



# Totara Team 2017 Term 1 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to Auckland Normal Intermediate and welcome to Totara Team. Totara Team is one of the two Year 7 teams we have here at ANI (Kauri is the other year 7 team). The teachers that belong to our team are Sarah Nicolson (Team Leader/Room 23), Carolyn Aish (Room 24), Alicia England (Room 19), Anna Major (Room 20), Nathan Metzger (Room 21) and Gina Cave (part-time teacher).

We trust that your son/daughter has had a relaxing holiday and they are ready to start at ANI. Year 7 is an exciting time for your child as they become more independent and take responsibility for their learning. This year will present new experiences, challenges, successes, fun and multiple opportunities for your child to take part in a variety of activities (including Education Outside The Classroom—EOTC in Term 1).

Team newsletters are sent home at the beginning of each term and the purpose of them is to keep you informed about our programmes and what is happening at ANI.

If you have any queries or questions about anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact us – all staff emails can be found on the school website [www.ani.school.nz](http://www.ani.school.nz). See you all at the “Meet the Teacher” picnic!

Kind Regards,  
Totara Team teachers



Totara Team teachers up the Sky Tower

## Important dates to note:

### Term One Dates:

31st January – 13th April

### February

3rd

ANI Superbowl Day

6th

Waitangi Day (No school)

14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd Netball trials

13th, 16th, 20th, 23rd Football trials

16th

Meet the teacher evening/ picnic

17th

Swimming sports

22nd

Overseas trip expo

### March

8th

Goal setting interviews

16th

Year 7 and 8 social

20th

EOTC begins

31st

Mufti Day

### April

13th

Last day of term, Year 7 Awards Assembly

## Term 1 Learning Programme

As an IB school we run the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (see information on the ANI school website) alongside the New Zealand Curriculum. This programme (PYP) is made up of six themes. The students will complete all six themes over the course of this year. Each theme, the students are given a Central Idea (an over-arching statement that they will be introduced to) and three Lines of Inquiry (three areas in which the students can choose to investigate).

In Term One we will be focusing on one Social Sciences theme:

### How we Organise Ourselves (Whole term unit: Jan 31st—April 13th)

The **Central Idea** is: Our lives are organised by systems.

The **Lines of Inquiry** the students may wish to research are:

- Systems that govern us
- The decision making process
- Treaties and agreements

**Literacy-** Students will use a range of comprehension strategies and look at various text structures. They will be looking at text as a structure for communicating ideas and points of view and will use these different structures to craft pieces of writing that link to theme.

**Mathematics-** Our first focus will be Measurement and building on the knowledge that they have developed at Primary school. We will then move into Number in the second half of the term beginning with multiplication and division.

**Languages-** The students will be learning Spanish twice a week, all year with Senor Rathgen.

**P.E** – Run by Mr. Greg Berry one lesson per week and the other one taught by the class teacher. We will also be learning aquatics as part of class P.E lessons with the teacher.

**Specialisation** – Our students will be going to Specialisation 2 blocks per week. They will select an area of Technology or the Arts that interests them. Covered shoes must be worn.

**BYOD**—Students are allowed to bring their own device to use for learning. They will not be disadvantaged if they do not have one. There are rules in place to ensure safe use of devices when at school. They can be found in the ICT contract that your child will be bringing home to sign in the first week.