



Tawonga Primary School Newsletter

Healthy, Happy Children ... Learning to Live

Our vision: To educate students with the life skills necessary to achieve academic, social and emotional success.

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Dear Families,

On Monday I spent the day with Debbie O'Connell, a Hume Region Learning Development Officer. We spent the day discussing the educational programs that we are offering our students and the outcomes we are achieving. 2013 will see the introduction of the National Curriculum in 4 subject areas – English, Maths, Science and History. This curriculum change will be an opportunity for us to review the way we are delivering our curriculum with the focus on preparing all our students to be successful learners. Much of our professional learning time this term will be centred on reviewing and making changes in preparation for the National Curriculum.

As the end of the year draws near we need to make commitments around our grade structures and curriculum delivery options for 2013. This task is never easy as it is heavily determined by our student numbers. I would like to encourage families to come and talk with me if you have any queries or concerns. If you are aware of any new families who are yet to fill in an enrolment form could you encourage them to do so.

Our Prep Transition program will be starting this Friday from 2.00-3.30pm. This will run fortnightly to assist in preparing our new Preps for school.

Kellie has been working hard with all the students in our Emotional Intelligence classes held on Fridays. Last week the students made gnocchi. The focus of the lessons is on understanding how we have different emotions and how we think in different ways. Referring back to the thinking hats, Blue being

leadership, White – Directions; Green – Creative; Black – safety; Red – Emotion and Yellow – positive. Kellie is using cooking as the medium to which the students are practising their team work skill.

Another focus each week is on working in multi-age groupings and learning to work within a team. This is something that as a small school we value highly. I am always impressed how well our students are able to work together. This is a great skill that they will need later in life.

Kim Franzke
Principal



Division Athletics Results:

Last Friday our school was represented by 5 students at the Zone Athletics in Albury. The students competed in a range of events and gained some wonderful results.

Liam H – 1st in Discus and Long jump (now off to Shepparton for Regional finals on Friday).

Clay – 3rd in Long jump. 5th in 800m.

Emily – 6th in Shotput. 4th in Long jump.

Sam – Competed in Shotput and Long Jump

Bella – Competed in Hurdles and 200m.

Liam and Clay were also in a relay team which came 3rd.

Well done to you all and thank you for representing our school.

Introducing Mr Wright:

This week Mr Wright has been working at our school for the first time as a relief teacher due to staff absences. He worked last term at Falls Creek Primary School. Mr Wright has commented to me on how impressed he has been with our student's attitude and behaviour.

OUR VEGGIE GARDEN

The last two weeks the year 3-6s have been working hard in revitalising our veggie garden behind the toilet block. We have incorporated some Maths lessons around measurement. This work is also another example of how well our students are able to work in groups to use their initiative and problem solve. Well done everyone, now to finish planting. The P-2s will be getting their hands dirty next week if the weather stays fine.



CALENDAR 2012

OCTOBER	2012	
Friday	12	District Athletics Sports Wodonga – 5 students representing our school.
Friday	19	Storytime 0-5s in Kinder 9.30am Kinder Transition 2 – 3.30pm Cricket Victoria Session (Years 2-6)
Tuesday	23	School Council 6.30pm Finance. 7.00 General Meeting
Friday	26	Hooptime – Kilsyth some 5/6s
Monday	29	Junior Sports Day at Tawonga Primary P-2
NOVEMBER	2012	
Friday	2	Kinder Transition 2 – 3.30pm
Tuesday	6	Melbourne Cup Holiday
Wednesday	7	Year 6/Year 9 Buddy Day at Bogong Outdoor Education Centre
Thursday/Friday	8 & 9	Year 3/4 Beechworth Camp
Friday	9	P/1/2 Excursion to Wooragee Primary School
Sunday	11	Remembrance Day
Friday	16	Kinder Transition 2 – 3.30pm
Friday	23	P/1/2 Late Night Event
Tuesday	27	School Council 6.30pm Finance. 7.00 General Meeting
Friday	30	Kinder Transition 2 – 3.30pm and Twilight Festival
DECEMBER	2012	
Tuesday	9	Statewide Transition Day (all students move up a year level)
Wednesday	19	Year 6 Graduation Concert – Tawonga Hall
Friday	21	Last Day of School 2012



Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development

EMA - Newsletter Information 2013



Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

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 an annual payment of \$250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of \$200 and \$300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools 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.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account **or**
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection **or**
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

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).

