

TOWRADGI Public School

NEWSLETTER

Term 1

Week 2

3 February 2017



Great Start to the Year!

Welcome to the 2017 school year! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. It was great to see our staff and students start the 2017 school year happy and very keen to teach and learn. Best Start Assessments for our new Kindergarten students were carried out this week and yesterday 22 new Kindergarten students attended for their first day at 'big school' with nothing but big smiles on their faces. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new students and their families to our wonderful school community.



New Classes For 2017

Our student enrolment numbers have remained strong again this year and as a result we have formed our classes as follows:

K/1 Emerald:	Ms Hockin
K/1 Diamond:	Mrs Green
2 Opal:	Mrs Warner
3/4 Sapphire:	Mr Santos
4/5 Gold:	Mrs Lieschke
6 Onyx	Mr Pritchard
K-6 Pearl:	Ms Hilton
K-6 Amber:	Mrs Whitmee
EIU Topaz:	Ms Bowman and Mrs Bennett

You will find a current staff list on our website for your information.

Important Dates To Remember

Monday 6 February
Broker's Cricket Trials

Tuesday 7 February
School Swimming Carnival 9am-12pm
Brokers AFL Trials

Thursday 9 February
K/1 Parent Info Session 8:15am

Friday 10 February
3/4 Sapphire Parent Info Session 8:15am
Assembly 12:30pm, 6 Onyx Item
Brokers Boys Basketball Trials

Monday 13 February
National Apology Day
2 Opal Parent Info Session 8:15am

Tuesday 14 February
4/5 Gold Parent Info Session 8:15am
Brokers Tennis Trials
P&C Meeting, 7pm, Library

Wednesday 15 February
K-6 Amber and K-6 Pearl
Swimming Lessons Commence
NIAECG Meeting
3:45pm, Bellambi PS
Zone Cricket Trials

Thursday 17 February
6 Onyx Parent Info Session 8:15am

Achieving a quality education for all students in a caring environment

Library Days

(When to Bring Library Bags)

The library timetable for 2017 has been finalised and students can begin borrowing next week (Week 3).

This term's library days are as follows:

Tuesdays

2 Opal
4/5 Gold
6 Onyx
3/4 Sapphire

Wednesdays

K/1 Diamond
K/1 Emerald
K-6 Amber
K-6 Pearl

Please make sure your child has a library bag (preferably waterproof) each time they come to the library. By doing this, the books stay clean and are less likely to get damaged in their school bags.



Wednesday Sports Day

(When to Wear Sports Uniforms)

This year all classes will participate in whole school sport activities with the support of students and staff from the University of Wollongong on Wednesday afternoons.

Teachers will provide more detailed information about other important days and times and special requirements pertinent to each class at the upcoming parent information sessions.

Informative Website - School A to Z

School A to Z is a website offering parents practical advice about homework, tips on learning, wellbeing, technology and resources to help support your child's social, physical and mental development. The site gives parents access to some great teachers and experts. You can also find answers while you're racing home from work or waiting for training to finish, through free mobile apps that feature definitions about Mathematics and English terms, examples and videos, as well as kid-friendly educational maths and spelling games. With such helpful advice so readily available, the School A to Z website, www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au, and mobile app are certainly worth a visit.

Dates For The Calendar

The term calendar was distributed today. Please take some time to have a look at the planned activities for this term. Remember to continue to check the fortnightly newsletters and the ToPS Skoolbag and See Saw apps for updates, additions and changes that inevitably occur. We trust that you continue to find this calendar, the school website, SeeSaw app and the Towradgi Public School Skoolbag app useful sources of information about our school activities and planning.



Permission To Publish Update

The school is currently seeking updated permission to publish from parents and notes were sent home with students today. This permission will allow us to publish information about our students for the purposes of sharing their learning and experiences with other students and parents, informing the broader community about school and student activities and for recording noteworthy student achievement. Permission to publish notes need to be returned by Friday 17 February. If you have any questions or concerns regarding permission to publish, please contact the school.

