

TOWRADGI Public School

NEWSLETTER

Term 4

Week 7

20 November 2015



Towradgi PS Remembers

Our school community gathered together around the school flagpole and remembered, honoured and expressed gratitude to those who have served our country on Remembrance Day. The planting of poppies was one small way we showed respect to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. A highlight of the ceremony was the delivery of a personalised message from Sergeant Simone Campbell. Many thanks are extended to Simone for helping to make our ceremony much more meaningful.



4/5 Blue Successfully Solve Their Skype Mystery

Our global citizens from 4/5 Blue collaborated and worked out that their recent mystery Skype buddies were situated in Beijing. It was exciting to see the students using their critical thinking skills, and wonderful to watch them forging positive relationships with other students almost 9,000 kilometres away!



Important Dates To Remember

Wednesday 25 November
Yrs 3-6 Lifesaving Excursion

NIAECG Meeting
3:45pm, Woonona HS

Friday 27 November
Assembly 12:30pm
K-6 Yellow Item

Thursday 3 December
School Leader Elections

Tuesday 8 December
Year 6 Farewell

Wednesday 9 December
Junior Play
P&C Raffle Draw
P&C Meeting + Dinner
7pm Towradgi Bowling Club

Thursday 10 December
Volunteers Morning Tea

Friday 11 December
School Reports sent home
P&C End of Year Dinner
7pm Towradgi Bowling Club

Assembly Awards

K/1 Pink

Madison H, Rihanna C

K/1 Orange

Lily H, Joe S

2 Red

Mischa L, Regan C

3/4 Green

Billie B, Dio A, Cameron S

4/5 Blue

Deklan C, Ella P, Diorlouse C

5/6 Ruby

Xavier M, Jayden T, Jonah S

K-6 Purple

Tess A

K-6 Yellow

Jaimon Y

PBS Award

Anthony R, Bernelle O

Bronze Award

Damian R, Angus S

Silver Award

Tiegh L, Kurt R, Jay S, Eamon W

Gold Award

Ariana W, Isabella P, Chloe P, Talia D, Bradly A, Sean L, Jordan R, Isaac S, Kalani M, Cameron S, Marli G, Aiden C, Dio A, Dylan V, Ruby S, Natalie H, Deklan C, Harmonie S, Eva S, Lucinda C

Diamond Award

Maurice S, Melanie F, Nina S

Leadership & K-2 Fundamental Movement Skills

Our stage two students have been provided with an exciting opportunity to build their leadership capabilities. Following an intensive training program, students in Years 3 and 4 successfully guided our K-2 students through a Fundamental Movement Skills and Fitness program. This was an exciting and developmental opportunity for both leaders and participants alike. Congratulations go to all involved!

Rewards For Positively Successful Students

All qualifying students took part in a special extended play session during our recent Rewards Day. Congratulations go to all students who, through consistently demonstrating positive behaviours at school, qualified to participate. Congratulations also go to Anthony R and Bernelle O, who were the lucky winners of the superstar prize draw at our last assembly. We will again be looking forward to finding out who will be the winners of our next PBL draw at the next assembly on Friday 27 November!

Dress Like A Tradie Day

Thank you to those who supported the SRC by dressing like "Tradies" yesterday and donating much needed funds or lego for our Makerspace. As a result of your donations, we raised \$112.55 and this, combined with the lego donations, gives us a great start for our Lego wall creation. We are really looking forward to beginning construction on our new Makerspace in the computer lab. It will be great when our students can come together in the Makerspace to explore, ask questions, create, invent and discuss their findings. Looking forward to watching this space!



Our School Library Needs Your Help!

Due to technical difficulties with the library computer and scanner over the past 12-18 months, many books were borrowed without being properly processed through the library's computer system. This has meant that many books have gone missing from the library and are no longer available for the students to read and borrow. For the rest of the year, Mrs Heino will be running a raffle to assist the return of school library books. For every book returned, whether overdue or not, students will receive a raffle ticket which will go into a draw for a number of great prizes. Books can be returned directly to the library on Monday or Tuesday, or to the office any other day. To be in the running for one of the amazing prizes up for grabs, take a look around at home and check if you have any library books to return. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Supported Transition To Corrimal High School

Corrimal High School are providing a high school transition program focussed on developing connections to the school, their peers and the staff. Year 6 students from our school will be participating in a 3 week peer support program followed by a full

orientation day as part of this supportive transition program. This transition program is just one of the many ways in which Corrimal High School works collaboratively with Towradgi PS to support our students.

