

# Totara Newsletter

## Rooms 1 and 2, West Park School

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of  
February  
Term 1 2016



### Welcome to 2016 Year 1 parents and caregivers

Welcome back to a new year at West Park School. We are looking forward to joining you in your child's learning journey.

This year the syndicates have gained new names, the size of the trees representing the different ages of the children. The new names are:

- Year 1 – Totara
- Year 2 – Miro
- Year 3 – Matai
- Year 4 – Rimu
- Year 5+6 – Kahikatea

**Homework:** The children will begin receiving homework in week 1. Inside the child's book bag there will be a homework book. The homework book will have a title page explaining the daily requirements. The expected homework for a year 1 student is:

- Reading – A small reading book will come home on Monday – Thursday. Please read this with your child.
- Spelling – Spelling books will be identified in the homework book. These will be tested on Fridays.
- Sight words – These words are essential for children learning to read. The children will need to know these words instantly when seen. They will be on a ring.

**Topics:** This term we will be focusing on getting to know students for the first 5 weeks. After that we will launch into an investigation of how technology has changed.

**Sunhats:** A reminder that sunhats are required during terms 1 and 4. A wide brimmed hat is needed (not a cap). West Park school hats can be purchased at the office for \$17.30 but are not compulsory.

### Can you help?

We are always looking for parents to assist with learning in Year 1. We have lots of opportunities for you to get involved in students learning. You could help out in classrooms by reading with groups and individuals or helping students on the bike track. We also need assistance with resource making and putting away reading books at the end of a week.

If you are available to help we would be keen to hear from you!

Nicola Douthett [nicolad@westpark.school.nz](mailto:nicolad@westpark.school.nz)  
Erica Meads [ericam@westpark.school.nz](mailto:ericam@westpark.school.nz)

### Erica Meads and Nicola Douthett Year 1 teachers 2016



For your  
Calendar

Feb 8<sup>th</sup>  
Waitangi Day Observed

Feb 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>  
Meet the teacher nights

Feb 27<sup>th</sup>  
West Fest

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> Good Friday, Easter  
Monday and Day after Easter Monday