



PHOTO : PORTER HEIGHTS

# Tōtara Term 3 Newsletter

## August 2019

## Welcome to Term 3!

Timetables have been finalised and all programmes are underway for Totara Year 7 and 8 class.

Subjects for Term 3 are:

- Maths
- Social Science
- PE
- Art
- Health
- Hard Technology

Bell times remain the same as previously and are as follows:

8.55am	Form time/Roll
9.00am	LB1 A
10.00am	LB1 B
11.00am	Interval
11.20am	LB2
12.50pm	Lunch
1.30pm	LB3
3.00pm	Home time

## SECONDARY INFORMATION

### TEAM LEADER COMMENTS:

Many thanks to you for your support of the Secondary Ski Trip - the students are still sharing their stories which make lifelong memories. Seems they were lots of laughs and plenty of snow to enjoy. Huge thank you to the staff for making it possible - Brett, Niki, Karlene and a massive thanks to Vicky for all her organising and planning.



This term is looking phenomenally busy so it is important that we support our young people during this time so they can be at their

best: healthy food, plenty of sleep, keeping warm. This website has some great ideas too for supporting teens and their wellbeing:

<https://sparklers.org.nz/parenting/>

*Michelle Maiava*  
Secondary Team Leader  
[mmaiava@karamea.school.nz](mailto:mmaiava@karamea.school.nz)

### ABSENCES:

If you are aware of upcoming absences for your child due to appointments or other commitments, please let the School Office know well in advance so teachers are aware for their planning and assessment purposes.

- phone school anytime as our absence message operates 24/7,
- email the school office [kgrey@karamea.school.nz](mailto:kgrey@karamea.school.nz) and your child's form teacher
- send a note via our SchoolStream app

**WELCOME to Anna King** who has joined the KAS staff. She is working with Totara class on Thursdays LB1-A managing the students spelling and goal setting, and in LB3 continuing with the literacy programme.

Here is a little about what is happening in individual subjects

## LITERACY

Literacy is based around Term 3's production "Alice in Wonderland".

There will be a specific focus on interpreting and writing "Nonsense" Poetry this Term, inspired by the poems written by Lewis Carroll the author of "Alice in Wonderland". Students will develop the ability to describe and infer to a specific style of poetry and gain an insight to 19<sup>th</sup> Century era language and concepts. The learning will be enhanced by increasing their range of vocabulary and terminology relevant to poetry. In the latter half of the Term students will plan, design and produce the programmes and advertising for the Production.

Students will need to continue to demonstrate appropriate editing skills with spelling errors corrected and use of appropriate grammar.

Brett Mawson

## MATHS

This Term Totara are continuing on their journey of deepening their understanding Algebraic Equations and Expressions and how to apply these to how algebra is used and interpreted when creating patterns, identifying relationships in patterns and how to graph these relationships.

Brett Mawson

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

I am very excited to be working with Totara on Friday during this term. I am passionate about students being aware of what is happening in the world around them, so there is a weekly current events quiz to complete.

We are also going to focus on Leadership - *Understand how the ways in which leadership of groups is acquired and exercised have consequences for communities and societies.*

- Types of leadership
- Ways of acquiring leadership
- The rise of youth leadership

As Careers Advisor, I will also be working with the students to begin to explore

- What is a career
- Look at what makes them "me"
- Think about what they could do for a career, and therefore what skills, qualities, and knowledge do they need
- Explore the future of learning and work

So be prepared for the queries about the type of work you have done, your qualifications and why you chose your career pathway.

Michelle Maiava

## VISUAL ART/DRAMA

Where to begin! Term 3 is production term with the biennial event scheduled for 3 performances of 'Alice in Wonderland' during Week 8. Totara students will be working on individual programmes depending on their role in the production and will be co-taught on Mondays by Karlene Rainham and Brett Mawson to provide a range of skills in context to a performance. These include enhancing/honing acting

skills, 3-dimensional prop and costume design and construction, and 2-dimensional design and painting. Other students will be learning practical skills linked to lighting, sound and management of backstage.

Brett Mawson and Karlene Rainham

## P.E.

This term we are covering a range of activities, skills and concepts for P.E.

We are currently focusing on softball and fair play. Hopefully with some improved weather we will be able to better utilise our sports field.

As the term progresses the class will have the opportunity for up-skilling in archery and we will start our training and development for athletics which will be held next term.

Vicky Chandler

## HEALTH

This term our key focus is healthy communities and communication. Students have been developing their listening and communication skills with their peers. The class will now be focusing on setting up some positive initiatives for promoting well-being in our school and later in the term looking at nutrition and the links to well-being.

