



Newsletter Term 1 Week 2

February 8, 2022



Mrs Neel's Notes:

Dear families & whanau

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

A warm welcome to everyone- students, parents, staff and new families. Tomarata School is an awesome place of learning where it is positive and provides memorable experiences for our students. Our staff are Lynnette Haddow (Acting DP) & Cara Jackson in Room 7; Renee Wade in Room 6; Robyn Sibsten in Room 3; Andie McGuinness in Room 2; and Barbara Bartlett in Room 1. Mrs Jackson works Tuesdays & Wednesdays in Room 7 releasing Ms Haddow, and takes CRT in our Nature Classroom on Thursdays this year. Jane Hilton & Heather Thomas are our brilliant teacher aides; Vick Rambaud is our cool Office Manager Mondays to Thursdays ,with Heather doing Fridays; and Allan Peake is our wonderful caretaker.

School began smoothly last week, with fantastic turnouts for the Day 1 interviews. Thanks to those parents who came to meet the teachers to form those important relationships. If there is anything that you need to discuss through the term about your child, remember the class teacher is your first port of call. Please do remember that to have a good conversation it is best to arrange a time to meet face

What's going on?

9 Feb	Swimming lessons start
11 Feb	School Photos rain day
14 Feb	Testing week starts
15 Feb	Goat island Year 7 and 8 class
17 Feb	New parents morning tea 10 am
18 Feb	School trip to Tomarata Lake TBC
22 Feb	Tomarata School swimming sports
24 Feb	Whanau Fun & Pizza Nite 4 pm
3 March	Whanau consultation 4 pm
4 March	RRS Swimming Sports TBC
10 March	Parent Forum 6 pm
23 March	Year 7½ Tech starts
4 April	House Captains Conference-Albany
5 April	RRS Tabloids TBC
14 April	Last day of Term 1

Birthdays

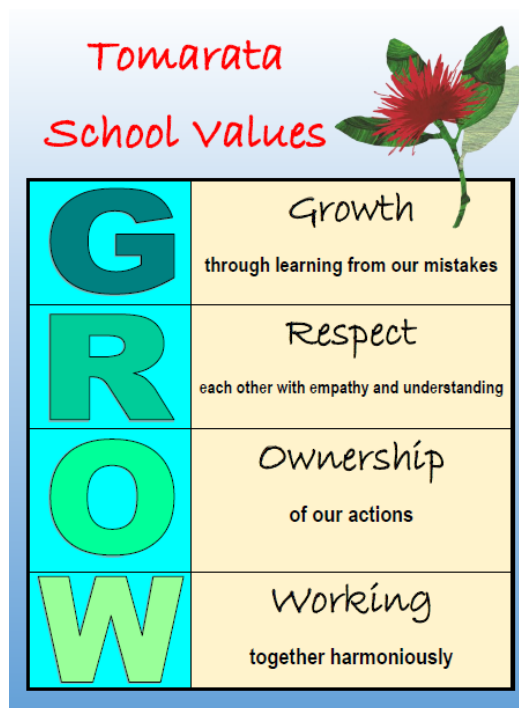
to face or discuss things on the telephone. A quick note to the teacher, or an email is a good start.

This year we are hoping for minimal disruptions with “you know what!”. We don’t have any building going on this year so that will help too. We are fortunate that we could ease into the year gently with 2 short weeks to start the term.

GAAP (Greater Auckland Area Aquatic Programme) swimming lessons start today (weather permitting). We are fortunate to have Ingrid & her band of specialist swimming teachers to provide free lessons, so please make sure for the next 2 weeks that your child comes prepared with togs, towels & a bag for wet clothes.

Remember to write down the special dates at the start of this newsletter. Here’s to an amazing year ahead- rock on 2022!

principal@tomarata.school.nz



Our Vision

Poipoia te kakano kia puawai-Nurture the seed & it will blossom- The rich theme for this year is our whakatauki. It will be incorporated into every aspect of our curriculum programmes & links perfectly with our GROW Values. It will also support the Games happening now & later in the year.

[Tomarata School Shared Vision can be read in full here.](#)

Reminders

Please ensure that your children are prepared for these hot, muggy days. Named sunhats & appropriate clothing is a must. Shoulders need to be protected, so avoid those shoe string straps please girls.

