

Tarwin Lower Primary Newsletter

School Road, Tarwin Lower
Ph-5663 5263
Email- tarwin.lower.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au



Tarwin Lower Primary School
Small School, Big Opportunities

7th February 2018

Newsletter No. 1

Principal's Report

On behalf of all the staff at Tarwin Lower Primary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2018 school year. Welcome back to our returning families and welcome to our many new families. All the teachers are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our students can achieve their highest potential.

We recognise that in order to be successful in school, our students need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills

Please consider volunteering at the school, as our students can greatly

benefit from your involvement and contributions to the school's program and its operations.

We seek volunteers to help us with the following activities:

- 1) Listening to reading
- 2) Helping in the school library
- 3) Friday lunches
- 4) Gardening
- 5) Breakfast program

There are many other ways to help out of school hours too, such as covering books, being a School Council member and getting quotes. Please just ask if you are interested in any of the above, or can help in other ways. We would love to have you as part of our team, all you need is a WWCC (details in the newsletter).

The wonderful Tarwin Lower Primary School staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and look forward to meeting you at the Parent/ Teacher/ Student Conferences next week.

Yours Sincerely,

Jenni Cox

Principal





Don't forget your hats!

We are a Sun Smart school, therefore all students and staff are to wear a hat when outside. Those hot days last month were a good reminder of how easy it is to become burnt.

Students need a plain navy blue, broad brimmed hat in Term 1 and Term 4. These can be bought from the school, or any shop in town. If students do not have a hat, they will be asked to play on the deck or the rotunda.

On very hot days, there will be no PE lessons outside. Instead, students will be inside having Health lessons.



Code Red Days

Please be aware that our school is on the Bushfire At Risk Register (BARR). This means our school will be closed on days declared Code Red in this region. Parents will be notified via emails, text and Facebook the day before. Please ensure all your contact details are up to date. Please see attached sheet for more information.

Medication

Please be aware that there has been changes from the Department in relation to staff administering medication to students.

We are not allowed to give students any medication unless there is a letter from the doctor. Having medication with the prescription attached, is also included in this. We also cannot give cough medication,

hayfever tablets, eye drops, panadol etc, unless there is a letter from the doctor.

Therefore, when your child receives their prescription, please also ask the doctor to write a letter for the school.

This also includes when the school has camps and excursions – you can no longer give the teacher in charge the medication, unless there is a letter from the doctor.

Please help us with DEET's new guidelines.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

On Wednesday 14th February the parent/ teacher/ student conferences will be held, between the times of 2.00pm and 5.30pm. The conferences are for 10 minutes each and are a chance to discuss the year ahead with your child's new teacher.

This year the conferences can be booked through Compass. Compass is both web-based and available as an app. Through Compass you can enter explanations for absences and view your child's progress as comments are posted fortnightly. We will have a comment on Speaking and Listening posted within a week.



All new families should receive an information booklet on Compass and a letter explaining your password with this newsletter. If you have forgotten your password, please contact the office and we can reset it for you. If you are unable to access Compass, please call the school and we will make a conference booking on your behalf.



Absences

All absences are monitored by the Education Department and our school has again been flagged as having a high absent rate.

Being at school every day is important for students learning, as lessons are built upon the learning of the previous session. Missing a session makes it difficult for your child to catch up; just as climbing a ladder with a missing rung is difficult to climb.

Absences also affect students socially. Rules in games can change daily with children and not knowing the rules can give them a sense of it not being fair. Also, teachers explain classroom expectations daily, building student independence, and when they return they can feel lost as every other student knows what to do, except them.

“Absence is a lead indicator for achievement and engagement outcomes. Recent research demonstrates that there is a strong correlation between student attendance and learning outcomes” (DEET).

Please see below for the average days each student was absent in each level. Students who are sick should not be at school, but other activities should be kept to out of school hours.

I am looking forward to improving our absent rate this year, with your help.

Average absence days - all absence types

Year Level	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Prep	19.2	16.9	17.3	27.2	15.1
Year 1	15.4	11.4	31.9	22.5	32.2
Year 2	17.2	12.6	22.4	53.6	16.1
Year 3	15.4	19.4	14.7	21.2	11.9
Year 4	9.8	14.8	30.3	13.9	15.9
Year 5	8.9	15.8	17.4	66.3	9.6
Year 6	11.6	14.9	17.8	15.4	14.7

Bus Travelers

Every afternoon we tick off the bus travelers on the roll, to ensure they are on the bus and safe. If there are changes to your child catching the bus, please let the school know. If you are picking your child up from the school, please tell the teacher on bus duty so we can write it down.

We want all our students to arrive home safely.

