

TOWRADGI Public School

NEWSLETTER

Term 1

Week 9

24 March 2016



'Everyone Belongs' at ToPS

Our Harmony Day celebrations last Friday were both meaningful and enjoyable for all involved. The students were encouraged to wear orange, the colour representative of inclusiveness and respect. All students were grouped K-6 and visited three 'countries' for varying cultural experiences. We were also very fortunate to have the support of our wider school community. Volunteers from Campus East and our Saturday School for Thai Language Class gave their time and shared authentic Thai costumes and musical instruments with the students. Mrs Maloinato also taught groups of students how to speak Mandarin. The school was certainly a 'sea of orange' and a 'hive of activity' for Harmony Day last Friday.



Volunteers Worked Like 'Busy Bees'

Thanks go to our teachers and staff from our Saturday School for Thai Language class who volunteered their time to help with weeding and cleaning up of our school grounds. Their support was very much appreciated and as a result, our grounds are once again looking very beautiful!

Important Dates To Remember

Tuesday 29 March

School Cross Country Carnival
from 9:30am

Wednesday 30 March

Interrelate for Years 5 and 6

Wednesday 30 March

1/2 Opal P/Teacher Interviews

Thursday 31 March

School Cross Country Carnival
Back Up Date

Friday 1 April

Assembly 12:30pm
K-6 Amber Item

Monday 4 April

BYOD Open Classrooms
Yrs 3-6 from 9:15-10:00am
Brokers Girls Touch
Football Trials

Tuesday 5 April

School Photographs
Brokers Boys Touch
Football Trials

Friday 8 April

Rewards Day
Last Day Term One

Assembly Award Congratulations

K/1 Diamond

Emma C, Tinokura T, Talia G

K/1 Emerald

Oscar N, Dash M, Lily R

1/2 Opal

Kelise G, Bradly A, Maurice S

3/4 Sapphire

Lily B, Christian C, Emily H

4/5 Gold

Lilli Y, Ruby S, Tamieka P

5/6 Onyx

Xavier M, Tia J, Melvin S

K-6 Pearl

Matthew J, Madison V

K-6 Amber

Jordan M

Bronze Award

Angus H

Principal's Award

Aiden C

Regan C



Aussie of the Month

Eamon W

Positive Behaviour For Learning (PBL) Congratulations

Congratulations go to Baily S and Olivia D, 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 1 April.

Great Walk For A Great Cause

Our school leaders proudly joined Mel, Travis and the team from Wave FM and other school leaders from our Community of Schools raising awareness about 'The Denny Foundation' through their Great Illawarra Walk. Many thanks go to our school community who generously donated \$40.80 towards their fundraising efforts. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to realise that the small things they do at a local level can make a big difference for those that are less fortunate.



5/6 Onyx Go Global

As part of their study on Australian Colonies, our 5/6 students have been writing historically accurate narratives set in Australia from 1770-1900. Each of the students has taken on the persona of a famous Australian from this period or invented their own character. Each week they focus on a particular aspect of writing e.g. similes, metaphors, alliteration and dialogue. They have been lucky enough to connect with a Year 5 class from Kromrey Middle School in Wisconsin U.S.A, via Google Sheets. The Kromrey Middle School students have been working on strategies for critiquing texts and authors. This was a perfect match for us! In Week 8, our Year 5/6 students shared their work using Google sharing links and the Kromrey Middle School students were able to comment directly within each of our students' texts. The feedback received was authentic and valuable and our students were able to reply and ask for further advice, as well as improve their writing!

Interviews Inform Our Parents

As part of our reporting process we offered opportunities for parent/teacher interviews (1/2 Opal scheduled for next Wednesday 30 March). We trust that these interviews provided you with a snapshot of your child's progress to date. We would like to remind you that if, at any time throughout the year, you have questions or concerns about your child's progress, please don't hesitate to make an appointment with the class teacher in order to discuss and resolve them.

Sporting Successes

Congratulations go to Ella P who was successful in gaining selection in the Brokers Netball team and played at the Northern Illawarra Zone trials yesterday. Congratulations also go to Deklan, Alec and Jack who represented the Brokers District at the Northern Illawarra Zone trials for Rugby League. Deklan was successful in gaining selection into the Northern Illawarra Zone team to trial at the South Coast regional carnival in Term 2. Alec was successful in gaining selection in the Northern Illawarra Zone team for Rugby Union and will be trialling at the South Coast regional carnival in Goulburn next term. These successes certainly deserve celebrating!



