

TOWRADGI Public School

NEWSLETTER

Term 1

Week 4

17 February 2017



School Swimming Carnival Success

We were extremely pleased to see a large number of participants taking part in our school's swimming carnival this year. Not even the rain could dampen the spirits of our competitors! It was also very nice to see so many parents and friends attend and encouragingly cheer on the competitors. We extend our thanks to all who so willingly gave their support on the day. A number of our students were successful in qualifying to represent our school at the Broker's carnival, which will be held on Monday 27 February.



Barbecue To Welcome New And Existing Families

Don't forget about our Welcome BBQ for all students and their families next Wednesday 22 February from 5pm- 6:30pm. The school is hosting this event and there is no cost to families who come along. All we ask is that you return your RSVP to let us know how many people from your family will be joining us, as this helps us with the catering. We are really looking forward to what is shaping up to be another awesome school community gathering. We hope you can make it!

Important Dates To Remember

Wednesday 22 February
Welcome BBQ, 5pm-6:30pm

Friday 24 February
Assembly, K-6 Pearl item and SRC Induction

Monday 27 February
Brokers Swimming Carnival, Corrimal Pool

Thursday 2 March
K-2 Dog Awareness Incursion

Friday 3 March
Clean Up Australia Day

Monday 6 March
Yr 2 BYOD Parent Info Session 8:15am
Toonschool Incursion

Wednesday 8 March
South Coast Swimming Carnival, Dapto Pool
Corrimal High School Yr 7 2018
Information Night, 5:30pm-7pm

Friday 24 February
Assembly, 2 Opal item

Assembly Award Congratulations

K/1 Diamond

Pip L, Jake A, Ivy K

K/1 Emerald

Jet R, April C, Maddison S

2 Opal

Mason G, Beau S, Isabella S

3/4 Sapphire

Talia D, Joseph D, Jayden A

4/5 Gold

Lilli Y, Bradley N, Lily B

6 Onyx

Tamieka P, Dylan V, Bailey K

K-6 Pearl

Finn W

K-6 Amber

Leith H

Principal's Award

Jamison B, Lily B

Bronze Level 2 Awards

Kai D, Oliver S, Zane L

Silver Level 2 Awards

Jarrah B,

Gold Level 1 Awards

Olivia D, Isabella S, Emma-Rose B,
Greta F, Aiden C, Natalie H, Abdu B,
Tahni L, Scarlett M

Positive Behaviour For Learning (PBL) Congratulations

Congratulations go to Talia D and Lily R who were the lucky winners of the superstar prize draw at our last assembly.



SRE (Scripture) Classes Recommence Soon

Scripture classes for 2017 will be resuming soon and this year classes will be delivered on Thursday afternoons after recess. Students will be placed into scripture classes based upon information that has been provided to the school by parents and carers.

Special Education In Ethics Classes

Ethics classes are available in NSW public primary schools as an option for children who don't attend special religious educations. We are currently preparing to introduce Ethics classes at Towradgi PS, which will be delivered by the Department of Education's approved provider, Primary Ethics. Parents can express interest in having their children participate in our new ethics classes by returning the reply slip that was sent home in separate correspondence with students who are currently attending our non-scripture classes.

Students To Play Their Part On Clean Up Schools Day

Clean Up Australia Day inspires and empowers communities to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment. Our staff and students will be doing their bit by participating in Schools Clean Up Day on Friday 3 March by cleaning up around our school grounds. Students are reminded to bring along their own gloves for the clean-up.

Student Representatives Learning To Lead

At Towradgi Public School, we recognise the need to develop confident leaders of the future and respond by providing a diverse leadership program. At our assembly next week, our newly elected SRC representatives will be presented with their SRC badges. These students will undoubtedly fulfil their new SRC roles with great pride. Congratulations to all of our SRC Representatives for semester one. Towradgi Public School is very privileged to have such an active and enthusiastic SRC.



Yrs 2-6 Students, Prepare To Be Challenged

Each year our school offers students in Years 2-6 the opportunity to sit for the University of NSW International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. For more information, please see the website www.eaa.unsw.edu.au. More information has been sent home in separate correspondence to parents of students in Years 2-6. Entries close on 8 March.