Payment Amounts - 2013:

	Prep	Years 1 - 6	Year 7	Year 8 – Age 16
Instalment One	\$140	\$105	\$210	\$175
Instalment Two	\$60	\$45	\$90	\$75
Annual Total	\$200	\$150	\$300	\$250

*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.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is **28 February 2013**.



TWILIGHT FESTIVAL - Friday 30th November 4-late (8ish)

This year we are planning the twilight festival to be more of a fun community event which will include food, lots of games, music, loads of activities for the children and market stalls. To ensure the success of this event we need the support of the school community and need to know fairly soon how much support we are going to be able to get in the way of helpers during the event.

The help we will need will include the following: manning stalls; help with craft activities, supervising, cooking etc.

We know it's early, but we would like to get an idea of who would be willing to help out in some capacity by filling in the form below and returning it to school asap. This will help us to know just how much we can commit to so we really need a response by Friday 26th October.

Name :phone:.....

- ☐ yes, I can help out in any way you need
 - ☐ yes, I can help out frompm topm
 - ☐ I would like to be involved in the pre-preparation rather than the actual market
 - ☐ I have some ideas that I would like to present (which we would be delighted to hear about!)
-

By filling out this form you are not committed; just expressing your interest.

We are also planning to have a 'toy sale' as part of the market so if you have any toys laying around that you're not sure what to do with and are happy to donate them we would be thrilled to have them. Just leave them at the office for us to collect. We will put this in the newsletter a number of times as a reminder!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Are you in?

*Ladies join us for a GIRLS NIGHT
IN*

Friday 19th October 2012

Mount Beauty Cricket Club

Starting 7.30pm til midnight

*\$25 incl. entertainment and light
supper*

*Complimentary glass of
Champagne on arrival*

*Tickets on sale at Sassy Road and
Tawonga Store*

*Can't make it? Make a donation
please log on to Cancer Council
Fundraising and search for a
Girls Night In under name Mount
Beauty*

Enquiries at Sassy Road

I PINK

MOUNT BEAUTY ROTARY MONSTER GARAGE SALE

The Rotary Club of Mount Beauty is sending two talented Mount Beauty Secondary College students to a two week National Science Challenge to expose them to the brightest and best minds in Australia. To help fund the project we are holding a Monster Garage Sale.

On: Saturday 3rd November 2012 from
8.00am to 1.00pm

At: Pyles Paddock (opposite Falls Creek
Coaches) on Kiewa Valley Hwy, Tawonga
South

If anyone wishes to book a site at the Sale,
please contact Barb Pyle on 5754 4453.

Also, we urgently require goods to sell
(anything except mattresses and televisions).
Please

Call: 575404453 or 0418 148 034 to
arrange a time for delivery or pick up

To: Pyle's Shed (opposite Falls
Creek Coaches)

On: any Wednesday until the end of
October

*Don't miss it: There'll be heaps of
fabulous bargains.*

Rotary serving the community.

BEECHWORTH SECONDARY COLLEGE PRESENTS

An evening with Dr Andrew Wake
**'How to provide for your child's social and
emotional development: helping them manage
their strong emotions'.**

When: Wednesday 24th October 2012 6.45pm for
7.00pm start.

Where: The Gallery, Beechworth Secondary
College.

Please call the school office at Beechworth on
57281264 to register attendance for this
presentation.