Vicky Chandler

## CHINESE/MANDARIN

The students are continuing their study of Mandarin and have been enjoying the new perspectives their teacher Jessica Li shares with them. The views from her apartment are certainly a world away from the one outside their

own windows. The students love seeing her wee dog as a treat at the end. All students are continuing to develop their language skills and completed oral assessments with Jessica. They will continue to explore both the culture and the language as they work through the Term's topics.

*Karlene Rainham*

## TECHNOLOGY

In Technology this term Totara are constructing shelves using a through housing joint that we practiced with the Dragster cars that we made last term. These shelves can either be made for a wall or to sit on a table or desk. We are using macrocarpa for the shelves and will finish them with linseed oil.



*Niki Adams*

## TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

**Secondary school can be stressful for some students. There is an increase in deadlines and work expectations as the students continue their education.**

**It is important for all students to look after their health and manage their time appropriately to minimize stress.**

**Each student has received a student diary to help with monitoring deadlines, progress and managing self.**

**Below are some tips for success this year:**

- Set clear goals for what you hope to achieve this year, term, week, day.
- Write all assignments and deadlines in your diary.
- Ask questions when you do not understand
- Listen carefully in class and take on board feedback
- Let your teachers know if you will be absent for any reason
- Take responsibility to catch up with work if you fall behind
- Discuss topics with your peers and parents
- Explain your answers to others.
- Get outside in your spare time.
- Limit unnecessary time spent on devices.
- Snack on brain food.
- Stay well hydrated
- Gets lots of zzzzzzz's

**Parents can help support students by having in depth discussions in the evening regarding current subject topics.**

## DATES FOR THIS TERM:

12 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> August	Maths week
9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Maori language week
10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	School Production "Alice in Wonderland"
	= matinee/dress rehearsal 11am
	= evening performance 6pm.
12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	
	= evening performance 6pm
16 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	
	50 <sup>th</sup> Conservation week.
27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Last day of school.

## OTHER INFORMATION

If you have any concerns or queries about things happening within the classrooms, please contact the appropriate teacher first and foremost.

We strive for positive communication between school, students and whanau so we are always happy to make an appointment to meet with parents and caregivers as needed.

Brett Mawson-  
[bmawson@karamea.school.nz](mailto:bmawson@karamea.school.nz)

Michelle Maiava –  
[mmaiava@karamea.school.nz](mailto:mmaiava@karamea.school.nz)

Niki Adams –  
[nadams@karamea.school.nz](mailto:nadams@karamea.school.nz)

Vicky Chandler -  
[vchandler@karamea.school.nz](mailto:vchandler@karamea.school.nz)

Thanks for reading the Totara class newsletter. We are expecting wonderful achievements this year and will be sending out updates and newsletters every term.



We look forward to meeting with you throughout the year. Be sure to introduce yourselves to our new staff if you see them out and about!

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries or concerns.

Please see attached Totara weekly timetable.

Yours sincerely,

***The Secondary Team***

## CLASS TIMETABLE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Form time</b> (8.55-9am)	<i>TOTARA</i>	<i>TOTARA</i>	<i>TOTARA</i>	<i>TOTARA</i>	<i>TOTARA</i>
<b>LB1 A</b> (9-10am)	Production Rehearsals (BM) in Hall	TECHNOLOGY (NA) in Hard Materials Room	MATHS (BM) in Room 4	SPELLING and GOAL SETTING 7 & 8 (AK) in Room 4	7 & 8 SS (MM) in Room 4
<b>LB1 B</b> (10-11am)	HEALTH (VC) in Room 4	MATHS (BM) in Room 4	P.E. (VC) in Room 4	MATHS (BM) in Room 4	7 & 8 SS (MM) in Room 4
<i>Interval (11-11.20am)</i>					
<b>LB2</b> (11.20-12.50pm)	P.E. (VC) in Room 5	P.E. (VC) in Room 4	7 & 8 (BM) in Room 4	ART 7 & 8 (BM) in Room 4	MATHS (BM) in Room 4
<i>Lunch (12.50-1.30pm)</i>					
<b>LB3</b> (1.30-3pm)	7 – 10 DRAMA / VISUALART (KR & BM) in Room 4 or Art room	TECHNOLOGY (NA) in Hard Materials Room	CHINESE (CR) in Library / Computer Room	7 & 8 (AK) in Room 4	Production Rehearsals (BM) in Hall
	2.30pm PB4L OR 2.15pm Celebration Assembly - LIBRARY				