

Tarwin Lower Primary Newsletter

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Tarwin Lower Primary School

Small School, Big Opportunities

21st March 2018

Newsletter No. 4

Principal's Report

Dear Families,

We are ending the term in just over a week, but we still have busy days before us. Students are working hard finishing their projects for Topic. If you were at assembly on Friday, you may have heard some of the facts the students have been learning about in class.

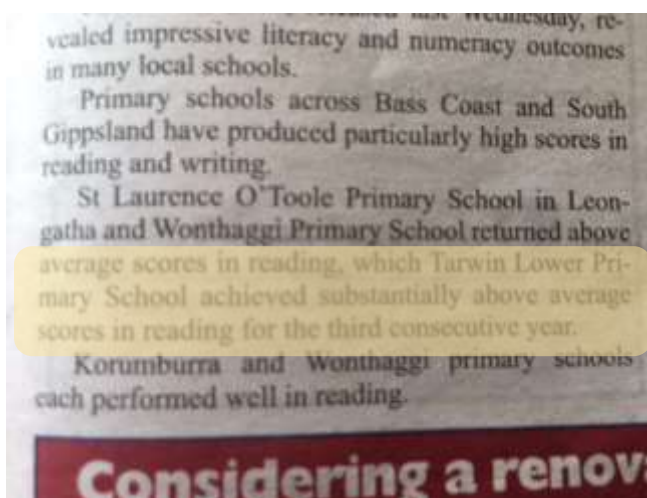
The end of term is always an exciting time, as students have the opportunity to share their learning with other students at the school.

The end of term also gives us a chance to reflect on the many great things that have happened at the school. This includes;

- Welcoming new families to our school, and also teacher Ms Renee Pilkington
- P/T/S conferences
- Family BBQ
- Swimming trials
- Danny O'Brien visit
- New School Council
- New Junior School Council
- Responsible Pet Ownership
- Clean Up Australia Day
- Playgroup

Tarwin Lower Primary was also highlighted in the The Star newspaper last week for our reading results. This shows the teachers and programs we have at the school are having

proven results in achieving high student outcomes.



We are also saying goodbye to Inga, Iuliia and Timur and their families. It has been a pleasure to have you at our school for this term. These three lovely young people had a huge transition at the beginning of year, adapting to a new way of life that included a new neighbourhood, school, friends, and the weather.

It has been a great opportunity for all the students to better know each other's culture and way of life. We wish both families all the best on their return to Russia.

Yours Sincerely,

Jenni Cox

Principal





Playgroup

We have had several Playgroup sessions at the school, and it is wonderful to see families with young children playing at the school with big happy smiles.

Michelle, who runs the Playgroup, is very experienced and has many activities for the children to participate in. Playgroup is for parents too! As it builds their social networks and supports, and also helps to build parent confidence and skills. Thus, we are strengthening relationships and supporting families in our whole community.

Everybody is welcome at the Playgroup, which runs every Friday from 9-11am. Please spread the word.

School Council 2018

We had our first meeting of the year with our new School Council members. Thank you to all for giving up your time for the benefit of all the students of the school, and those yet to come. I am looking forward to working with all of you and making Tarwin Lower Primary even better!

President	Justine Irvine
Vice President	Jarrold Headlam
Secretary/ DEET representative	Freya Carbone
	Vanessa Fisher
	Kylie Laing
	Kally Alexandrou
	Karen Wlas
	Tracey Robertson
	Simone McGrath
Principal/ Executive Officer	Jenni Cox

Absenteeism and Lateness

During our School Council Meeting, we looked at our school data in regards to absenteeism and lateness – as this continues to be a concern.

We already have more students marked as Late, than we did in 2016! And we are not yet at the end of term!

	Unexplained	Explained	Late
2016	34%	66%	27
2017	19%	81%	85
2018 (to date)	45%	55%	28

Frequent lateness to school impacts on our children’s well-being and their learning. Chronic lateness eventually takes its toll on a child’s overall educational experience. According to the national initiative Attendance Works, missing just 10 percent of the school year in the early grades causes many students to struggle in primary school, and lateness in later grades is associated with increased failure and dropout rates.

Please see the attached article on how lateness affects students at school.

Future Leaders

There were over 20 speeches of hopeful applicants for the 6 positions of Junior School Council. The students of the school voted on who they believed would be the best people to represent them and have ideas for the school.



Congratulations to Zak, Angel, Lewis, Island, Maggie, and Georgie. Archie and CC are also on JSC as they are the school captains.



We have already had one meeting, and they have many ideas for the year ahead.

Having a strong student voice at the school is important to us, as it allows students to have a say about what goes on at their school and be active participants in the school community.

Wear What You Wish

One of the first decisions of JSC is to have a dress up day on the last day of school. Students can dress in anything they like – you can be as cray or as conservative as you like! Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation. All money raised goes to the Make a Wish Foundation.



MARC News

Dear Parents, Carers and students,

We are in our seventh week of the MARC Library teaching program. I teach at Tarwin Lower on Mondays, Toora and Welshpool on Tuesdays, Tarwin Valley on Wednesdays and Fish Creek on Thursdays.

