



Adventure School

Tōtara Syndicate Newsletter – Term 2 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

With Term One now firmly behind us, I reflect back on eleven weeks of learning experiences. Not least of these was our senior camp at Makahika Outdoor Pursuits Centre. Thank you to everyone who made this possible. It was a welcome change to spend four days in the foothills of the Tararuas without the threat of a global pandemic swirling around us.

Term Two will pick up where Term One left off, with a raft of new and challenging experiences for our ākonga. The following newsletter touches on these, as well as a few other admin matters.

Learning Experiences

Our main topic of inquiry will focus on the upcoming Olympics. The unit of work is titled “Chasing Greatness”. We will be considering the broader history of the games, looking at the science of sports and also folding in aspects of our maths focus on Measurement. We will continue to hold maths workshops on Mondays and Tuesdays that focus specifically on Number.

Students will be pursuing their own notions of greatness with cross-country training in the first four weeks of the term. We ask that students consider their choice of footwear in this pursuit and come to school with shoes that are appropriate for running on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Language rotations continue this term, with students offered a taster in Spanish, French, German or Japanese. There are also opportunities to participate in Kapa Haka and Mr Dalton’s Poly Club, though the highlight of the Term will surely be our biennial Formal Dance in Week 10. Students have begun practicing various traditional dances. You will likely soon register your child wanting to discuss the differences between a Hinky Dinky and a Dashing White Sergeant.

Car Boot and Garage Sale

A notice was sent home late last term advising the community about a Tōtara fundraising event to be held at school on Sunday the 9th of June. Hopefully you have had a good clean out of closets and sheds over the holidays and have a plethora of merchandisable items that you are willing to donate to the sale. Please feel free to bring these items in over the next few weeks. If you or someone you know would like to secure their own space in the Hall or parking spot on the hard courts, please email myself (mhughes@adventure.school.nz) or John Kelleher (jkelleher@adventure.school.nz) and we will forward all necessary information.

College Open Days

We are beginning to receive information about College Open Days. Kapiti College is holding theirs on the 25th of June. If you haven’t done so, now is the time to start thinking about where your Year 8 child will be going next year. I will send more information on the three main colleges we feed into as it comes through.

Thanks and regards on behalf of the Totara Syndicate.

Mark Hughes