Dear Families,

It has been a busy first week for me getting myself sorted in terms of the who, what, where, why and how of Tawonga Primary School. Friends and family have been asking me how everything is going and my reply has been; “Everyone is very warm and welcoming, there is calmness in the classroom and the students are very well mannered.” At my first school council meeting on Tuesday night I was encouraged by all the positive enthusiasm that is amongst our parents. School Council were keen to work as a united group on a clear direction for the future for our school.

Sue Kovacs will be taking personal leave as of the 1st Aug and returning on the 4th Sep. Her replacement will be Di Scott who will continue the learning program that Sue has in place.

Our skiing program is planned to start today. Sue has done a fantastic job organising all the fine details for our skiing program. Ellen Gorham and I will be looking after the cross country students and Mary Anne Cariss our downhill students.

If you have been at school in the last few days you would have noticed our Year 6 students in their new bright red shirts. The students look very smart and appear very proud of themselves. I am sure that there will be many turning head when our students go to the shops next.

Music Program

Our students will once again be involved in a music program run by Conrad this term on Wednesdays. I enjoyed sitting in on some of his lessons and could see the students enjoying themselves and learn to appreciate the different aspects of music.
Bus Travellers

I have sought clarification from the Secondary College regarding bus travellers. If your child is not normally a bus traveller and you would like for them to travel on the bus this is not allowed. I encourage families to speak to the Secondary College if they have any further questions regarding the bus as they are the coordinating school.

OSHC

A reminder from OSHC staff that if you do not have a regular booking and you would like to use the service then you need to call the OSHC bookings number to let them know. They will then let your child know before the end of school. To avoid confusion you do not need to ring the school.

OSHC Bookings Number 0429 018 724

Kim Franzke
Principal

CALENDAR 2012

<table>
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<th>JULY 2012</th>
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<th>AUGUST 2012</th>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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School Readiness Meeting

*Mount Beauty Kindergarten, Tuesday 7th August, 7.30pm*

Presentation and discussion night regarding your child’s educational journey – so you can make well informed decisions.
Meet the Primary School (Prep) teachers of Tawonga, Mount Beauty, Dederang and the educators at Mt. Beauty Kindergarten.
For all families with children aged 2-4 years old.
Please do not miss this fantastic opportunity.
For any questions please contact the Kindergarten on 5754 4848.
Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive $250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013 and added to the EMA. As a result, parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, schools will no longer receive EMA payments on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

The EMA application form must be submitted to the school by 28 February 2013.

Payment Amounts - 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8 – Age 16</th>
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<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
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<td>$105</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$175</td>
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<td>Instalment Two</td>
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<td>$45</td>
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<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
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*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

You can receive the EMA by direct deposit into your nominated bank account or by individual cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.
Year 5,6 Happenings.....

Surprise! The Year 6 students are really excited with the arrival of the Year 6 red polo tops. Once spotted, I'm sure you will agree they look very attractive and smart. Great work Craig Docherty and a special thankyou from all the Year 6 students to School Council members for supporting us.

Another reminder about weekly maths homework sheets -handed out Wednesday - to be returned on, or preferably before the next Wednesday.
Also "stay tuned" to the London Olympics and assist them to gather information for their project on an Olympic athlete and an Olympic team.

With our current focus on writing - in particular that "sizzling start" to capture the reader’s attention (that's you!) ..... we thought you would enjoy some of our latest work. Over the next few weeks we will show case these in the newsletter.

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**My Magic Moment**

I can hear the crowd cheering and clapping. That gives me confidence in running the race because this is a huge moment of my life. I have worked extremely hard for 3 years in fact. I have travelled over the world to race. I have no job. I came here to do some running. But then I ask myself can I do it? Can I fill my dream?

But here I am .I can hear my heart beating rapidly as the starter calls me up for my race. I step on my starting blocks. My hands are very sweaty. I'm so nervous. I'm shaking. “BANG” I can hear the starter's gun. That's my cue to start sprinting. I feel the wind on my face as I push off my starting blocks. It is the 200 meter final at the 2012 London Olympics. I am trying to work my arms as hard as I can. My legs are pumping very hard. Further down the track, I can see the finishing line. I know I have to push hard.