Life Saving Excursion

As a supplement to the surf safety talk last term, students from Years 3-6 will be participating in an excursion to Sandon Point Life Saving Club on 25 November. A beach visit will form part of the day's activities and the students will take part in surf safety activities under the guidance and supervision of Surf Education Australia staff. Our students will benefit greatly from this highly relevant program, aimed at saving lives.

Year 5 Future Leaders Prepare Election Speeches

We have a fabulous group of Year 5 candidates who have nominated for the important role of School Leader in 2016. All the nominees will deliver speeches to the whole school in the hall at 11:45am on Thursday 3 December. Parents are welcome to attend if they wish. Following the speeches, all students will return to their classes to cast their vote. The new School Leaders will be announced at the Annual Presentation Assembly on Monday 14 December.

School Community To Assemble For Special Presentations

Our annual Presentation Day Assembly will be held on Monday 14 December from 9:15am – 11am. This is a very special occasion where we recognise outstanding effort and achievement in academics, library, citizenship and sport. Classes are preparing short items to share throughout the assembly and, in keeping with tradition, we will conclude with the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony. We hope that many parents and friends will come along to this special assembly and join with us in recognising the efforts and achievements of our students in 2015.

Matilda Party

This term, K/1 Pink, K/1 Orange and 2 Red have been reading 'Matilda' by Roald Dahl. Some lucky students (and teachers) have been to see the stage show in Sydney. If you haven't seen it, we highly recommend it! On Friday 11 December, the K-2 classes will have a 'Matilda Party'. They will be watching the movie, having snacks and playing Matilda themed games. They can't wait! A note with more information will be sent home closer to the date.

ToPS Prepares To Launch BYOD

In 2016, students from Years 3-6 will be invited to participate in the ToPS Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. The Department of Education supports the use of 1:1 device programs in schools in order for students to develop:

- Higher motivation and engagement in learning
- Organisational skills
- Improved literacy and numeracy outcomes
- Collaborative and critical thinking skills
- Global connections

From next year, these students will be able to bring their own devices to school to support their learning. We are recommending iPads as the most suitable device to bring for our school BYOD program. More information has been sent home to parents of students who will be in Years 3-6 next year. Mr Pritchard has created a weebly (website) to support parents with the introduction of this program. For further information please visit www.topsbyod.weebly.com or come in and talk to Mr Pritchard, Mrs Lieschke or Mrs Broadbridge.

School Weebly

Check out what's happening in each class.



www.towradgips2015.weebly.com

Students know the password

Friendly Reminders

Road Safety - A reminder to everyone to slow down and respect the road rules when driving in school zones. The police often patrol school zones and fine drivers for parking in no parking zones, drop off zones and for making illegal u-turns in front of the school.

School Car Park - Please set a good example for your children by leaving via the front pedestrian gates. Families are also reminded to not park in or around the school car park. We have a number of special transport buses that require unobstructed access to the car parking area. Your common sense and positive example will most certainly help to reduce the risk of accident.

Start and Finish Times - The school is open to pupils between the hours of 8.25 am and 2.55 pm Monday to Friday during the school terms. In the interest of your children's safety, it is important that they don't arrive before this time nor that they remain at the school after 2:55 pm as there is no supervision by teachers outside the specified times. Your cooperation in adhering to these times is greatly appreciated.

Engaging 21st Century Learners

Aussie of Month **For November** Jordan C



K-1 Orange **Class News**

In K/1 Orange we have been learning lots of new things. We have been writing stories about Super Kid and Matilda. These are some of the books we have been reading in class. We are also learning about where our food comes from. We created fantastic pictures of barns. We used paint, paddle pop sticks, water colour paints and cotton wool. We found out that milk comes from a cow; it just does not appear magically in a bottle on the supermarket shelf. Wheat comes from a plant and then is made into flour. We use flour in bread, pasta, pies, cakes and biscuits. Some of our food comes from plants and animals. We did some projects on Asian countries. We found out about their traditional dress, food, flags, and their native animals. Soon we will have an end of year Christmas Play. Everyone will be in the play. At the moment we are practising our parts for the play. Some people have to learn lines and others have to learn songs and dances. Wow, what a term!

Preparations Underway to Farewell Year 6

A team of hardworking parents and staff have been busily organising the Year 6 Farewell, which will be held at the Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow on Tuesday 8 December from 6:00–9:00pm. This is always a very special occasion for our graduating students and we are all looking forward to a wonderful evening of reflection and celebration.

