Principal's Message

The school has currently been updating the reward process for Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL).

Personal achievements involve working toward Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. A flow chart, on page 4, explains the process.

Children also work toward a whole school reward. A “Tarr-ific” is given to students in the playground for being great role models. Students write their name on the “Tarr-ific” and place it in the classroom container. Three names are drawn out in the fortnightly assembly and receive a small prize. Once the whole school has collected 1000 the school will have a celebration. Please see the flow chart on page 4.

Focusing on positive behaviour leads to a happy school learning environment.

The new school plan for 2015-2017 has received input from a number of sources. Discussion at the P&C this Wednesday night will also provide further strategic direction for purpose, people, processes, products and practices that the school will implement to transform the school.

Michelle Sotiros
r/ Principal

Upcoming Events

March 2
5/6PN Parent Camp Info session @ 3.10pm

March 3
Kinder Eye Testing from 9-11am
School assembly @ 2.25pm.
(1/2M) All welcome.

March 4
Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.
Community of Schools French lessons @ 1.45pm
P & C meeting/AGM @ 6.30pm in staffroom.

March 6
Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.
School Banking
Regional Swimming Carnival @ Dapto Pool.
K-6 Sport (Tennis)

March 11
Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.
Community of Schools French lessons @ 1.45pm

March 12
Selective HS placement test

March 13
Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.
School Banking
K-6 Sport (Tennis)
**Changes to school staff**

Welcome Mr. Steve Longden and Mr. Graham Boyd who will be Tarrawanna Public School’s General Assistants while Dave Swan is on leave.

**Student Representative Council Report (SRC):**

On Wednesday 25 February, the SRC had their first meeting. The SRC decided to support Harmony Day. On Friday 20 March students are to wear orange mufti clothes. In order for them to wear mufti they must donate a gold coin. On that day students will also be participating in buddy class activities. The SRC will decide at the next meeting on the 11 March, which charity the proceeds will go to.

The SRC brainstormed different whole school rewards for when the school reaches 1000 Tarr-Ifics and then they took it to their classes. The whole school voted that our first whole school reward will be a school disco.

Miss Delaney and the SRC.

**Voluntary School Contribution**

Thank you to the families who have paid the Voluntary School Contribution for 2015 of $10 per student. Our aim is to achieve $1000. Currently we have received $420. If we achieve this target 2 student names from each class will be drawn out of a hat and will enjoy lunch with the Principal. Lunch is provided by Mrs. Sotiros not school funds. Please forward payment as soon as possible.

**Mathletics Costs**

Tarrawanna Public School has made a 3 year commitment to Mathletics which is an online Maths resource for all students from K-6 that can be accessed online at school or at home. The cost for this subscription is $18. Please forward payment by the end of Term 1. See Mrs Sotiros for alternative payment arrangements.

**More Important News**

**Corrimal High**, your students local High School, is holding its **Open Night** next Tuesday 10 March starting at 7pm to 8.15pm.

This information session and school inspection is designed for Year 5 and 6 parents and children as part of the transition program to High School.

Every is welcome to see “your school of choice” for your students to continue their learning from your Primary School to High School.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>School Cross Country 9.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School assembly @ 2.25pm (3/4D) All welcome.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community of Schools French lessons @ 1.45pm</td>
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<td>AECG meeting @ Bellambi</td>
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<td>Neighbourhood Centre 3.45pm</td>
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<td>March 19</td>
<td>Environmental Cleanup @ 1.45pm</td>
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<td>March 20</td>
<td>Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Banking</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Harmony Day – gold coin donation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>K – 6 Sport (Tennis)</td>
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<td>March 24</td>
<td>Science Centre excursion (1C &amp; 2/3M)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parent/Teacher conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community of Schools French lessons @ 1.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Banking</td>
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<td></td>
<td>K – 6 Sport (Tennis)</td>
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<td>March 28</td>
<td>State Elections polling @ TPS</td>
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<td>March 31</td>
<td>School assembly @ 2.25pm 1C</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Breakfast Club in multi-purpose room @ 8.15am.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All welcome.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>P &amp; C meeting @ 6.30pm in staffroom</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In the Community

MacKillop Family Services provide foster care services in the Illawarra/Shoalhaven and are seeking more foster carers in the community who might be able to provide stable and caring homes for some of the most vulnerable children in NSW.

