

# Tarwin Lower Primary Newsletter

School Road, Tarwin Lower

Ph- 5663 5263

Email- tarwin.lower.ps@education.vic.gov.au



Tarwin Lower Primary School

Small School, Big Opportunities

19th August 2020

Newsletter No. 9

## Principal's Report

We have had a great start to Remote Learning 2.0 and we thank our parents and students for beginning with such enthusiasm and understanding.

The first week, students checked in with the Webex and submitted a piece of work. It was all about revising the skills and knowledge parents and students learnt in the previous Remote Learning. And for Ms Freya Carbone, it was learning how to use Google Classroom from the very beginning!

We have once again been able to provide students with devices for them to use at home, in order to access their online tasks. There is an expectation that students will only be utilising their borrowed devices for school based tasks.

Students are expected to be present at the beginning of their Webex meeting, so teachers can take the roll and check in with students. Each day there are two tasks to complete—one literacy and one numeracy. Teachers have uploaded videos which explain tasks and to support children's learning. There may also be small group online meetings, to discuss new concepts and assess students understanding.

Class teachers are online each day providing feedback to children's uploaded work as well as answering questions from the children. All teachers are on from 9-11am and 11.30-1.30pm

Positive partnerships with our families is our priority. Please get in touch with your child's teacher via WebEx if you have any questions or need clarification on aspects of Remote Learning.

Our Wellbeing Wednesday will be occurring each week. There are no WebEx sessions on this day and teachers are unavailable on Google Classroom, as

they are busily preparing for the following week and recording lessons for the students. More information about Wellbeing Wednesday is in the newsletter.

The feedback from our Parent/Teacher Conferences was fantastic. We had 99% of families involved with the conferences, strengthening the connection between home and school. Families are finding our modified Remote Learning 2.0 easier and clearer. No longer do parents have to print work and then upload, which was cumbersome. All work is completed on the computer via programs or google documents.

Once again thank you for your support and we ask that parents continue to assist children with their tasks where possible, as it important that learning continues throughout this period. However, please remember to support your child with their learning and resist doing their work for them. Otherwise we do not have a true indication of your child's learning.

In this newsletter please find information on;

- ⇒ Timetables
- ⇒ Webinars for families
- ⇒ Wellbeing Wednesday
- ⇒ Resources for families
- ⇒ Remote Learning tips
- ⇒ And more!

Warm Regards,

*Jenni Cox*

Principal





## Feedback

It seems like so long ago the kids attended the Cyber Safety incursion. So much has happened since. However, I thought it is still important to celebrate the feedback we received from the Alannah & Madeline Foundation.

*Good Afternoon Jen,*

*I truly had such a lovely morning and afternoon with your students. I am very proud of how the students participated in the session with positivity, respect and enthusiasm. As a teacher myself, these are the qualities we strive for in our young people. Tarwin Lower Primary is one very special school!*

## Timetable

Starting Monday, we are going to trial having timetables each week for the grades, so it is an easy glance to see what is happening for that week. We will give some parents a call to ask your opinion after a fortnight.

Students are improving in returning work, reading the feedback and then resubmitting their work with improvements. This reflects what happens in a classroom. These are the skills we are continuing to develop with students in G3-6.

## Don't forget to read each night!

Students and parents are able to access Key Links, which is has levelled books to read. The ability to read is an essential skill that spans a child's school-age years and beyond. Reading provides personal enjoyment, access to information, and opens doors to opportunities throughout life, both recreational and occupational.

Some reading activities for your child;

- Look at the cover of the book and predict what the book is about and what might happen.
- Ask the 5 W's and 1 H questions (who, what, when, where, why and how)
- Summarise the book
- Did the book have a deeper meaning?

## Curriculum Day

Monday 7th September is a Curriculum Day. There will be no work in Google Classroom on this day, and teachers will be unavailable. Staff will be completing professional development alongside (virtually), staff from other local schools.

## Webinars for parents and carers to help build family resilience

On Tuesday 25 August, the Department of Education and Training is presenting a free webinar for parents and carers by renowned child psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, on building family resilience during coronavirus (COVID-19).



Parents and carers play a vital role in helping children feel safe through uncertain times.

