Dear Families

I have been away for two days this week at a conference in Melbourne called ‘Small Schools on a Large Stage: Innovate and Flourish.’ The program was subsidised by CEP (Country Education Project) who advocate for small, rural and remote schools within the department. A strong message from the conference was to acknowledge the great work that small schools are already doing in providing excellent learning opportunities for their students. This is true for Tawonga Primary School who has consistently achieved highly results in Literacy and Numeracy and is able to give our students the opportunities to be involved in a cross section of other curriculum programs.

One point that I would like us as a school community to think about is, What is our current community and what do we want it to be in the future? Who do we already have partnerships with and who could we make new connecting with? The changes that are occurring right now in education are considerable, schools and principals are being given more opportunities to make local decisions which best fit their school context and student’s needs.

Another strong focus of the conference was the importance for us to make stronger connections with schools within our Cluster and schools with similar needs. Our school is part of the Upper Kiewa Valley Cluster and it is a main focus for the 4 primary schools in our cluster to work more strong together to benefit all students in the valley.

Lastly technology was discussed in great length as a key to connecting students in small schools with others both for social and academic learning opportunities. The advancements of technology in our society are rapid at present and we need to keep up and be more innovative in our teaching. Our school will be purchasing some IPads very soon to beginning to trial there use in the classroom.

Facebook Page – Be one of the first to Like us – Tawonga Primary School.
This page will keep you informed from a school perspective on what is happening at our school.

Fathers Day Breakfast 2012.....
Values Clarification
Staff and School Councillors have been working on rebranding our school in terms of the values that Tawonga Primary School would like to stand for. We already have a clear Motto and Vision statement but are lacking clear values. School Council and staff after some very thoughtful discussions have agreed to 6 values. We are now seeking families input into definitions and behaviour expectations that we as a school community have for our students, staff and families.

These values need to become a part of everyday language at Tawonga Primary School. When making decisions about student learning these values need to be forefront in our thinking. Staff will work as a team to explicitly teach these values to students. An example of how this will work well is with behaviour management and expectations for our students in the classroom and playgrounds.

Please find attached a sheet for you to fill in if you wish. This is a way for us to gather the input of all our families. The students have done this activities today in class and the staff will also be completing it. It is not test and we encourage as many families to give it ago.

Skiing Helpers
A big thankyou to our parents who assisted with the ski program this year. Without your help this program would be unable to run. Mary Anne and Wendy for downhill skiing and Catherine our student teacher for XC skiing.

2013 Enrolments for Kinder and School - If families are aware of any potential 3 or 4 year old Kinder enrolments for 2013 could they encourage them to contact Community Early Years Childcare for an enrolment form. Phone 02 6056 4399. This also applies for school enrolments for 2013, please contact the office for an enrolment pack. It is extremely important for all schools and kinders to be aware of numbers as early as possible for the coming year. School funding is based on enrolments and it is difficult to plan for the future when enrolments are in doubt. I encourage any new families to come and have a look at the kinder and school.

WOKRING BEE THIS SATURDAY

9.00AM ONWARDS.
BBQ lunch provided. BYO tools. (Wheelbarrows, shovels etc.)
Jobs to be attempted.
- Stacking and moving bricks currently in car park
- Topping up sandpit
- Digging a new long jump pit on edge of oval
- Removing rocks, top dressing and seeding front lawn ready for spring.
- Edging and planting out bulbs at front of school.

Remember many hands make light work. We hope to see you there. If you are unable to attend on this day but have a small amount of time on another day which you can help with one of these jobs, it really would be appreciated.
On Friday 14th September the school, in conjunction with flour+water, will be holding a special pizza day.

Our children will be helping make pizza’s and 100% percent of the money raised will go toward fundraising for our school. flour+water are donating the first 100 pizza’s so big thumbs up to them for their support.

Early next week a form will be coming home with students and you will be able to choose from 4 different pizza’s (ham & pineapple/meat lovers/pepperoni/vegetarian). Payment needs to come back with the orders and on Friday the 14th you can either come along and eat them from 4pm onwards or you can take them home. Rocky at flour+water is even happy for them to be collected from flour+water if that is easier for you.

So, please have a think in advance about what you would like and we hope you will support our school in this venture which should be great learning and fun for our children as well.

Outside orders are, of course, most welcome! 😊
Welcome back to Mrs Kovacs. I have really enjoyed my time in Grade Five/Six class. All students worked hard with excellent results. They are a lovely group of bright, happy individuals and I will miss coming over each week.

Thank you to all the students and parents who made the morning tea, on my last day, so enjoyable.

The class has successfully completed their Olympic Power Point Projects, medals, and 2D and 3D figurines. Their written work has continued to improve with the school focus on Sizzling Starts. They managed, and judged the Sizzling Starts Competition and they were wonderful hosts, MCs and waiters for the mayor’s visit.

In Maths we have concentrated on fractions, equations, averages, factors, multiples, indices, volume, mass, perimeter and area. They have also worked hard to complete units in their Maths Plus, Spelling Conventions and Grammar Conventions texts.

In Literacy we have concentrated on understanding non-fiction with a focus on Friction and Wheelchair Sports. In Science they have broadened their understanding of Friction and its impact, both positively and negatively in everyday life, especially the Olympics and Paralympics.

All the students and teachers are looking forward to Mrs Kovacs return and I am sure she will also be happy to see everyone again.

Dianne Scott

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**SKIING REFUNDS**

In the next couple of weeks Lisa will be processing Skiing refunds for the last day of skiing. If you would prefer the funds to be held at the school to pay for school fees, camp deposits etc please return the bottom slip advising this. If you would like a refund sent home please complete your Bank Account details and refunds will be directly credited to your bank account. If anyone has any questions regarding this please let Lisa know in the office.

[ ] I would like my skiing refund to pay off outstanding school fees/ camp deposit (Please circle preferred option).

[ ] I would like my skiing refund credited to the following bank account.

Bank Name: __________________________________________
Bank BSB: __________________________________________
Account Number: ________________________________
Account Name: _______________________________________
COMMUNITY NEWS

SASSY ROAD

AND

SWEETWATER BREWERY

ARE HAVING A

“GIRLS NIGHT”...

A night of late night shopping, champagne and giggles!

When: FRIDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

Time: 5.00pm – 8pm for shopping and champagne at SASSY ROAD

Time: 5pm til 10pm for supper and relaxing drinks at the Sweetwater Brewery, Tawonga South......

**If wanting to have supper at the Brewery ...Please book with Peter at Sweetwater Brewery for catering purposes on 57541881. .................see you there!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!xx Mon

Mount Beauty Little Athletics

Mount Beauty Little Athletics is run by volunteers to provide Track and Field sporting development opportunities to children 5-14 years old. Programs are run weekly during summer school terms.

WE ARE UNABLE TO RUN A PROGRAM THIS FY12/13 SEASON DUE TO LACK OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

We recently held a special general meeting on the 15 August 2012 regarding the future of Mount Beauty Little Athletics. We were unable to form a committee this year, as we have a number of outgoing members and were unable to fill key positions.

We are currently investigating options for postponing our membership to see if we can maintain club registration and aim for a restart in the 2013-2014 season. This will no doubt require more effort to restart after a lull.

Thank you for your help and support through the previous season.

Ivan Zirnstein
Mt Beauty Little Athletics Centre
2011-2012 Mount Beauty Little Athletics Club President

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