



Tawonga Newsletter

Primary School

"Bringing Life to Learning"

Issue 3– 23/2/2023

Our Vision:

A meeting place where student's lifelong learning begins and grows into a sustainable future.

SUPPORT

Recognising that we all have different learning needs and that we need to assist and help each

OPPORTUNITY

Providing every child a broad range of possibilities to achieve success.

UNITY

Working as a team with common beliefs and understandings.

RESPONSIBILITY

Being accountable and trustworthy.

COMMUNITY

We have a common interest in our students.

EXCELLENCE

Striving to be the best we can be.

Tawonga Primary School acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Kim Franzke

Principal

Mob: 0438 544 468

Ph: 03 5754 4468

Fax: 03 5754 1218

Email:

tawonga.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.tawongaps.vic.edu.au

OSHC: 0429 018 724

Message from the Principal:

Dear Families,

School Council Elections/AGM

Information regarding School Council elections is available with this newsletter. Please seriously consider nominating for a position on council.

Sick Bay / Secondhand Uniforms

We are looking for a parent volunteer to assist with keeping our second-hand uniforms neat and tidy. They are located under the bed in the Sick Bay. We offer these free of charge to families in need. Please come and help yourself if you need something. This may be temporary, for a day, or long term.

We are also looking for a volunteer to wash and change the sheets on the bed in the Sick Bay on a regular basis.

If you are able to assist with either or both of these jobs please speak with Yvette or myself.

Emergency Evacuation Drill

Once a term we practice an emergency evacuation drill with the Kinder. We will be conducting our first drill next week. This is a timely reminder to families to have a family plan for if you were ever in need of evacuating your home or the valley.

Food Allergies/Intolerances

Most Thursdays during Making Day students participate in a cooking class with Olivia. If your child has any dietary needs that we need to be aware of, could you please let us know.

Swimming

Our last swimming lesson is next Monday. A big thank you to Bec Selsby who has volunteered her time to take our top swim group. Also a big thank you to Helen L who has instructed our beginner swim group and assisted our teachers immensely.

School Photos

Please note that we have had to move our school photo day to a day later (Friday 31st March).

ASSEMBLY FRIDAY 24h February 3.10 pm

Assembly

Each Friday we have a whole school assembly in the Project Space. We welcome and encourage parents and visitors to attend. Our Year 5/6 students take the lead to plan and run the assembly. Assembly will start promptly at 3.10pm with the singing of the National Anthem.

MARC Library Van

Each fortnight Amy our library teacher visits and the students are able to borrow books. Please take the time to look at then calendar to see which weeks she visits so that books can be returned. There is a tub at the front office for book returns.

BYOD Year 2-6 Laptop Program

Students need to ensure that devices are taken home for charging. Please do not bring chargers to school. It may not be necessary to bring the device home every day so please discuss with your child a plan that suits your family.

School Band Program

Year 5/6 students who have returned their forms will be contacted by Miss Humerford shortly to arrange instruments and to explain rehearsals.

Division Swimming

Congratulations to Harry and Sam who represented our Cluster at the Division Swimming Sports in Wodonga last Friday. Both boys swam some personal best times in the big 50m pool. Sam has qualified to race at the regional championships in Shepparton.

Kim Franzke

PRINCIPAL

Health Lunchboxes



Here are some healthy and rubbish free lunchboxes spotted recently. You may see some ideas that your children might like to try.



Social Event

BBQ and Easter Egg Hunt

Kinder and school families are invited to an end of term community social event

Friday 31st March

5-7pm

BYO BBQ meat (to cook yourself - BBQ provided)

BYO salad to share

The school will provide Easter Eggs and an icy pole for children. Our hunt will take place at approx 6.30pm.



School Council Nominations

School Council Nominations are open from Thursday 22nd February until 4pm Friday 17th March.

Our council consists of 2 department reps and 8 parent reps.

This year we are looking for 4 parents to join.