Sourcing New School Lunch Provider

We are currently in the process of sourcing a new lunch service provider and will inform our school community about new arrangements as soon as we possibly can. Until such time, we are unable to provide school lunches. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

BYOD Opt In For Students In Year 2

As part of our school's focus on teacher driven, self-directed learning, students in Years 3-6 have had the opportunity to opt in to a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. The aim of BYOD is to enable 1:1 access to devices for our students so as to provide them with a wide range of learning tools within flexible learning environments. Building on the success of the program in Years 3-6, this year we will be expanding the program to include students in Year 2. This will be done through the implementation of technology fun days in terms 1 and 2 and if successful, an opt in trial of BYOD for Year 2 students in semester 2. Parents and carers of students in Year 2 are invited to attend an information session on Monday 6 March from 8:15am in the library, where they can find out more and have some discussion around BYOD for Year 2, 2017.



Some Friendly Reminders For Our Families...

Lateness to School – Parents are reminded that children need to be at school, sitting in their class lines under the COLA by the second bell at 8:55am. Important information or changes to the school day are communicated to the students at the morning assembly. Children who are late to school do not start the day well. As a result of coming to school late, they do not know what is happening, should there be a change to routine and what could be a settled start to the school day often becomes an unsettled, confused and anxious start to the day. If children are late to school they need to be accompanied by a parent/carer to the office in order to obtain a late note. Late attendance is recorded and followed up according to Department of Education policy.

Road Safety - For the safety of all members of our school community everyone is reminded 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 – Families are reminded not to walk or park in or around the school car park and we ask that you please set a good example for your children by leaving the school via one of the two pedestrian gates. We have a number of special transport buses that require unobstructed access to the car parking area.

Push Bikes, Scooters and Skateboards - In the direct interests of safety, those who ride bikes, scooters or skateboards to and from school are reminded that protective gear should be worn at all times and bikes, scooters and skateboards are not to be ridden whilst on school grounds.

Parent Helpers/Visitors to the School - We value and appreciate all support from parents and carers and encourage all members of our school community to be an active part of our school. I would like to remind everyone to please sign the visitors book at the school office and obtain an authorised visitor badge before proceeding to classrooms during class time.

Student Toilets - For child protection reasons, we ask that parents do not enter the student toilets. Toilets are available for use in the office area, if required. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Your support will most certainly help us to maintain the safety and security of your children.



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
P&C Resource Fees	\$30 per child \$50 per family	ASAP
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
Toon-School	\$6 per child	1 Mar
ICAS Comp	various amounts	8 Mar



Congratulations Student Representative Council (SRC)

Semester One 2017

School Captains

Jameika S
Max T

Vice-Captains

Kayla P
Vlad K

Class SRC Representatives

K/1 Diamond

Olivia R and Ivy K

K/1 Emerald

Yasmine P and Taylor W

2 Opal

Jamison B and Oliver S

3/4 Sapphire

Joel S and Tully M

4/5 Gold

Toanui T and Will H

6 Onyx

Xavier F and Cameron R

K-6 Pearl

Kai S

K-6 Amber

Baily S

Keep up to Date

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



Community Consultation - Seeking Your Feedback

The 2017 school plan annual milestones document has been drafted with specific improvement processes identified. We propose to use our Aboriginal loading and other equity funds for a number of specific programs and projects, including:

- the training of a teacher in MGoals to support the development of improved personalised learning plans for our Aboriginal students;
- the continued implementation of the Prelit, Multilit and Minilit programs;
- additional Learning and Support (L&S) and English as an Additional Language and Dialect (EAL/D) teacher time;
- additional School Counsellor time;
- teacher release for our Teacher Mentoring Program;
- teaching and learning resources, eg Google Apps for Education resources, Focus on Reading resources and replacement devices such as iPads and laptops;
- teacher release for essential training and student support review meetings;
- funding for Student Assistance;
- funding to support the implementation of student leadership and new community involvement initiatives; and
- a funding contribution to support the Corrimal Community of Schools (CoS) Plan.

