

Together we will maximise potential and empower ourselves for lifelong learning

REACH FOR THE STARS

TOTORO HOKI NGA WHETU

6th March 2015

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community members,

Parent Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 24 March 1.30 pm onwards

Here we are at the end of week five already of a nine week term. The teachers have been working hard to have test results from standardised assessments ready to analyse and really drill down as to what is needed to assist every child to reach their personal best. PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests) STAR (Supplementary Testing of Achievement Reading), Running Records, AsTTle Writing assessment and GLOSS mathematics tests all for a battery of information that teachers can use to inform and guide children and parents during parent / teacher interviews this year. This year reporting and interviews will be a little different with a 10 minute interview with your class teacher. In that time s/he will inform you how your child achieved in these initial tests, the goals that have been identified from these results, your child's behaviour, work habits and progress in the class and importantly what the teacher and you can do to support your child's learning. We encourage parents to adhere to these times or alternatively you can arrange to meet another time if your 10 minute interview is insufficient.

We strongly advise you of the importance to keep to the timeframe of this 10 minute interview. These can be in establishing a good understanding of your child's academic, social, physical and emotional abilities and needs at the start of the school year. We want to build our relationships with parents so that you are well informed and you can best support your child with their learning.

New Student Portfolios

In addition to the interview format there will be a change to the way that the student portfolios will be organised this year.

Essentially there will be three sections.

At the beginning of the portfolio you will be briefed on the type of tests that children sit and a short description of each, there will be information about reporting times and information about National Standards.

There will be your child's cumulative data and standardised test results from this year. In this section we are establishing cumulative tracking data whereby students, teachers and parents can see how their child is progressing through the years of their school life

Children and teachers will select samples of work to share with you from any one of the curriculum areas that they are working on – this is sectioned in term by term learning.

Swimming Sports

Congratulations to those children who have been selected to represent us at the District Swimming competitions today. We wish you all the best. Thank you to Mr Conder for organising this and thank you for his work in organising our own school swimming sports. Thank you also to the PTA for all their hard work providing the BBQ for everyone.

Uniforms

Thank you to the parents who are making a superb effort of ensuring that you child is dressed in the correct school uniform with plain black (skirts, shorts, pants etc) it does make our

school look tidier and it builds towards us raising our standards of presentation and pride in our uniform.

Senior Camp Fundraiser

Black Friday 13th March (Gold Coin Donation)

Wear something black for Friday the 13th or to show your support for the Black Caps (which ever you prefer). Make sure you bring a gold coin to contribute to the camp.

Camp organisations are going well. Watch out for more **fun** fundraisers.

Friday Assemblies

Friday assemblies will resume again next Friday where we will be presenting swimming certificates and class certificates.



STARS OF THE WEEK: Pheonix Ingwerson-Tokona for being caring and looking after a fellow student who was hurt, then he and Josh Saxon were seen helping to clean up after Swimming Sports on Friday last.

ROOM 1: Hi there everyone! We are busy working hard in Room 1. We have been busy learning to do our basic facts and thinking about the fastest way to solve problems. The high score for basic facts so far is 73 out of 100. The children are busy learning their times tables and I can see that we are going to have to look at division in the near future. We are starting to think about our next art topic we are planning to make self-portraits using the camera as well as honing our sketching skills. Well done everyone!

ROOM 2: Kia ora. It's been another hectic week in Room 2 and I have been very impressed by the improvement in work ethic and attitude shown by the children. We are now starting to really get down to some quality learning and excellent work is being produced. Our Algebra unit is progressing really well, as are our papier mache handprints.

I have seen some wonderful pieces of writing come out of our youtube stimulus and there may be a few parents dragged off to waterslide parks next summer!

Next week we begin our P.A.T Testing, which will be a bit new to the Year 3 students but they will give us a good indication of their national standing before parent interviews in a few weeks. Another busy weekend of cricket ahead for me (and many of you no doubt) and I'm hoping the R & P Stainless Te Aroha Tornados can make it four wins from four games on Saturday. I'm off to have dinner with some of the Indian cricket team on Monday so life is pretty good!

ROOM 3: Welcome to the end of another busy week in Room 3. We have been testing all week this week. The children have completed their Reading 'Star test', a PAT Vocabulary, Comprehension and a PAT Maths test. There are still a couple to go but I am seeing some pleasing results. These tests also feed into where to next for a lot of the students. We have started putting together the children's portfolios which will be ready to view at your interviews later in the term.