Easter Hats On Parade

Our annual Easter Hat Parade was held following the morning assembly today. The students looked absolutely fabulous as they were donned with their Easter hats for the big parade. The P&C appreciated all Easter egg and basket donations for the raffle prizes and presented prizes to the winners of the Easter raffle at the conclusion of the Easter Hat Parade. Thanks go to all members of the school community for the support provided.



Cross Country Carnival

The school cross country carnival will be held on the school oval on Tuesday 29 March (weather permitting). The carnival will commence at 9.30am and the races will proceed in the following order:

1. 5 year old girls
2. 5 year old boys
3. 6 year old girls
4. 6 year old boys
5. 7 year old girls
6. 7 year old boys
7. 8/9 year old girls
8. 8/9 year old boys
9. 10 year old girls
10. 10 year old boys
11. 11 year old girls
12. 11 year old boys
13. 12/13 year old girls
14. 12/13 year old boys

It is anticipated that the carnival will conclude at approximately 12pm. Students are reminded to bring plenty of water to drink. Students have been arranged into their new sports houses and in addition to their sports uniform, students may wear a t-shirt in their house colour (Keira - Red, Kembla - Green, Nebo - Yellow). The wearing of runners/joggers is strongly encouraged. All members of the Towradgi PS community are most welcome to attend the carnival and cheer our runners on. Looking forward to a great day of cross country running!

You're Invited to BYOD Open Classrooms - Monday 4 April

We are so excited by the success of our newly introduced BYOD program for students in Years 3-6 this year! Students having access to their own devices daily has enabled them and their families to experience authentic learning opportunities, global connections and access to learning experiences well beyond the classroom and the 8:55am-2:55pm school day. We are extending an invitation to all parents and carers in our school community to visit 3/4 Sapphire, 4/5 Gold and 5/6 Onyx between 9:15-10:00am on Monday 4 April to see the 1:1 BYOD technology program in action. We hope to see lots of parents take up the invitation!

School Photographs Just Around The Corner

School photographs will be taken on Tuesday 5 April. Envelopes for purchasing photographs have been sent home. Don't forget that the P&C are offering for those families who pay their P&C Voluntary Contributions early, the opportunity to win their child's school photos for free. At \$30 per student or \$50 per family our P&C Voluntary Contributions are very reasonable. This money goes directly to the P&C to be spent on resources for our school.

School Weebly

Check out what's happening in each class.



www.towradgips.weebly.com
and our new SeeSaw app

What's Due and When?

Activity Payment	Amount	Due Date
School Fees-P&C	\$30 per child \$50 per family	ASAP
Weekly Swimming Lessons	\$9 for weekly payments	Weekly each Wed
52 Storey Tree House	\$30 Yrs 4,5,6	1 April
ICAS Competitions	Optional	1 April
School Photo Envelopes	Optional	5 April
Yr 5/6 Bathurst Camp	\$100 deposit	8 April

Congratulations 2016

House Captains!

Keira - Harmonie S, Jacob B

Kembla - Angel H, Jacob K

Nebo - Jade S, Melvin S



Engaging 21st Century Learners



Friendly Reminder School Uniforms

Towradgi Public School values the wearing of school uniform as it strengthens our students' sense of belonging, unity and school identity.

It has become evident however, that a number of students are not adhering to the Towradgi Public School Uniform Policy. Of concern is the wearing of brightly coloured joggers, jewellery and caps. We seek your support in ensuring that your children reflect our school community standards and expectations by wearing the correct uniform to school each day.

Our Rugby League Legends!

At the recent Rod Wishart Paul McGregor Shield Rugby League Gala Day, the junior boys team played the whole day with one less player than the rest of the teams. It was seven-a-side rules and our team played with six. This didn't stop them though! They won their two round robin matches and went on to win the grand final. This qualified our junior team to play in the Legends Final which will be held in Week 8 next term. The boys were humble and showed great sportsmanship. Congratulations!