If you are new to the school and you would like your child to catch the bus, please see Lindy in the office. Please note that Lindy works Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Rotations

Every Thursday the students have “Rotations”. During Term 1 students are in different grade structures, that is, there is a P/1/2 class, a 3/4 class and a 5/6 class. This is so the students in 3-6 can participate together in PE to learn the skills needed for their Athletics Day in early Term 2. It is also so the health lessons can be focused to their year levels.

After the Athletics Day, the rotations will be the same as our class structure. This is one of the many advantages of a small school, we are able to easily cater for the needs of the students to ensure their success.

School Council

School Council is a great way to be involved at the school. Nominations will be open from Wednesday the 14th of February and close the 21st February at 4pm. Please consider joining School Council to assist in the efficient governance and enhance the educational opportunities of our students.

School Council meets twice a term on Tuesday at 6.30pm.



Working with Children Check

All parents and friends who wish to volunteer at our school need to have a Working With Children Card (WWCC). This is an Education Department requirement, and part of our schools Child Safe Policy.

To apply for the card go the WWCC website: www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au, complete the form, print it out and take to the nearest large post office (not Tarwin Lower) with suitable ID and a passport sized photo. There is no charge for volunteers.

Breakfast Program

Are you available one morning a week to serve breakfast to our students? This takes less than an hour of your time. The necessity of breakfast to growing minds is very important and gives them the best start to the day. Please let us know if you are able to help.

Welcome



Welcome to Ms Renee Pilkington to our school. Renee is an outstanding teacher who will be teaching grade 2/3 on Thursdays and Fridays, as well as HPE during rotations.

She has already made a positive impact in our school, and we all look forward to her

sharing her knowledge to both the students and the teachers.

Renee is pictured with Yara and Niamh.

CSEF

Parents who have a Centrelink card can apply for the Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund. A payment of \$125.00 is made into each student's school account to be used only for Camps, Sports & Excursions. If you have not already done so, could you please come into the office with your card and fill in the application form.

Please note: Parents who have applied for CSEF with Tarwin Lower PS last year will have their application automatically rolled over into 2018 provided there has been no change to their card or added siblings. All enquiries – see Lindy in the office.

School Banking

School banking is running again in 2018. There are some great saving incentive rewards which have been shown to all the students. Student will get to choose a reward when they have done 10 deposits. Please see the brochure that the students brought home last week.

Banking day is Tuesday. Any amount can be deposited.

Bookclub

Bookclub was sent home last Wednesday. The due date for orders and payments is this Friday 9th Feb. Remember that Credit Card payments must be done through the Scholastic website using LOOP.



Uniforms

A Uniform order is attached to this newsletter. If you require any uniform, please complete the order form and return to school by Friday 16th February.

Remember, broad brimmed hats are required to be worn outside during terms 1 and 4.

School Lunches

This year we hope to again provide hot lunches to students on Fridays. In order to do this we require parents to volunteer to cook lunches during the term. We allocate 3 or 4 students to assist on the day as well.

The menu does not have to be complicated and most parents just make something that they are good at or their children love and it is usually a great hit.

Please see below for the Fridays available in this Term. If you can help us, could you please contact the office and let us know your preference of day(s) and what you will be cooking. Remember, a WWCC is required.

16 th Feb	
23 rd Feb	
2 nd Mar	4/5/6 cooking
9 th Mar	
16 th Mar	2/3 cooking
23 rd Mar	

School Photos

Also accompanying this newsletter is a school photo order envelope. School photos will be held on Thursday 22nd February.

Full school uniform is required.

Please complete the envelope, enclose your payment and send in to school. We need to have all envelopes back by photo day (22nd Feb). If you have not returned your envelope, your child will still have their photo taken but you will have to arrange with the photographer directly to make payment and receive photos.

PLEASE NOTE: do not make any direct deposit payments to the school for photos. Payments are made to the photographer only.

Meeniyani Junior Basketball

Meeniyani Junior Basketball would like to invite any new players 7 - 17 years to come join our competition. Section 2 & 3, from 3.45pm Friday nights, Section 4 - Wednesday nights.

Season starts Friday 16th February. Could all new players or any players not playing or unavailable 1st game please contact Kim 0427346048/56636252 or Darlene 0417640035/56640035.

If you played last season you will be automatically put into a team, unless you have already advised us otherwise. Names must be in by Friday 11th Feb, late names will not be accepted. Teams & times will be published in the Star newspaper on Tuesday 13th Feb, on our Facebook page & Website.

Reminder: Fees are to be paid up front. Registration must be paid online prior to the first game, unless paid in July or at another Association. Website - Meeniyani Basketball Association (foxsportspulse). Any queries please contact the above numbers.



Congratulations!



Our first Achievement Awards for the year are to Island, Perry, Bella, Mick and Harry.

