

Tarwin Lower Primary Newsletter

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Small School, Big Opportunities

11th December 2019

Newsletter No. 20

Principal's Report

Number One in the State!!

What an achievement!

Our primary school tops the state

with the most improved NAPLAN scores over the past 5 years.

I am so proud of the achievements of our students and the unwavering dedication of our teachers. Both of whom always portray a growth

mindset and strive to achieve and improve.

Our previous newsletters have shown our school is outperforming network, state and similar schools in almost all NAPLAN areas in grade 3 and in grade 5. We also have students who feel connected to the school, positive staff and satisfied parents—according to recent DET surveys this year.

Which just reinforces what we have known all along—Tarwin Lower Primary is a school which lives by its values of

- ◇ Kindness
- ◇ Cooperation
- ◇ Resilience
- ◇ Respect

An unrelenting focus on teaching and learning and treating each child as an unique individual, in a happy and safe environment is one of the reasons I believe we have made such great improvements.

Teachers also know that what they do matters – and together we can make a difference in each child's life.

We have a curriculum that not only focuses on academic learning, but many other aspects too. We teach the Whole Child and our school goal is when students leave Tarwin Lower Primary they are better people in mind, body and soul.

The accomplishments of the students are made possible with your support. By working together we create happy, engaged and resilient students.

Warm Regards,

Jenni Cox

Principal





2020 News

I would like to thank Ms Kylie Horton for being an outstanding classroom teacher. She and Ms Pilkington have worked well together, as seen in the students smiling faces and their improvement in their learning. Ms Horton will not be returning to Tarwin Lower Primary next year, and we wish her all the best.

Next year we will be welcoming Ms Simone McGrath to our team. As many of you already know, Simone is a highly regarded music teacher, and we are lucky to have teaching music next year at our school.

Ms Renee Pilkington will be teaching grade 23 on Monday to Thursday each week. I will be teaching the 23 class on Fridays, and I look forward to returning to teaching a grade and working with Ms Pilkington. I will also continue to give provide extra support to students.

Ms Jackie Dye and Ms Hayley Pupetti will continue on at Tarwin Lower Primary, in their respective grades. Bu Beasley will again be teaching Indonesian. We will be farewelling Ms Johnston who teaches MARC lessons and we will be welcoming Ms Sophie Callcott.

Next year, is already shaping up as an exciting time full of new learning and experiences. Have a look at our Term 1 2020 calendar.

I hope all our school community has a happy and safe Christmas and New Year break, and I look forward to seeing you all again next year.



Christmas Concert and Graduation

On Wednesday 19th

December at 6.30pm, we

will be holding our annual Christmas Concert and Graduation Evening at the Tarwin Lower Football Clubrooms.

Students will perform music and skits. The grade 6's will be reading their speeches.

Please have your child at the clubrooms by 6.15pm so they can be ready to start at 6.30pm.

- * P1 and 456 students are asked to dress in bright colourful Christmas clothes
- * 23 students are asked to wear white tops, black bottoms and sunglasses.

After the concert, we will have supper. Please bring something to share.



Well Done Awards

Well done to our certificate recipients and our leaf recipients.

Our awards for the last assembly were for 'listening'



Making Christmas Decorations





Thank you to our School Councilors.

Tomorrow we have our last meeting for the year, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the school councilors for giving up their time to ensure that the students at our school have the best teaching and learning.

Vanessa Fisher (President)

Kathryn Sumuru (Vice President)

Jarrod Headlam

Simone McGrath

Kylie Laing

Karen Wlas

Kally Alexandrou

Jessica Greville

Jackie Dye (DET representative)

Essential Items Charges 2020

Essential Items Charges were itemised in the Parent Payment Policy that was sent home with the last newsletter. For your information, Essential Items Charges for 2020 are \$150.00 per student (the same as last year). There is also a voluntary payment of \$30.00 per family if you wish to help us with the cost of maintaining our grounds. We ask that payment for the Essential items is made prior to or on Book Pick Up Day. You can pay with cash, cheque or direct debit into the school account.

Book Pick Up Day for 2020 is Tuesday 28th January between 9.00am – 4.00pm. **Please note that books/stationery items cannot be taken unless payment is made on the day or prior.**

To reduce our impact on this earth we will again not be using plastic bags. Please bring a reusable bag to take the stationery home in.

Santa Will be Visiting in his Fire Engine!!

The red suited fellow will be making an appearance at school after lunch on Thursday 20th December.

We ask that all families please supply a wrapped and labelled book to help Santa fill his sack at this very busy time in his schedule. Please leave these items in the school office. You



are welcome to also include gifts for siblings who will be at school on the day.