Healthy lunches are vital for growing children. We promote healthy eating & drinking water at Tomarata School. Children also need a separate snack for brain break every day. We ask that you try not to use plastic wrappers as we are an environmentally friendly school promoting litter free lunches .

If your child is going to be absent please let us know. You can do this through HERO or by leaving a message on the phone or website. This is important for safety reasons as well as for Ministry compliance. We need to know where our children are, & that they are safely under supervision. Getting to school on time every day is an important routine to re-establish especially after Lockdown. Reports on attendance go to the Ministry every week, as well as termly to the BOT.

Remember that to pick your child up after school go to the other side of the shed. Please do not park in front of the cones as this is where the Buses turn. This is to stop congestion at the gate for the bus students.

If your address, phone number or email has changed please let us know so that we have your correct details on HERO.

PB4L Focus

We have high expectations for bus behaviour so please revisit them with your child. All students Year 4 - 8 MUST wear a mask on the bus.

Andie McGuiness andie@tomarata.school.nz

Shout outs

Students

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who have won our House Captain positions for 2022.

KIWI: Willow Mitchell & Jack Clements

KERERU: Isaac Kerrigan & Max Davis

KAKAPO: Molly Barnes & Ayla Brien

KEA: Cole Costello & Khodi Paikea

This year we will also be appointing Sports captains. The student voice members will be voted for in each class in the next 2 weeks (2 per class). We value student choice & voice & engagement in school life. We also value giving every child the chance to prove themselves.

Community

Some tips for a positive transition back to school:

- Show a positive attitude to support your children to get the best out of school
- Be patient & reassure them about challenges that will be ahead of them: use our GROW values
- Seek feedback from them on their school day: *What was the best part of your day today? Who did you play with? Tell me about...* Being more specific in your questions gets better answers
- Busy families mean busy lives so organising time & things makes for happy families

- Communication between you & your children; & between home & school is vital. We need to work together to promote student's abilities to achieve their full potential, whilst growing into confident citizens of the future.

Information dates

I warmly invite parents to come to school on the following dates & times to share your thoughts, ask questions & gain knowledge. Masks will need to be worn in line with current restrictions.

17 Feb: new parents morning tea. A chance over a cuppa to ask questions & meet new people

24 Feb: Whanau Fun Nite & Pizza. We will be heating up the pizza oven so bring a picnic tea or pizza bases & toppings to cook your own. There will be a fun family competition for you all to take part in as well as tug of war & other activities.

3 March: whanau consultation. A warm welcome to come to our kura to korero about what you want for your tamariki

10 March: parent forum. Come to share a cuppa & ask more questions & give suggestions for what is happening at Tomarata School

I will also be holding 2 parent education evenings this term on Structured Literacy & Problem solving maths. Dates & times TBA

Welcome to...

Mason Klenner, Beau Trotter, Madeline barker & tahlia Witheford in Room 1

Moihi Puhipo in Room 3

Bella Mawson, Rosalie White-Smith & Tiare Korewhavan Leeuwen In Room 6

We hope you have a fabulous time as part of the Tomarata school family.

Help Needed

We are still looking for someone who has some spare time & could assist with Grant applications. We also would love more volunteers to help with our Garden to Table or Environmental programmes on Tuesdays.

Helping Hands Update

Our Helping Hands group is down to 1 parent and 1 teacher. If we do not get any more helpers then this group will sadly have to fold. This will have a huge impact on fundraising & other events such as lunches and sausage sizzles at events. Please, please if you could spare some time make contact with Erica as below

Erica Casey helpinghands@tomarata.school.nz

BOT Update

The Board is on the lookout for new members to join . These will be short term as the triennial elections are



going to be held in September. This is a great chance for you to try it out. We are having our monthly board meeting **Wednesday 23rd February** and you are welcome to attend. These meetings are held at Tomarata School at 7pm and are always open to the public. The agenda is available online a week in advance

(<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=1nxvV1Vk7IUqwBNh9SAvDz-QbcELLRpN>).

Jason Kerrisk boardchair@tomarata.school.nz

Just for a Giggle:

