shade cover over the astro turf'. Therefore part of our fundraising will focus on the process of starting to build the money up, in order to bring this to fruition, so our children can enjoy wet weather and sun shelter outdoor play each day. The shade cover will also enable year round sports training and increase the longevity of the astro turf. The cover will also benefit external coaching sessions such as the current Friday afternoon tennis lessons that include not only our students but other children in the area and adults. Please note that the shelter will be very expensive, so it will not be built next year.

# Welcome to...

Mrs Glenda Simnkin who will be taking over as the CoL release teacher for Miss McGuinees every second Thursday Terms 3 & 4. Congratulations to Mrs Jeni Woodside who has gained a permanent job at Mangawhai Beach School.

# Parent Forum

Our first parent education afternoon is on Reading & it will be held on Tuesday 24 August from 3-5 pm. Please put that date in your calendars. We would also like RSVP’s nearer the time so we know how many to cater for. We hope that this session gives parents some useful tips to support your children with home reading. Literacy filters into all aspects of our lives, so needs to receive a high focus.

Helping Hands Update

The Helping Hands did a wonderful job cooking sausages & raised $447.30 for the school. Thanks to Erica & her team of willing helpers! You are greatly appreciated

Lunches this Thursday please bring the correct change. It makes this job much easier.

We need a few helpers on Saturday the 3rd of July at 9.30am to help make sandwiches 🥪 for the car rally.

Also we need a batch of scones for this event.

**To contact HH please email Erica Casey** helpinghands@tomarata.school.nz

# BOT Update

Our next Board meeting is on Wednesday 30 June at 7 pm in the Boardroom. All are welcome.

**To contact the BOT please email**

**Jason Kerrisk** [boardchair@tomarata.school.nz](mailto:boardchair@tomarata.school.nz)

House Captain Hello

The House Captains attended a leadership conference today in Auckland. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet other student leaders from other schools. Many thanks to Ms Haddow who transported them there .

HERO

We are delighted to launch our new communication & reporting system, HERO. An online sharing platform with complementary smart apps. HERO allows schools to customise an online environment that enables teachers, students & families to view & share content anytime, anywhere on any device. The software is secure, easy to use & brings together all school-related information in one place. With HERO, you will have the ability to:

-read & comment on posts relating to your child's learning

-view information on your child's progress & goals

-read & comment on school notices sent to the class or groups your child is part of

-respond to school notices such as surveys & trip permission requests

-view school term dates

-notify the school if your child is absent or late

-customise your account by adding a profile image

-select how you wish to receive notifications

Learning posts combined with curriculum information & goal setting will form an online report designed to build year on year so that over time you will have access to written posts, images, videos, work samples & helpful resources all in one place.

Over the coming year, staff & students will be posting rich content to our HERO software. We are looking forward to sharing this with you, including you in your child's learning journey. Please note that not all of the actions mentioned will be available in the beginning.

For information about HERO, including how to log in go to

http://go.linc-ed.com/

Community Notices.

**CATWALK ARTS WEARABLE ART AWARDS** Sat 28th August 2021 Mahurangi College. Please see our facebook page for more information

**Tomarata Playcentre**

619 School Road, RD 4, Wellsford

[tomarata@Playcentre.org.nz](mailto:tomarata@Playcentre.org.nz)

09 423 9074 Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays 9.30-12pm

Just for a Giggle