Morning Tea Thank You For Our Volunteers

The annual Volunteer's Morning Tea will be held in the staffroom at 11am on Thursday 10 December. Any parent, friend or community member who has helped out in any way during the year is invited to come along and join us. We look forward to taking this opportunity to give our thanks for your valued contribution to our school in 2015.

Luncheon With The Principal

On Tuesday 15 December, all Gold Award recipients and SRC members (from 1st and 2nd semesters) will be invited to a special luncheon with the principal. This is just a small way we say thank you to the students for their outstanding behaviour and service to the school in 2015.

Reporting On Student Progress

Teachers are working hard preparing student reports, which will be sent home on Friday 11 December. I'm sure parents will appreciate the time and effort that goes into preparing these comprehensive and informative documents. Please take some time to discuss the contents of the report with your children and as always, if you have any questions about them, please contact your child's teacher.

P&C Meeting & Celebrations

The P&C invite you to their final meeting for 2015 which this time will be held at Towradgi Bowling Club from 7pm on Wednesday 9 December. The P&C are also extending an invitation to parents and carers to join them for an informal night out and celebration of the year's end. This get-together will also be held at Towradgi Bowling Club from 7pm on Friday 11 December. Looking forward to another great coming together of our fantastic school community!

Grateful Thanks

Our grateful thanks go to the Carey family (Steve's Joinery) who so kindly donated an iPad mini for inclusion in the P&C end of year raffle. Sincere thanks also go to Network Communications, Flinders St Wollongong, for their generous donation of an iPhone 5S for the raffle. These certainly are substantial donations and are very much appreciated. Many thanks go to those families who have contributed to the class Christmas hampers and to representatives of the P&C who have been sourcing many more great prizes for the raffle. The P&C Christmas raffle will be drawn at the end of the Christmas Play on Wednesday 9 December, so if you haven't already returned your raffle tickets, this is a friendly reminder to do so.

Invitation to Final NIAECG Meeting For 2015

Our local Northern Illawarra Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (NIAECG) invites members of our school community to attend their meetings. The next meeting of the Northern Illawarra AECG is scheduled for Wednesday 25 November from 3:45pm at Woonona High School.

I hope you are enjoying sharing in our many good news stories. As the school year draws to a close we look forward to sharing and celebrating many more!

Cathy Broadbridge

Towradgi Public School PARENTS & CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

AGM and General Meeting

A big thank you to everyone who attended the AGM and General Meeting on Tuesday 10th November. The meeting was a productive one, with lots of exciting plans in the process for the coming weeks. We have even started planning for 2016!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee members for 2015, for all of their hard work throughout the year. And a very warm welcome to our new committee members who have been elected for the year ahead. The positions filled are as follows;

President: Mark McCarthy	Vice President: Sharon Rochaix
Treasurer: Andrea Kornhoff	Fundraising Coordinator: Alison Thelan
Secretary: POSITION VACANT	

If you would like to know more about the secretary position, or put your hand up for this position, please feel free to contact one of our committee members. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Fundraising Toy Catalogues

Place your order online ASAP to ensure delivery before Christmas. Don't forget to nominate Towradgi Public School as your nominated centre. Thank you to the families who have already done so.

Art Work Fundraiser

A very big thank you to all of the families who supported our 'Crazy Camel Art Work Fundraiser.' The finished products are due to arrive this week.

Christmas Raffle

Exciting news!! We have an iPad Mini donated to the school for this year's raffle. A big thank you to Steve and Melasande Carey from Steve's Joinery.

Another grand prize, with thanks to the Optus Shop in North Wollongong, is an iPhone 5s.

We also have numerous vouchers for different venues and hampers from Outback Steakhouse. The hampers are coming along nicely. Keep your donations coming in. There is a box located in the office for these items, and remember to get your child's name marked off by their teacher in class.

Bunnings BBQ

A friendly reminder that the Bunnings BBQ date is on Saturday 5th December. It is a busy time of year for everyone. If you feel you could rally some friends together, (or come along yourself) and donate 2 hours of your time to help out at the BBQ it would be greatly appreciated. This is an excellent way to raise much needed funds for our school. A separate note has already been sent home. Or please see Mark McCarthy for further details.



Next Meeting

Wednesday 9 December
7pm Towradgi Bowling Club

End Of Year Celebration

Friday 11 December
7pm Towradgi Bowling Club
All welcome to attend