Call on 1300 791 677 or visit Mackillop.org.au/fostercare for more information

Corrimal High School link:

Please find below the link that will take you to Corrimal High School website where our latest newsletter has been published. Also available is the link to the careers newsletters.

http://www.corrimal-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/newsletters

Corrimal High now has a Facebook page. To access please use the following link

https://www.facebook.com/corrimalhs

Tarrawanna Rovers Junior Football Club

register now at www.myfootballclub.com.au or email tarrarovers@gmail.com.

First game on 28 March, 2015 at Tarrawanna Public School.

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ISER (Illawarra South East Region)

Junior Band Program 2015 for any interested student in Years 4 to 10 who have been learning a musical instrument for a minimum of 2 years.

The program begins with a 3day/2 night residential camp at Stanwell Tops Conference Centre from Sunday 24 May to Tuesday 26 May. Further information and application forms can be found on the Regional website: www.southernarts.det.nsw.edu.au.

Applications close on Friday 1 May, 2015.

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CANTEEN ROSTER – Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Monday 2 March</th>
<th>Tuesday 3 March</th>
<th>Wednesday 4 March</th>
<th>Thursday 5 March</th>
<th>Friday 6 March</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kate Giddings</td>
<td>Sharon Vanderspek</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
<td>Tina Timoti</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Giddings</td>
<td>Alisha Stanshall</td>
<td></td>
<td>Te Ngore Pohatu</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Monday 9 March</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 March</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 March</th>
<th>Thursday 12 March</th>
<th>Friday 13 March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Simone Mills</td>
<td>Mel Brooks</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
<td>Catherin Contreras</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ying Wang</td>
<td>Leticia Kete</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carlos Contreras</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Monday 16 March</th>
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<th>Wednesday 18 March</th>
<th>Thursday 19 March</th>
<th>Friday 20 March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kate Giddings</td>
<td>Sharon Vanderspek</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
<td>Robyn Weston</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Giddings</td>
<td>Alisha Stanshall</td>
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<td>Tiffany Weston</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Monday 23 March</th>
<th>Tuesday 24 March</th>
<th>Wednesday 25 March</th>
<th>Thursday 26 March</th>
<th>Friday 27 March</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mel Potter</td>
<td>Mel Brooks</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
<td>Tina Timoti</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leticia Kete</td>
<td>Leticia Kete</td>
<td></td>
<td>Te Ngore Pohatu</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CONGRATULATIONS to Tahlia M, Phoebe G and Laura G for making the BROKERS GIRLS SOCCER TEAM at the Zone Trials on 18 March at Webb Park, Koonawarra.

CONGRATULATIONS on the following School Swimming Champions:

- Senior Girls Champion: Nioka-Rose B
- Senior Boys Champion: Brody N
- Junior Girls Champion: Margaret P
- Junior Boys Champion: Wil D
- 11 years Girls Champion: Laura G
- 11 years Boys Champion: Jordan B
School Merit System

Classroom:

• Dojo points/stickers are given out in the classroom for each of the three values.
• 5 Dojo points= 1 sticker on Personal Best tree.
• 25 stickers on their Personal Best Tree = Bronze
• 25 more stickers= Silver
• 25 more stickers= Gold
• Bronze to be achieved by Term 2, Silver by Term 3 and Gold by Term 4.
• Will start fresh every year

Playground:

• Tarra-ifics are handed out in the playground for each of the three values
• They are collected and counted by the classroom teacher
• Once a week the total number of Tarra-ifics and Tarra-ifics are given to Miss Delaney
• Students are rewarded when they reach 1000 Tarra-ifics. Rewards varies from term to term
• Every assembly two names are chosen and get an item from the Tarra-ific box.

Principal awards:

In addition, all students can earn Principal awards as a positive reward. These are rewarded every fortnight at the school assembly and are handed out at the teachers discretion for exceptional work in accordance with the school’s values. The classroom teacher awards three students every fortnight with a Principal Award.
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won't go to school.
What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conference

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:


The school leaving age:


Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 0244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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