Well done ☺



Keep up to date with everything that happens at the school via Facebook. Photos are posted regularly.

Some photos you may have missed on Facebook....



Happy Birthday

We hope you had a great day on your birthday.

- Ms Carbone
- Bella
- Kodie
- Tess
- Maggie
- Jenna
- Tyler
- Paddy
- Raff

School Bank Details

ACC 151500626

BSB 633108

Reminder: Some parents still have not made their direct debit payments for Essential Items booklist. Please make these payments as soon as possible. Thank you.





For Your Calendar

Term 1 2018

Friday 9 th February	Swimming Trials @Toora (for interested G3-6 students) Bookclub payments and orders due
Tuesday 13 th February	School Council Meeting @6.30pm
Friday 16 th February	Uniform orders due
Wednesday 14 th February	Parent/Teacher/Student Conference Prep interviews – No formal classes for Prep students Nominations for School Council Members Open
Wednesday 21 st February	District Swimming Trials at Korumburra Nominations for School Council Members Close @4pm
Thursday 22 nd February	School Photos ☺
Tuesday 27 th February	Family BBQ @6pm
Thursday 1 st March	Responsible Pet Ownership
Friday 2 nd March	Clean Up Australia Day Division Swimming at Korumburra
Friday 9 th March	Playgroup begins at the school
Monday 12 th March	No School – Labour Day
Tuesday 13 th March	School Council Meeting @6.30pm
Wednesday 14 th March	Preps First Wednesday
Wednesday 21 st March	Harmony Day
Thursday 29 th March	Last Day of Term 1 – finish at 2.30pm

School Notices Out This Fortnight;

- * Book Club (All)
- * School Banking information (All Preps and interested students)
- * Compass letters and booklet (new families)
- * Swimming Notice (for interested grade 3-6 students)
- * School Photo Order Forms (All)



7th February 2018



School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**



Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter, SMS and email. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- The school bus will not operating

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone number and email address. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters and reading the website.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.





MAKE SOMEONE'S SUMMER!

SAT. 17TH FEB. 11AM - 2PM

with the **DISABLED SURFER'S ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA**

Join us for a day of all abilities surfing fun at **INVERLOCH SURF BEACH**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

GET IN TOUCH:
STUART: 0411 476 478 / JODIE: 0428 644 050
EMAIL: info@dsaa.com.au

Could you help us? -

Anyone can VOLUNTEER at a DSA Surfing event. We have both water & land based roles for you to get involved with, to help assist people with a disability to have a safe surfing experience. No surfing experience is required!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK for all event details, pre-registration and updates: [@dsainverloch](https://www.facebook.com/dsainverloch)

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY

BLUE WOLF PHOTOGRAPHY

We are at **Tarwin Lower Primary School**

Sample St Primary School 2017 - Grade 4/5

Happy. Professional. Simple.

Thursday 22nd February 2018

BLUE WOLF PHOTOGRAPHY

T: (05) 5879 3165 M: 0407 912 062 E: info@bluewolfphotography.com.au
A: 9 Gemma St, Sun Beach, Vic, 3925 | www.bluewolfphotography.com.au



Tarwin Lower Primary School

"Small School, Big Opportunities"
Kindness, Cooperation, Resilience, Respect

Tarwin Lower Primary School
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Fax. 5663 5474

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Uniform Order Sheet

Name.....

Contact Phone Number.....

Samples of uniforms are available at the office.

Payment in full must be received before items can be taken.

Item Description	Price	Size 4	Size 6	Size 8	Size 10	Size 12	Size 14	Size 16	Total Qty	Total Cost
Microfibre Shorts	\$13.00									
Mesh Shorts	\$11.00									
Gaberdine Cargo Shorts	\$18.00									
Girl's Skort	\$17.00									
Polo Shirt - Striped Collar	\$13.00									
Polo Shirt Long Sleeve-Striped Collar	\$14.00									
T- Shirts	\$ 7.00									
Girl's Checked Dresses	\$18.00									
Gabardine Cargo Pants	\$21.00									
Fleecy Straight Leg Track Pants	\$17.00									
Fleecy Double Knee Track Pants	\$19.00									
Fleecy Track Pants with cuffs	\$17.00									
Fleecy Track Pant w/cuffs dble knee	\$19.00									
Vest (Polar Fleece)	\$16.00									
Fleecy Jacket full zip	\$20.00									
Half Zip Polar Fleece Top	\$20.00									
Fleecy Hooded Windcheater	\$22.00									
Loose Waist Fleecy Windcheater	\$15.00									
Cargo (Slouch) Hats S/M/L	\$ 8.00									
TOTAL										

**All orders must be submitted by
Friday 16th February**