The first game didn't last long for the senior boys. A player from the opposing side was injured in the first set of six. The player was required to stay put and the game could not go on. The boys went into game two and fought hard but lost by one try. Their other game was also very close and they only lost by one try. Massive efforts and great sportsmanship was shown by all in the team. Well done!

Thank you to all the parents who showed up to support their children and help Mr Pritchard coach, organise and motivate the students. It certainly was a great day!

P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 May at 7pm in the school library. All school community members are welcome to attend.

NIAECG Meeting

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 11 May from 3:45pm at Coniston Public School.

Important Dates To Remember

Friday 8 April will be the last day of term one. Students return for the commencement of term two on Wednesday 27 April. Have a wonderful Easter break and enjoy some quality time with your families. See you all again next Tuesday!

Cathy Broadbridge
Principal

Class News - 5/6 Onyx

Term one has flown! We have achieved so much in such a short time. We've learned a lot about Australia from 1770-1900. We have written amazing historically accurate narratives. These have been shared using Google Slides to a class in Wisconsin, U.S.A. We received valuable critiques from a Year 5/6 class. BYOD and having our own device allowed this connection to happen. Our work is also being recorded in digital portfolios using our Google Drives and SeeSaw. Everyone has improved their speed on recall of multiplication facts and tackled some challenging written Mathematics problems. Our daily spelling journal has had a positive impact on our writing and communication. The flexible classroom design we created and student led learning has resulted in individual goals being achieved. This year is going to be amazing!

Towradgi Public School PARENTS & CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

On behalf of the P&C I would like to wish our school community all the best for the Easter break. Enjoy this time with your families. Eat lots of chocolate, laugh, rest, enjoy some relaxation and make beautiful memories with those you love.

Easter Parade and Raffle

Thank you to everyone for helping to make our Easter fundraiser successful. Thank you to those who donated and sold raffle tickets. Thank you to the ladies in the office for collecting the money and Andrea for counting it all! Thank you to Mr Woods for stamping each and every ticket that went out! Thanks to Sarah.S, Trudy.H and Mel.P for helping me bundle up all the prizes. Without all of this community spirit, the raffle wouldn't go ahead. Congratulations to all the winners.

The Entertainment Book

The school P&C will be sending home 'The Entertainment Book' on Thursday 28 April. Feel free to have a look through and see if this is something your family would use. The book is \$55 and from that, the school makes \$11 for every book sold. I have early bird vouchers if you would like to pre purchase your book. (Notes have been sent home prior regarding this.) Enjoy hundreds of dollars of value, save up to 50% off and make the most of the 2-for-1 offers for the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel and much more. Plus, feel great for helping your local school with their fundraising! If you do not wish to receive a book, please send in a note to say that you prefer for one not to be sent home. If you wish not to purchase, please put the book back in the barcoded envelope and return it to the school. Thank you for your help with this!

Position Vacant

We are almost through term one and the secretary position is still vacant. We really need some help with this position. It's not difficult; between myself and two other committee members (Mark and Sharon), we have been juggling the responsibilities on top of our own positions. It's a job you can share with someone else if you feel you don't want to do it alone. We would really appreciate your help! To find out more, feel free to contact me via allythelan@hotmail.com or on 0403337450. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

P&C Meetings

P&C meetings are a great way of meeting people and teachers in our school community. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. With this in mind, our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 May, 2016. We meet in the library at 7pm. Come along, meet some other adults from our school community and have your say. We would love to have you there.

P&C Voluntary Contributions 2016

The P&C Voluntary Contribution fees remain at \$30 per child or \$50 per family. We have been lucky enough to secure THREE free school photo packs this year. If you pay your school fees prior to Monday 4 April, you will go into the draw to win free school photos for your child (one basic pack in the school photo range). This will be drawn on Monday and the three lucky families will be notified prior to photo day on Tuesday 5 April.

School Banking

On Fridays, at 9am the ladies require assistance with school banking. It is held every Friday in the staffroom after the bell has gone. If you have 20mins spare on a Friday your help would be greatly appreciated. It's easy and it's fun!

Next term we have some exciting fundraising events coming up. The Entertainment Book, Spell-a-thon, Mother's Day Stall and Pie Drive are all in the process of being planned. If you want to be a part of these awesome fundraising events, contact me on the details above or come along to our next meeting.

Happy Easter.

Alison Thelan - Fundraising Coordinator