We traditionally have a sausage sizzle lunch on this day as well at 1.30pm. Families are welcome to join us for lunch. Sausages cost \$2 each. **We require adults to organise the BBQ and cook the sausages on the day. Please let us know if you can help.**

Lunch Orders in 2020

We need a parent to coordinate lunches for next year. We also require a parent to have completed a Food Handling course. This is a requirement from the Shire.

If you are able to coordinate the lunches or complete the food handling course, please see Lindy in the office

Breakfast in 2020

We have been very fortunate to have our Breakfast volunteers come in each Monday and Wednesday to serve breakfast to our students. These volunteers are all community members who do not have any affiliations to the school.

◆ **A big thank you to Kay Patrick who comes in on Mondays to provide breakfast and has done so for a number of years. We really appreciate your efforts.**

◆ **Johanna Haasjes and Debbie**



Birkett will not be continuing with Breakfast Club next year. Johanna and Debbie have provided



breakfast for our students

on alternate Wednesdays for a number of years. We sincerely thank them for their contribution to our school and wish them well in the future.

We are now looking for parents to continue the breakfast program. We need volunteers for this program to continue.



Family Statements

Family statements are accompanying this newsletter for families with outstanding accounts.

We would greatly appreciate all families settling up their accounts prior to the end of the year. Please remember, you can pay via cash or direct debit. If you have any questions regarding the charges on your account, please contact Lindy in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays.

Being Organised in 2020



Please note the calendar at the end of the newsletter for Term 1 dates, 2020.

This includes when to pick up books, first day for students and school photos. Put it on the fridge to keep it handy for next year.

Grade 6 Dinner

Our Traditional Grade 6 dinner will be on Wednesday 19th December. This dinner is just for the Grade 6 students and staff. We ask parents to drop their child off at the Wolf and Bird café in Tarwin Lower at 5pm and pick up at 6pm to take them to the concert. Cost for this dinner is \$20.00 per student.

Grade 6 Legacy

The grade 6 students have painted the last interior panel of the rotunda with local artist Ben Everett. They worked through the heat (and had an icy pole break) to again produce some fantastic artwork.



2020 Grade 6 tshirts

Students are to order their grade 6 t-shirts before the end of the year. Order forms have been sent home.

Supporting our students to flourish at Secondary school.



To support our 5/6 students, the school is hosting an incursion at no cost, as we

believe preparing our students for Secondary school is vitally important.

Grade 5/6 students will be participating in this program at no charge **tomorrow**.

The workshop aims to show young people that they have the capacity to be the leaders of their own lives, irrespective of their circumstances. The program is focused around three main pillars:

- ☒ Aspiration
- ☒ Resilience
- ☒ Connection.

Helping to Make a Difference

Just a reminder that we are always looking for parent volunteers. Here are some of the ways you can help at the school;

- ◇Organise Bookclub in 2020
- ◇Contacting books
- ◇School library
- ◇Listening to reading
- ◇School lunches
- ◇Breakfast

We still need parents to move the fridge and pantry in the student kitchen. Until this is done, the freezer is unable to be used.



Your Child's Progress

We have recently been made aware

that student comments on were not showing up on Compass.

Compass frequently makes updates and changes the way we upload information—but then don't let schools know! Therefore we continue what we have been doing, without realising it is not working for parents!

If you ever have trouble reading comments or any other information please let us know—it might not be because you've pressed the wrong button!

Reports will be available on Wednesday 19th December.



Middle Tarwin Community Hall Annual Christmas Night

Sunday 22nd December 2019

BBQ Tea at 6.00pm

B.Y.O. Sausage/hamburger, salad, bread & drinks

Community Raffle – Xmas Hamper

Please bring something along to put in the hamper

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Christmas Carols start at 7.30pm

Sing-a-long with the Buffalo Boys and their
Guest singer Kerrie Tudor.



Santa comes at the end of Carols.

Receivable goods in car with red streamers.
No donations over \$15.

Bring a plate of supper to share.

Please come along and enjoy our annual community social event
for the end of season 2019!



Sunday 22nd of December is clean-up & set-up day at 10.30am.

Any queries please call Kylie 0488 634 232



For Your Calendar

Term 4 2019 and Term 1 2020

12th December	Gr5/6—Dream Seeds incursion
12th December	School Council Meeting and End of Year Dinner @The Cavity
18th December	Christmas Concert & Grade 6 Graduation
18th December	Student reports available to parents on Compass
19th December	Christmas BBQ lunch and Santa visit
20th December	No formal classes running
2020	
28th January 2020	Book pick up day & Payment for Essential Items
29th January	First day of Term 1 2020 for Grades 1 - 6 students
30th January	First day of Term 1 2020 for Prep students
7th February (TBC)	District Swimming
10th February	Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences (3.40-5.30pm)
18th February	School Photos
26th March	School Family BBQ @ 5.30pm
28th March	Clean Up Australia Day
9th March	Labour Day—Public Holiday
11th March	Preps first Wednesday
13th March	Student Leadership Day
19th March	Netball Victoria Visit
27th March	Last Day of Term 1—2.30pm finish