We are very lucky with the choice and range of books available to Primary age readers. The storylines are exciting, interesting, enjoyable, thought provoking, relevant and most importantly enjoyable. Illustrators do a magnificent job of supporting the author’s message and story. Authors of non-fiction books are also mindful that their books include information, which can be read and understood by Primary school age children.

Accompanying photographs and diagrams are supportive to learning and growth of knowledge.

The students have commenced borrowing of books. The process works like this. **Borrow, enjoy and read for two weeks and then return.** I’ve been very pleased with the responsible approach, by all students, to this routine. I hope that this outline will clarify the process for parents of new students at the schools.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Yours in reading, *Jeanette Johnson.*

Sports for Schools

Thank you to all families who have collected vouchers. Remember to ask friends and other family members to collect for our school too, especially over the holiday period. It has been great to see other community members giving their vouchers to the school also. Many a time I have arrived in the morning to find vouchers under the doormat. I am so proud to be leading a school with so much community support.



Last Day of Term 1

Please remember that the last day of Term 1 is on Thursday the 29th of March. Please note that the school finishes an hour earlier at 2.30pm.

There will be an adjustment to the timetable on this day for students recess and lunch breaks. Please remember that the bus will also be dropping off your child/ren early too!



Garden helpers needed!

As part of our holistic approach to teaching at Tarwin Lower Primary School, we value opportunities to have students working outdoors in our garden. In the garden students learn important skills such as: an appreciation of nature, problem solving skills, cooperation and resilience. We are committed to improving our school garden and would love help from our families. If you are interested in helping out in our school garden, please come and speak with Freya. Please note, you will need a valid Working With Children Check.

Lunches

A BIG THANK YOU to the parents who volunteered this term to cook Friday lunches for our students:

Maria Remova, Kylie Bright, Annette Aveling and Vanessa Fisher.

Without your efforts, we wouldn't be able to offer the yummy lunches on Fridays.

Please consider helping us out by cooking lunch once during the next term. It doesn't have to be anything complicated. Usually something that your children like will be something that all the kids love.

We will be asking for volunteers to cook lunches for term 2 in the first newsletter. You must have a Working With Children Check.

Statements of Account

Accompanying this newsletter is a statement of your account with the school.

If you have outstanding amounts owing, could you please pay these as soon as possible.

**Please remember that CSEF money cannot be used to pay Essential Items. CSEF money can only be used for Camps, Sports and Excursions.

Easter Raffle

Attached to this newsletter is a plastic money bag with raffle tickets inside. Please try to sell as many raffle tickets as you can for our Easter Raffle. Tickets are \$2.00 each.

Thank you to the families that have donated Easter items to the raffle. We are still looking for more donations so that we can have multiple prizes. If you would like to donate, there is a box in the office where you can place your items.

Please forward all sold tickets and money to school before the last day of term. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 29th March.

Breakfast Club

Thank you to Kay Patrick, Debbie Birkett and Johanna Haasjes who come in to our school to make breakfasts on Mondays and Wednesdays. The children really enjoy the delicious breakfasts. There is often special little extras like boiled eggs (still warm!) banana smoothies, fruit jelly, muffins and even hot cross buns!

If anyone else would like to volunteer a half hour of their mornings once a week to serve breakfast to our students, please contact the school. And, of course, a Working With Children Check is required.



The Impact of Lateness

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I am concerned at the number of students who are presenting as chronically late for school, and we also have many who are missing significant chunks of time each week. The following advice is adapted from an article and clearly explains how frequent lateness to school impacts our children's well-being and their learning.

We all run late sometimes. For your child, arriving late to school occasionally won't cause major disruption. Inevitably, children will feel sick or tired some mornings, or other situations will prevent them from being on time. But chronic lateness eventually takes its toll on a child's overall educational experience. According to the national initiative Attendance Works, *missing just 10 percent of the school year in the early grades causes many students to struggle in primary school*, and lateness in later grades is associated with increased failure and dropout rates. Fortunately, parents can help prevent tardiness from becoming frequent enough to negatively impact their child's school life.

Disrupted Routines

One of the most important aspects of school is that it is organized, scheduled and predictable. Students depend on the structure of the day. They know where they have to be and when. They know the main purpose for being in school is to learn and that routines are in place precisely to help them focus on that learning. When students are repeatedly tardy, these routines are disrupted. Children who are often late have trouble settling in and mastering routines. Tardiness can throw off their whole morning or even their day, especially if the late commute to school was stressful.

Social Criticism

The social experience has a powerful impact on a child's feelings about school and his or her ability to be academically successful. When a child continuously shows up late to class, other students are distracted. Attention is drawn away from the teacher or assignment and toward the child who has just arrived. Over time, classmates may begin to criticise this child, affecting how they feel about themselves in school. During adolescence, children are especially conscious of fitting in and being accepted by peers. If your child is repeatedly tardy, they may become a target or outcast over time, and negative peer interactions can hurt their ability to concentrate on learning. According to the Encyclopaedia of Children's Health, children with steady friendships throughout the school year enjoy school more, and children who can make new friends tend to perform better academically.