Health and Contact Details Update

Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops. Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents in writing. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing. Please also remember throughout the year to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

Be Informed About Your Child's Classroom

Whilst parents/carers are encouraged to contact their child's class teacher and make appointments to address individual needs at any time throughout the year, class teachers will be conducting special parent sessions to provide information about their class routines and planned activities for 2017. Parent/carer attendance is strongly encouraged as these sessions are informative and are a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher. Times and dates for each class are as follows:

K/1 Emerald and K/1 Diamond Combined - Thursday 9 February – 8:15am

2 Opal - Monday 13 February – 8:15am

3/4 Sapphire - Friday 10 February – 8:15am

4/5 Gold - Tuesday 14 February – 8:15am

6 Onyx - Thursday 16 February – 8:15am

Opportunities will be provided for parents/carers to attend parent teacher meetings to discuss their child's individual progress at the end of the term one. These parent teacher meetings have been scheduled for Wednesday 22 March, 2016, with more information to follow at a later date. K-6 Pearl and K-6 Amber class teachers will meet individually with the parents/carers of their students at various other times.



ToPS Students Ready For Big Swim At Carnival

Our swimming carnival will be held on Tuesday 7 February at Corrimal Pool from 9am until 12pm. The carnival is for competitors only and is open to all students who turn 8yrs or older in 2017. Further details have already been provided to parents in a separate note that was due back at school yesterday.

K-6 Pearl and Amber Ready For Sport and Weekly Swimming

Arrangements have been made for students in K-6 Pearl and K-6 Amber to participate in weekly swimming lessons at the Wollongong Surf Leisure Resort each Wednesday again this year. The lessons will involve learn to swim, water safety and basic water survival activities both in and out of the pool. The students will also be participating in the Sports Ready program each week, where they will learn essential sporting skills.

Fortnightly Assembly Invitation

The first of our fortnightly assemblies for the year will be held next Friday 10 February in the school hall from 12:30pm. 6 Onyx will present their class item. All parents and friends are welcome to join us for the assembly, which concludes at 1:15pm.



The Learning Journal
Check out what's happening
in your child's class.



PARENT



See your class teacher for
login details.

What's Due & When

Activity Payment	Amount	Due Date
School Fees - P&C	\$30 per child \$50 per family	ASAP
K-6 A & K-6P Swimming Lessons	\$80 for Term 1	15Feb
Perm. to Publish Notes	No cost	17 Feb
Year 6 Polo Shirts	\$33 each	1 Mar
Stage 3 Canberra Camp	\$100 deposit	3 Mar
K-6 A & K-6P Sports Ready	\$10 per term	ASAP



Engaging 21st Century Learners



Come Along To Our Welcome BBQ

A special welcome BBQ for all students and their families has been planned for Wednesday 22 February from 5pm-6:30pm. We hope that you can join us for a sausage sandwich, a chat and some games. There is no cost involved but we ask that parents RSVP to assist with catering (sausage sandwiches and drinks). We hope that lots of people are able to join us in welcoming our new students and their families whilst enjoying an informal afternoon together.

Planning Well Underway For Stage 3 Camp

As a culmination to the students' unit of study on Government and Democracy, a three day excursion to Canberra has been organised for students in Stage 3. Information has already been sent home to parents in separate communications. We have asked that payment for the excursion be made by instalments and the first payment is due on Friday 3 March. In order for students to participate, the confirmation of participation form and deposit needs to be returned to school by the due date. Parents are reminded that smaller payments, such as weekly or fortnightly before the instalment due dates will be gratefully accepted.

Special Polo Shirts For Year 6

Year 6 students may purchase a special polo shirt to wear to school. These are a way of allowing our Year 6 students to feel part of their peer group, as well as be role models within the school. They are also a great memento of their years at Towradgi Public School. Orders close Wednesday 1 March. Sorry, late orders cannot be accepted.

Parents and Citizens (P&C) Invitation

At Towradgi Public School, we value the wearing of school uniform. We believe it strengthens our student's sense of belonging, unity and school identity. School uniforms are consistent with work, health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation. We also believe that the wearing of school uniform reflects our pride in, and commitment to, our school and all it has to offer.

The Towradgi Public School uniform requirements were developed by the school's Parents and Citizens Association and our students are expected to wear their correct school uniform every day. The school is able to support families who are experiencing difficulty in providing the correct uniform for their children. If you require support, please contact the school.

Great Efforts Pay Off For P&C!

Congratulations go to those members of our wonderful P&C, who through their fantastic efforts were successful in obtaining a Community Building Partnership Grant for \$20,000. The funds received will go towards upgrading our popular playground tunnels. The funds will see the existing tunnels raised and a synthetic rubber surface applied, with new playground slides attached. Many thanks go to Paul Scully MP, Member for Wollongong, for his greatly appreciated support of our school. The playground tunnels upgrade will undoubtedly be of significant benefit all of our students.