Birthdays

- Ms Pilkington
- Reeve will turn 8 on 16/12
- Indy will also turn 8 on 16/12
- Sienna will turn 7 on 28/12
- Lindy





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Kindness, Cooperation, Resilience, Respect

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2020 BOOK LIST & ESSENTIAL STUDENT SUPPLIES

Tarwin Lower Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost and number of items which need to be purchased to a minimum. We also try to ensure that the costs are affordable to parents.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS	PREP TO YEAR 6
Individual classroom supplies. **	\$ 59.00
MARC Library Van	\$ 20.00
ICT Programs such as Mathletics, Reading Eggs, & Soundwaves	\$ 40.00
Corner Inlet Athletics & SSV	\$ 10.00
Art Supplies (e.g. paints, paper, glue craft items etc.)	\$ 8.00
Cooking / gardening activities	\$ 6.00
Other Classroom materials (eg. project paper, cover paper, laminating, etc)	\$ 7.00
TOTAL ESSENTIAL ITEMS	\$ 150.00

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION	
Grounds and Maintenance (once per family)	\$ 30.00

TOTAL ESSENTIAL ITEMS & VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 180.00
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** An itemised list of individual classroom supplies is available if requested.

Payment

Payment for these items must be made before students can take possession.

Please note: We **DO NOT** have EFPTOS or Credit Card facilities available at the school.

Payment can only be made by cheque, or cash on the day (correct change would be appreciated) or direct deposit **prior** to Book Pick Up Day.

Account Name: Tarwin Lower Primary School.
BSB: 633-108
Account Number: 151500626

Please quote the following as reference: Books 2020 family name. Eg – Books 2020 Jones. Please print confirmation/receipt and bring with you on the day.

- After we have received payment, the student stationery/book pack can be collected from school on **Tuesday 28th JANUARY 2020** between 9.00am – 4.00pm.
- Please label these items with your child's name and return to school on **Wednesday 29th January 2020**, the first day of Term 1 2020.
- **Preps will begin school on Thursday 30th January 2020**
- Some items of the student stationery pack will be delivered directly to the students classroom to be used as required.
- **Please note: Preps will not attend on Wednesdays until after the March long weekend.**



The school appreciates that families may sometimes experience financial difficulties in meeting payment requests. A range of support options are available to parents.

- Prior arrangements for instalment payments can be made with the Principal.
- The Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund of \$125 per child is available for eligible families who receive Centrelink payments. This is to ensure no child misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, education and fun activities. Please see Lindy in the office for the application form and bring along your Centrelink card.
- State Schools Relief Fund is a registered charity organisation that supplies uniforms, books and stationery to children in Victorian State Schools who are in need. Please visit www.ssr.net.au and speak to Jenni (Principal) or Lindy (Business Manager). Students in Prep will receive a Uniform package from SSR. This will include a top, track pants and shoes. This does not usually become available until the middle of the year.

Other Information

- **Family Contact Details Form**

At the beginning of each school year we update our family contact details and emergency contact details. Please complete the Family update form on book pickup day. It is essential you notify us of any change of address or phone numbers throughout the year.

We will also ask for an update of your parent occupation and your highest level of education achieved. This information has a direct impact on the amount of money the school receives to educate your child. It is vital you are accurate and do not exaggerate. The form remains confidential at all times.

- **Uniforms**

Uniforms will be available for purchase (if we have your items in stock) on Book Pick Up Day. Otherwise you can fill out an order form. Second Hand Uniforms will also be available on Book Pick Up Day. These are free. Broad-brimmed hats are compulsory in Terms 1 and 4. Hats are available from the uniform shop.

- **Local Excursion & Travel Consent , Publicity Consent**

This consent form covers all local travel excursions which we walk to (eg. Recreation Reserve, Mechanics Hall, shops). This avoids the need to send forms home each time we travel locally.

The new consent form we will ask you to fill in will be considered permission for these types of excursions for the remainder of your child's time at Tarwin Lower Primary School. Consent can be revoked at any time by filling in a new form.

Children's photos, work & first names only are often used in various types of media, eg. Webpages, emails, school newsletter, local papers etc. Please note that we have a school webpage and Facebook page. It is important that we have parental consent to use your child's work, name (first name only) or photos during the year. A new consent form will be available for you to fill in on Book Pick up Day. This form will be considered permission for the remainder of your child's time at Tarwin Lower Primary School. Consent can be revoked at any time by filling in a new form.

Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding the information attached.

Yours Sincerely,

Jenni Cox, Principal.