



Adventure School

Totara Syndicate
2022 Chromebooks and Camp

7 December 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We aren't usually in the habit of issuing notices this close to the end of year as information can easily be lost or ignored in the lead up to Christmas. But I do need to advise you of a few important things prior to the end of term next week.

Syndicate numbers and chromebooks

As you will already have noted in a previous school newsletter, there will be a significant increase in Totara students next year. The good news is that we will have an extra class and teacher, so numbers of students in each class won't be increasing. The not so good news is there isn't a budget available to increase the number of school supplied chromebooks next year. So the opportunity for students to access school supplied devices across the school day will be more limited.

If you are considering venturing out to Boxing Day or New Year sales in the next few weeks (or going online to access bargains) can I ask that you consider purchasing a chromebook for your child next year? This isn't something we would mandate as a school, although we have noted some primary schools in the area that have for year 7 and 8 students. A chromebook or other digital device will most likely be a compulsory item on your child's stationery list when they enter college.

We have generally found Acers to be the most reliable and the best bargains to be had at PB Tech.

Totara Camp

The remainder of this notice pertains to senior camp, which takes place in Term 1 of next year. We thought it timely to let you know where students are going, what they will be doing and an understanding of costs. Given the Covid world we presently live in, some or all of this may change, but we can only hope that everything will go ahead as planned.

The overall cost of camps are always large and not something a school can cover. There is a link at the bottom of this notice that takes you to a form to fill out. The form asks whether you are able and willing to offer a donation to cover your child's portion of costs.

We need to gauge the level of financial support available to us from our parent community. If it looks like there will be a shortfall of funds, we will have to give serious thought to cancelling.

Totara Camp will be held at the Makahika Outdoor Pursuit Centre which is set among the forests and native bush in the foothills of the Tararua Ranges. The programme will run from Tuesday the 8th of March to Friday the 11th of March. Planned activities will include bush craft, tramping, high and low ropes, orienteering, team building and an overnight bush-camp experience. All these activities are run by highly experienced instructors, who are industry qualified and extremely safety conscious. Students will be in three groups and they will experience different sleeping arrangements each night; cabins in the lodge, an overnight bush experience and tents on the main campground.

Funds raised this year from Stall Day, Pizza and PJ Day will be put towards camp. We are also applying for grants which, if approved, will reduce costs further. At this stage it is impossible to give you any more than an indication of costs, but we expect them to be within the range of \$290 and \$350 per student.

Another notice will be sent out early next year with more information about camp and costs. This notice will also include an expression of interest form for parents who would like to join us as Adult Supervisors and a link to a Google form that will ask for necessary medical, dietary and other information about your child.

In the meantime, could you click [here](#) to access a Google Form and indicate whether you will be able to contribute the donation for camp next year. Please respond by Wednesday 15 December to enable us to make a decision before the end of the school year. As mentioned, if we can't cover costs, we will have to consider cancelling.

If you have any questions about camp, or can't access the above form, feel free to email me directly at mhughes@adventure.school.nz

Thanks and regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Hughes', written in a cursive style.

Mark Hughes
Totara Syndicate