Consultation was undertaken with the P&C at their meeting last Tuesday. We also welcome feedback from the wider school community.

Data Shows Positive School Growth Worth Celebrating

School Excellence Framework Data has become available for 2016, showing very pleasing results that are certainly worth celebrating. Data analysis over a three year period showed significant positive school growth, particularly in the areas of:

- value added from Years 3-5 and 5-7 (2016 also included K-3); and
- student attainment – proportion of students at or above national minimum standard and in top two bands for Reading and Numeracy in Yr 3, Yr 5 and Yr 7.

The data will be used to inform our 2016 annual report, the evaluation of our 2015-2017 school plan and development of our new 2018-2020 school plan.

Corrimal CoS Collaboration

Last week, staff from Towradgi PS collaborated with representatives from Corrimal East PS, Corrimal PS, Bellambi PS, Tarrawanna PS and Corrimal HS to develop this year's strategic plan for the Corrimal Community of Schools. The plan includes some very exciting projects and initiatives around Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), Successful Transitions, Learning and Support and Positive Community Perceptions. We look forward to continuing to build upon the wonderful success of our Corrimal Community of Schools 2016 plan to benefit the students in all of our schools.



Cathy Broadbridge
Principal

Towradgi Public School PARENTS & CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Message From Last Meeting

Last Tuesday, the P&C held its monthly meeting at 7pm in the school library. It was great to see so many people. A special welcome to those new faces that came along. Thank you!

The aim of the P&C this year is to increase the awareness of the activities that we conduct for the school and to provide as much opportunity as we can to involve all parents and community members in the decisions being made around the school. We will be sending out the meeting agendas prior to the meetings so you are aware of what is up for discussion. If there is something that interests you or you would like to bring something up, please let us know before the meeting. Remember, if you can't make it to the meeting have a chat to one of the members or send us an email.

School Uniforms

The school has sent out copies of the current school uniform policy. If you are in need of school uniforms please contact Renee Stewart. Orders are taken on Wednesday mornings between 8.30-9:15am only. To streamline the process direct deposit is our preferred payment option however cash will be accepted on Wednesdays, but as there is limited opportunity to provide change, the correct money is appreciated.

P&C Resource Contribution Fees and Fundraising

Master School Portraits (MSP) Photography have generously donated two basic photo packs as prizes for the P&C resource contribution draw.

The P&C resource contribution fees of \$30 per student or \$50 per family are due each year and this is a reminder that although your P&C resource contribution will be accepted anytime throughout the year, by getting them paid now and prior to the school photos allows you an entry into the draw.

All fees go directly to the P&C and are spent on much needed resources that benefit your children at the school. Some of the resources that have been purchased using these funds include air-conditioning for all classrooms, a PA system for the hall, digital cameras, reading resources, new synthetic rubber softfall for the playground, iPad's, as well as the wonderful interactive whiteboards that the children love.

There are two ways to pay your P&C resource contribution fees and go into the draw, either, deposit your fees at the school office where your family's name will be recorded or pay by direct deposit into the following account (be sure to include your surname in the reference):

P&C Direct Deposit Details:

Account Name: Towradgi Public School P&C Association

BSB: 062 537 **Account:** 00900067

Reference: Your Surname

The P&C thank you in advance for this contribution to your children's education.

Receipts From The P&C

The P&C take the matter of money collection seriously and will endeavour to provide receipts as quickly as possible when requested. Office staff are unable to provide P&C receipts for monies deposited. Once the money has been collected from the office by a P&C representative, a receipt will be issued. Please be advised that this may take a week or two to get to you. The quickest and safest way to ensure your money gets to where it is needed is via direct deposit. Direct deposit ensures you receive a reference number immediately from your bank and it minimises the amount of cash that needs to be handled.

Next Meeting - 14 March, 7pm

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th March in the Library, so come and join us for the meeting.



Coming Up Soon

P&C Resource Contribution Fees, \$30 per student, \$50 per family, due now

School Photo P&C Resource Contribution Draw - you have the chance to win your child's school photographs for free!

Our famous Easter Raffle will be run again, so look out for the request to bring in some chocolate Easter eggs or anything you think might be suitable for the raffle.