Our Scarecrow sketches are finished and up on the wall. I think the children did a great job really adding lots of details, shading and strong lines for effect. This week was the first week the children started their A-Z research in class time as a reading project. I am looking forward to their presentations this morning on what they learnt. Good luck to our students who are at District swimming

today. I am sure they will have a very rewarding day out. Have a great weekend see you back in week six.

ROOM 4: Every day this week Room 4 has completed another standardised test which includes the PAT tests. I have started testing Mathematics using the Gloss test and it is interesting to note the students who have continued to practise their mathematics strategies have maintained their levels or moved to the next stage. This has highlighted the fact that with practise everyone can achieve. However, on that note I am impressed with their learning and their maturity. We had a great discussion about election of house leaders this week and I must say I was impressed with their opinions and the way they conducted themselves during the discussion. I am also pleased to say that to date we have not had any major issues with their chromebooks. They are aware of the cyber safety rules which are part of the contract. Camp week is getting closer and we are in the process of organising cabins and day groups. A very busy term ahead of us!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Jayden Rodger, Shelby Nicholls and Charlie Buckton-Dalley who have all celebrated their birthdays this week. That is all our March birthdays in one week! We hope everyone had a great day.



Elstow-Waihou School PTA AGM
Wednesday 11th of March at 7pm
in Endeavour.

Come and support this wonderful, enthusiastic, get it done group! All welcome.

SATURDAY CRICKET REPORT: Two of our Te Aroha teams continued their seasons with victories last Saturday, while one suffered their first defeat. Year 3 & 4: Elstow-Waihou Rebels defeated Ngatea Primary by 118 – 105, Year 5 & 6: Elstow-Waihou Renegades were defeated by Matamata Idlers by 109 - 121 and Year 7 & 8: R & P Stainless Te Aroha Tornadoes continued their winning season by defeating Ngahinipouri Young Guns 148 – 146, with 5 overs to spare and 2 wickets remaining.

This week's draw: 7th March

Yr 3 & 4: Elstow-Waihou Rebels v Matamata Sutcliffes at Pohlen Park, Matamata, Yr 5 & 6: Elstow-Waihou Renegades v Matamata Ramblers at Pohlen Park, Matamata and Yr 7 & 8: R & P Stainless Te Aroha Tornadoes v Cambridge at Herries Park, Te Aroha

COMMUNITY NEWS:

HOUSE FOR RENT: Three bedrooms on Mikkelsen Road, available in March, may be a short term, references required. Please phone 884-8334

bodywise

Bodywise is a family based programme aiming to manage over weight issues in children aged 5-12 yrs. Participation in a 6 week group programme is supported by on going individual visits for a further 12 months. Programme topics include: healthy eating for families, school lunches & snacks, getting active, promoting self esteem & confidence, tips for dealing with bullying, problem solving & goal setting. Bodywise is now accepting referrals for a programme scheduled for term 2. For more information contact either : Helen, Bodywise Dietitian: 07 838 3565 ext. 22142 E. helen.stockman@waikatodbh.health.nz Soroya, Bodywise Active Families Co-ordinator: 858 5388 E. soroyam@sportwaikato.org.nz

MORRINSVILLE JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB for all children born 2002 to 2010+ can play. Registrations are being taken either on-line at www.tinyurl.com/mafcjnrs or at the Rec Ground clubrooms on the 14th of March, 10am til midday or email morrinsvillesoccerclub@hotmail.co.nz for further details.

Parent Teacher Interview Notice attached here. XX

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Pine: \$80 per cubic meter
 Mixed Pine & Gum: \$90 per cubic meter
 Gum: \$100 per cubic meter

Delivered within Te Aroha or pick up by arrangement

To place an order phone:
 Wendy Clement 884-7823 Or Angela Millward 884-9120



Fundraising for the Te Aroha College Rugby Tour to the Gold Coast - July 2015

BOT ELECTION

Voting Date 12th March

Every parent should have received a voting paper from your child, if you haven't please check with them or give Jocelyn a call.

This election is to fill the vacancy left by Mark Spooner.

If you want to have your say please remember to make one tick and either give it to your child to return to school or post it back to us, Thank you.



* Coming Events *	
10th	Camp Meeting 3:10
11th	PTA AGM 7:00 in Endeavour Thames Valley Swimming
12th	VOTING DAY
13th	Black Friday Mufti Day—bring a gold coin for mufti and money for a sausage
15th	Teddy Bears Picnic at Domain Day
16th	Soccer Big Day Out
18th	BOT meeting 7:00pm
24th	Parent Teacher Interviews

Regards: Heather Tanner, Wendy, Deane, Darren, Simone, Maree, Sarah, Heather, Michelle, Anne, Gordon & Jocelyn