Parents and Citizens (P&C) Invitation

This year our P&C meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Everyone is welcome, especially our new parents. The first meeting for this year will be on Tuesday 14 February. P&C meetings are a wonderful way for parents to become involved in what happens at our school. I strongly encourage you to come along and take part in P&C meetings where you will always find a friendly, supportive and informative environment.

Cathy Broadbridge
Principal

Keep up to Date

Download the Towradgi P.S Skoolbag app to get alerts, newsletters, reminders, calendar events, etc.



Towradgi Public School PARENTS & CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Message From The P&C

A big welcome to all the new students and their parents. From Kindergarten to Year 6, a new school, new friends, new teachers and a few nerves, it's all part of big school. Enjoy the new year and we look forward to seeing you around the school.

The BIG news for 2017 is that we have been successful in securing funding through the 2016 Community Building Partnerships Program!!! We have secured \$20,000!!! These funds will go towards the upgrade of the interactive playground tunnels. Thanks to Paul Scully MP – Member for Wollongong!

What Does The P&C Do?

The objects of a P&C Association are to; promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, pupils and teaching staff into close co-operation; assist in providing equipment required by the school; report to the Minister the material requirements of the school; assist the teaching staff in establishment of school policy and management in all facets of school activity.

Who Can Be A Member Of The P&C Association?

Membership of P&C associations is open to all members of the school community: parents, teachers and citizens.

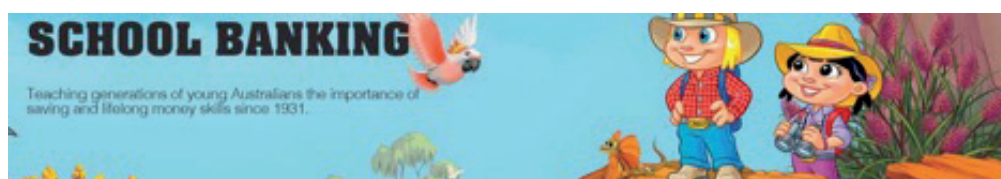
Why Join In?

We have a strong and active P&C and each member's input is valued. Monthly meetings are held in the School Library in a casual relaxed atmosphere, the second Tuesday of each month, starting at 7:00pm. The meetings are a great opportunity to find out first-hand about what is going on and what may be happening in the school. It is also a chance to ask questions of the staff, teachers and other parents and as a member have a say when we spend our hard-earned fundraising dollars.

On Tuesday February 14th, the P&C will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7:00pm in the School Library. Please come along, join in and learn about the P&C.

Uniform Shop

The P&C run our school uniform shop and provide a great range of uniform items from the standard uniform through to the sports uniform. Each item is chosen to ensure it is durable, comfortable, stylish and affordable. If you need new items or a pre-owned item come and see Renee Stewart in the uniform shop on Wednesday mornings.



School Banking

The P&C coordinate the school banking program through the Commonwealth Bank. School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens which they can redeem for exciting rewards. It's also a great fundraising activity, with participating schools receiving 5% of every individual deposit made at school (up to \$10), along with other benefits. For more information contact Mel Pender

Needs, Wants, Questions or Suggestions

As mentioned before the P&C is a wealth of information and we are always looking for new ideas. So, if you have any needs, wants, questions or suggestions please get in contact.

Mark McCarthy – President, Towradgi Public School P&C (Phone: 0419215412)

Brendan Sergeant – Secretary

Renee Stewart – Uniform Coordinator



School Projects

Towradgi Public School P&C has been actively involved in providing funds, assistance and support for many of the great things you see around this school and towards the direct education of the students.

Some of the major projects include:

- Air-conditioning for the classrooms
- Flexible learning furniture
- Interactive play areas
- Soft-fall community area
- Wi-Fi upgrade
- Classroom resources, including reading books
- Team sport guernseys

SIXERS GIRLS CRICKET LEAGUE

Come & Play Australia's Favourite Game!

- Girls only Cricket League
- Sunday Morning - 5th Feb / 26th March 2017
- Play with your sisters and friends!
- Get fit and have fun!
- T20 Format - 9 a side games
- For girls aged 10 to u17 years old

Visit sydneygirls.cricket.com.au to find your club.

Club name: Illawarra Zone
Name of contact: Maryann Head
Mobile contact: 0416 927 271
Club website: mc.mhead@cricketillawarra.org.au