Dr Carr-Gregg's webinar is aptly named *Managing the Coronacoaster – Tips for building resilient families in the coronavirus era*.

In this webinar, Dr Carr-Gregg provides tools and strategies for parents and carers to help manage the lockdown and remote learning. Topics include:

- your supportive role
- setting the emotional tone
- focusing on what you can control
- how to deal with disappointment
- further resources and where to get help.

Dr Carr-Gregg's presentation will run for 45 minutes. This will be followed by a 15-minute question-and-answer session in which parents and carers can ask Dr Carr-Gregg questions.

### Webinar details

- **When:** Tuesday 25 August
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Duration:** 45-minute presentation followed by 15-minute questions and answers session
- **Format:** online via Webex
- **Cost:** free

To register and for more information visit the [Managing the Coronacoaster – Tips for building resilient families in the coronavirus era eventbrite page](#).



## Wellbeing Wednesday

The school received a lot of feedback during the last Remote Learning of fatigue from both parents and students, the increased stress parents felt supporting their child with their learning and also the concern of the dramatic increase of screen time.

To support the general wellbeing of students we will be scheduling a Wellbeing Wednesday every week. We encourage all students to be off their screens during the school day in Wednesdays, including laptops, iPods, and the TV.

Activities can include board games, card games, drawing, music, tasks around the home, health and wellbeing tasks and outside activities. This is a great opportunity for families to spend some quality time together. Go for a walk, play a game together, read a book as a family. Not only will this help with strengthening relationships, it will also help lower our stress levels for a more peaceful home environment .

All interschool swimming, athletics and sports have been cancelled for the remainder of the year across the state. However SSV (School Sport Victoria), has established a Virtual Track and Field Event!

Students are invited to take part in the event by independently completing a Track and Field event, such as;

- Sprints: (60m, 80m, 100m, 200m, 400m)
- Run or walk: (800m, 1500m)
- Jumps: (standing long jump and standing triple jump)
- Throw: (tennis ball shotput)
- Combined event: 100m sprint, standing long jump, tennis ball shotput and 800m run.

Students can time or measure their results and submit them via the SSV website. The competition is open until the 30th October. Everyone is encouraged to participate so why not have your best go and have a bit of fun too!

More details are found via [this link](#) and also in Wellbeing Wednesday in Google Classroom.

## Webex—Things to Remember

- Make sure your iPad/device is set up 5 minutes before your scheduled call.
- Make sure you are away from distractions and noise eg: away from TV, pets and younger siblings.

lings.

- Ensure your camera and speakers are working.
- All class morning chats will begin on mute. Your teacher will control whose microphone is enabled.
- Video calls are not to be taken in bedrooms.
- Make sure you are dressed - no PJs please.
- Remember this is our new online classroom. Regular classroom expectations apply.
- Teachers need to see each child to mark them present on the roll. Students need to turn on the camera and have a quick chat to their teacher.

## Wellbeing Resources for Students and Parents

In every Google Classroom, there is a Topic with the above title. These are resources and information to support families. Please take the time to explore what is there. Below is a screenshot of the resources currently uploaded. We update these regularly.

### Wellbeing Resources for Students and Parents

	Beyond Blue	Posted 4 Au
	eSafety	Posted 4 Au
	Headspace	Posted 4 Au
	Kids Helpline	Posted 4 Au
	Learning from home information for parents	Edited 7 Au
	Lifeline	Posted 4 Au
	Orange Door	Edited 12 Au
	Parentline	Posted 4 Au
	Positive Parenting Program	Posted 6 Au
	Smiling Mind - Mindfulness	Edited 6 Au
	Vic Health	



Never be afraid to ask for help. We all come to a stage in life when our struggles can become too much to handle this is a good time to reach out to someone who can help and support you.