Positions are for a 2 year term with half the council renewing or changing over each year.

The following parents have another year on council (Andrew Macklan, Missy Seymour, Tom Carrie and Ben Svarc).

School Council is a fantastic way to fully engage with your child's school. The Council is the executive body of the school and assists in determining the priorities and strategic directions.

Nomination forms and a fact sheet of Council roles and responsibilities are available at the office and attached as a PDF on Compass. These can be returned to the red box at the office.

MARC (Library Van)

Each fortnight on a Tuesday the MARC Library Van visits our school. Students are able to borrow books to take home. These are on loan for two weeks. Books can be returned to the box located at the office.

Also our library teacher travels around to the small schools in the Kiewa and Mitta valley providing access to a large range of books.



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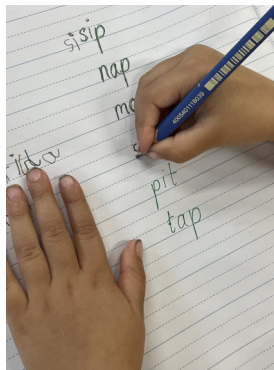
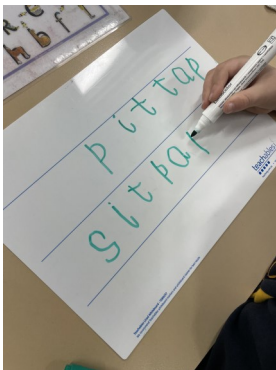
Making Day



Thursdays are always a bit messy and noisy as students work together on different projects.

Today there was pruning, egg cracking, grating, observing, prediction, digging, making, creating and cleaning to name a few.

Our vegetable garden behind the toilet block will be getting a makeover very shortly. The students started today by removing debris and cleaning up the area.



Prep/1 News

In Maths, the Prep/1 students have been using hands on manipulatives to learn number concepts.

While in literacy they have been learning how to build, read and write words using known sounds.

Research continues to prove that children learn best when taught using all learning styles: auditory, visual and kinaesthetic.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

FEBRUARY/MARCH

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT/SUN
			23	24 Lunch orders Assembly 3.10	25/26
27 Swimming pick up from the pool	28 Art	1 March Preps at school Regional Swimming	2 Clean Up Australia Day - Schools Day 2.30	3 Lunch orders Assembly 3.10	4/5
6	7 Library	8	9	10 Lunch orders Assembly 3.10	11/12
13 LABOUR DAY	14 Art	15 NAPLAN testing to begin Yr3&5	16	17 Lunch orders Assembly 3.10	18/19
20	21 Library	22	23	24 Lunch orders Assembly 3.10 Ride to School Day	25/26

REMINDERS

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS - check Compass

COMPASS - Please use for all absences, also check that all personal details and emergency contact details are up to date.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING - tests are available from the office, please come and help yourself.

BOOK CLUB -

SCHOOL PHOTOS - 31st March (please note change from the 30th)

SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

President	Andrew Macklan andrew.macklan@education.vic.gov.au
Vice President	Carolyn Trott
Finance	Andrew, Carolyn
Buildings & Grounds	Ben Svarc, Missy Seymour
Curriculum/ Policies	Rebekah French, Carolyn Trott





Community News



There are now two categories. One for the fit and fast (competitive/race) and the other for those wanting to take a more leisurely approach and walk/hike around the 21km loop including summiting Victoria's highest peak at 1986m. Some 30 odd spot prizes including accommodation and outdoor equipment have been kindly donated from our sponsors meaning at present there is a 1 in 3 to 4 chance of taking something home which is more than just the great stories you'll have of the day.

Cost to enter: Individual U18 \$20, Open \$30, Family \$80.

Visit: hoppet.com.au/running/conquestathon for more information and to register.



How to Submit Community News:

Articles can be sent to tawonga.ps@education.vic.gov.au



Bushfire At-Risk Register - Schools

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**



Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and Compass Notification. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking Compass and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)