Then I hear feet pounding behind me. Coming up beside me, I can hear another competitor breathing on me. I look beside me and see another racer. This spurs me on to run faster. I see the finish line not far away. I have to pump my arms faster and faster. Lunging at the finishing line, I hit it at the same time as my competitor. Equal first with that other racer! I was happy with my result.

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*Emelia Roffey Year 5*
WHOO! I took a deep, deep breath as my heart nearly popped out of my stomach. I walked up behind the blocks to get ready for the 100 metre men finals. I looked up in the crowd and saw millions of people. They were chanting and shouting my name. It was a once in a life time experience. It was AMAZING!
I stood anxiously behind the blocks to be called up. I had to rub my hands against my legs because they were soaking with sweat and it felt like my head was going to blow. I was NERVOUS!
BEEEEEIP! The siren sounded. I had to get on my blocks. I could feel my pointy spikes pressing against the plastic on the blocks. This was the moment. I took a deep breath to calm myself down. In excitement I looked down the 100 metre straight and smiled. I had never felt like this before. The crowd went deathly silent just for that moment......... BBAAANNGG! The arena echoed. I was off in a flash with an adrenalin rush like no other. I pumped my arms and drove my legs, as hard as I have ever before. I was in my own zone and heading for the finish line. I was desperate to WIN!
WHOO! WHOO! AS I felt a breath of wind hit the back of my neck. My spine shivered. Someone was close. I was in first position at this point. There was fifteen metres to go so I put my after burners on and powered for the finish. I was so EXCITED!

BOOOM! As my body drove through the line, I yelled in happiness” WOOHOO!” “YES!” “I DID IT!”! The crowd went wild. The arena erupted. I pumped my fist up in the air and said to myself I DID IT! I achieved my dream. Later at the arena I stood up on the number 1 podium. The Australian flag rose as the Australian anthem sounded around the arena. I was so exhilarated, I nearly cried in happiness. I was given an amazing gold medal! As the person put the medal around my neck, it felt so heavy. On the gold medal, I saw the special engraving of the 2012 London Olympics.
PREP 1 – WATER

What a great incursion the Prep/1 had looking at all the water locations at our school. Now we know where water comes from!
Mt. Beauty Soccer club is hosting its Gala Day this Saturday at the main football ground all players are to be at the ground by 9.30am for a 10am kick off, players to have shin pads, boots, black socks & black shorts. The club will need Volunteers Parents on the day for ground setup & pack up, canteen roster, BBQ duty, and referees. This is very important for the day to be a success. Important Note: parents do you have any of our soccer shirts sitting in your cupboard as we are short 36 shirts, they are red/black stripe with our club logo on the front, the cost to replace these is $900 so we would like to get them back, if you do just drop them off at the ground on Saturday or call me I will come and get them. Contact: Ron Crawford 57544886 or 0413 339 570

**SCHOOL BANKING**
Just a reminder to families that school banking for the Commonwealth Bank is every Thursday. All your children need to do is hand their books with money enclosed to Lisa in the office. There are some great rewards on offer for your children to regularly bank. If anyone would like to open an account for their child you can do so by either seeing Lisa in the office or calling into the Commonwealth Bank.

**COMMUNITY MARKET**
Saturday 4th August 9.00am to 1.00pm. Held in the gardens of the Community Centre in Mount Beauty. Interested stallholders can call Bev on 03 57544097.

Positive Parenting Telephone Service:

**Are you the parent or carer of a child or children aged 2 – 10 years?**

**Are you looking for ways to have more positive communication with your child/ren?**

**Do you have other commitments that prevent you from attending regular group parenting courses?**

**Well, how about this?**
We are running a fantastic parenting program for parents, grandparents and carers of children aged 2 – 10 years that you can do from the comfort of your own home. It is called the Positive Parenting Telephone Service and you get a weekly telephone appointment at a time that suits you (day or evening) with a trained parent educator for 6 – 10 weeks.

Our program educators aim to assist you in developing a stronger and more positive relationship with your children, as well as offering some practical suggestions on how to manage everyday behaviour problems such as disobedience, temper tantrums and disruptive behaviours.

**Interested?**
For more information or to enrol phone **FREECALL 1800 880 660**
ENROLMENTS TAKEN ALL YEAR ROUND

Start now and make a positive start last a lifetime
This service is funded by Department of Human Services Victoria