Low Achievement

Perform Well, a non-profit policy research and educational organisation, reports that frequent tardiness is associated with lower grades and lower scores on standardised tests. It is also linked to low graduation rates. In addition, students who are routinely late at the primary and middle school levels are more likely to fail in senior school - or even drop out. In many classrooms, particularly at the primary level, morning routines are critical to daily lessons. Warm-up activities may introduce topics that will be learned later in the day, or review work which offers students an opportunity to review previously learned skills.

Responsibility

Part of your child's education is learning to be responsible. The school experience teaches children how to meet expectations. They learn to follow schedules, obey rules, complete assignments and keep track of their materials. Learning responsibility in school is a precursor to functioning in the working world, as noted by William Kirby in his 2010 article "School Attendance Tied to Academic Success". Attendance is one of the ways children show they can meet their obligations. In many cases, a child's attendance depends on his/her parents' ability to help him/her be on time. Parents can teach their children organisational techniques that will help them get out of the house faster, such as packing their bags and laying out their clothes the night before school. But parents who drive their children must also remember to be punctual and responsible. After all, you are the primary role model.

("Effects Of Tardiness On Your Child's Education" 2016)



21st March 2018



Happy Birthday

☺ Ryan turned 9!!

School Bank Details

BSB 633108

ACC 151500626



Keep up to date with everything that is happening at the school on Facebook.



Kindness

Cooperation

Resilience

Respect



For Your Calendar

Term 1 2018

Wednesday 21 st March	Harmony Day
Friday 23 rd March	Playgroup and Toy Library
Thursday 29 th March	Last Day of Term 1 – finish at 2.30pm Dress As You Wish – gold coin donation Easter Raffle Drawn

Term 2 2018

Monday 16 th April	First day of Term 2
Wednesday 25 th April	ANZAC Day – no school ANZAC Memorial at Tarwin Lower- school captains to read requiem
Friday 20 th April	Playgroup
Tuesday 24 th April	South Gippsland Student Leaders' Conference @Korumburra Showgrounds. Six grade 5/6 students attending.
Friday 27 th April	Senior Athletics (grade 3-6) at Foster Secondary College Playgroup
Friday 4 th May	Senior Winter Sports Playgroup
Tuesday 8 th May	School Council Meeting @6.30pm
Friday 11 th May	Mother's Day Stall (looking for volunteers to run the stall) Playgroup
Tuesday 15 th – 17 th May	NAPLAN
Friday 18 th May	Senior Winter Sports Playgroup



Meet Others

Happy Place

Quality Time

Play and Learn

Tarwin Lower Supported Playgroup

Tarwin Lower Primary School
School Road, Tarwin Lower
Each Friday of school term
9.15am - 11.15am

*Commences MARCH 9th *

This is a South Gippsland Shire Council Supported Playgroup. Call Michelle for more information on: 0417 388 911 or 5662 9300



TOY LIBRARY

In 2018 Bush Link Toy Library will be visiting Tarwin Lower Primary School:
Every Second Friday
(Starting on the 9th March).
Between 10:30 and 11:15

Anyone is welcome to join the Toy Library and borrow items.
We have a huge range of toys, books, play equipment,
DVDs and parent resources available for loan.

For more information please come along and have a look or
contact bushlink@ucgipps.org.au
We look forward to seeing you.

Amy and Emma!






South Gippsland Miners Baseball Club
2018 Winter Season -
Are looking for new players of all ages.
U13's, U16's, C Grade & A Grade

U13's - Training
Saturday 17th March, 11am
Imperials Cricket Ground, Nerrena Rd, Leongatha
Behind Federation Training

Senior Season Starts Sunday April 8
Junior Season Starts Saturday April 21

For further information check out our
Facebook page
South Gippsland Miners Baseball club
website
[Southgippslandminers.com.au](http://southgippslandminers.com.au)
Please register your interest call or txt
Tim Katz - 0409 978 465
Maxine Prosser - 0407 686 011



SOUTHERN FUSION NC DEVELOPMENT CLINIC
CALLING ALL NETBALLERS AGED 7 - 15 YEARS OLD

The second clinic in 2018 provides opportunities for players to get a feel of what Southern Fusion is all about.

- We deliver an elite game based program
- We give every player individual feedback for their future
- We advance all players fundamentals of netball

DETAILS
WHEN: 15TH APRIL 2018
WHERE: MEENIYAN SPORTS STADIUM – MCKITTERICK ST
WHAT: ATTACKING SKILLS – 9AM – 11AM
DEFENDING SKILLS – 11AM – 1PM
COST: \$20 PER SESSION OR \$30 FOR DOUBLE SESSION
REGISTRATION: PLEASE REGISTER VIA THIS LINK - goo.gl/ZNyyvRp
(Registrations can be made on the day)

Dates for our Traralgon and Wonthaggi Clinics will be made available very soon.

We also have a 4 week Under 9's Training Camp coming up. Keep an eye on our website for further information.



Community News: The Community News articles promote community connections and communications. They are not considered school activities