## Remote Learning Tips For Parents

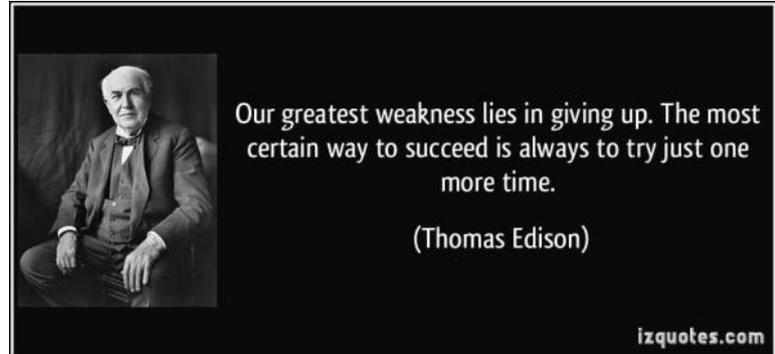
Remote learning is a challenging time for all, in particular the relationship between parent and child. It is important to remember that during this time you are still your child's parent not their teacher. It can be difficult for children to understand this. To assist with this, it is important to set routines and boundaries so that there is a difference between "school time" and other home activities. Routines are very important as they allow children to prepare for learning.

If possible, it is also very important to provide a specific space where your child can complete their home learning. Once again, this helps children mentally prepare and to be focused and ready to complete their daily learning requirements. Part of this routine is to get dressed each day. It does not have to be school uniform, but simply the act of changing from sleepwear into day clothing can trigger the brain into work mode.

Where possible, create the day to be structured like a normal school day. Each classroom teacher sets out a timetable for the day, so if possible parents could log on in the morning with their child and write up a timetable for the day. Ensure your child has access to a clock to assist with the time set to complete each task and set out break times for your child like they would usually have at school. When creating your child's daily timetable try to mix up tasks that require a lot of concentration with tasks that are less intensive or that have an element of physical activity. It is most important that our children complete physical activity tasks each day as exercise is important for your child's learning and general wellbeing.

Encourage your child to read as much as possible. Children have been able to borrow library books and classroom books to ensure they are reading daily. It is important that children read anything during this time as long as it is not on their devices. Children will already be completing reading tasks on their devices daily. It would be great if you could listen to your child read and assist them where possible and encourage them, this will build their confidence and increase their fluency and comprehension skills. Encouraging your child to read on their own silently for a short period of time at first and then build this up over the remote learning period will also assist with their reading development.

All parents are doing their best to assist children with their learning. Please continue to help students where possible with prompts, tips and explanations as this will enable our children to continue on their learning journey throughout this unprecedented period.



With the challenges of remote learning and the struggles at home juggling work and school the above quote shows that we need to continue day by day until success is achieved. Please encourage your children to continue striving toward success. Every little bit helps them achieve.

## Term 4 Camp

Our school camp to Waratah Bay on the **12-14th October** is currently on hold, and we are awaiting direction from DET.

As you can appreciate, these are uncertain times and I will communicate to you as soon as we know whether this camp is able to go ahead. I know many students will be disappointed if it is cancelled, but we'll organise an excursion later in the year so they don't miss out altogether.

## Kinder Committee

Would you love to have a Preschool in Tarwin Lower? Why not help on the committee? Please contact the school and we will pass on your details.

## COVID-19 Policy for Term 3

This ever changing policy has once again been updated to reflect our current conditions. The policy is available on our website.



### Enrol Your 2021 Prep Now!

It is that time of year again when families enrol their child for Prep for 2021.

Whilst we are no longer able to undertake school tours in person, we are happy to chat and highlight all of the key programs that our school provides our students.

Parents are unable to come onto the school site to fill in enrolment forms - therefore we have our enrolment form on our website, which can be completed by families and emailed to us. Then our office staff will contact you to discuss this further.

<https://www.tarwinlowerps.vic.edu.au/forms>

Alternatively, you can contact the school on 5663 5263 and speak with one of our staff and they will talk you through the process.

### Book Club

We have just received the latest issue of Book Club (Issue 6).

We have catalogues at school for those families who would like one, but you can view the catalogue and order online at:

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>

### Orders will close on Monday 31st August 2020

Issue 5 books have been delivered to school and are available for pickup. Please call first.

### Thank You

A big thank you goes out to Margaret Fisher (Ryan's Nanna) who has covered a huge amount of shared reading books over the past few weeks. Hopefully these books will be available for use in the classroom when we finish remote learning.



### Bread Tags

Remember to continue to collect your bread tags this term.



### School Bank Details

ACC NAME:	Tarwin Lower Primary School
BSB:	633108
ACC:	151500626

### Happy Birthday

We hope you had a great day on your birthday.

◆ Mikayla (MJ)

