

TOWRADGI Public School

NEWSLETTER

Term 1

Week 10

31 March 2017



'Everyone Belongs' at ToPS

Our Harmony Day celebrations last Tuesday 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 of the nine countries on offer for varying cultural experiences. We were also very fortunate to have the support of our wider school community. Volunteers from the Saturday School for Thai Language Class gave their time and shared authentic Thai costumes and musical instruments with the students. Aunty Shas came along and shared stories with the students about Aboriginal culture and showed musical instruments. The school was certainly a 'sea of orange' and a 'hive of activity' for Harmony Day last Tuesday.



'Eggcitement' Building Amongst Our School Community

Our annual Easter Hat Parade will be held following the morning assembly on Friday 7 April and parents and families are invited to attend. Students are encouraged to decorate their Easter hats at home and bring them to school for the parade. The P&C are requesting donations of Easter eggs so they can put together Easter baskets as prizes for the Easter raffle. The P&C will be presenting prizes to the winners of the Easter raffle at the conclusion of the Easter Hat Parade. Looking forward to another great school community event!

Important Dates To Remember

Tuesday 4 April
School Photos

Wednesday 5 April
Cross Country Carnival

Friday 7 April
Easter Hat Parade, 9:15am
Assembly, K/1 Emerald Item
Rewards Day
Last Day of Term 1

Monday 24 April
School Development Day (SDD)

Tuesday 25 April
Anzac Day

Wednesday 26 April
Students return for the commencement of term two.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the school community for your continued support throughout Term One and wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Assembly Awards

K/1 Emerald

Tinokura T, Yaseen A, Joanna M

K/1 Diamond

Stevie S, Abdullah H, Emma C

2 Opal

Jamison B, Greta F, Mali F

3/4 Sapphire

Misha S, Regan C, Anthony L

4/5 Gold

Natalie H, Lily B, Zac S

6 Onyx

Xavier F, Ariana W, Tom G

K-6 Amber

Jordan M

K-6 Pearl

Kai S

PBS Award

Ava S, Yaseen A

Principal's Award

Tamieka P (2), Angus S

Bronze Award

Mason G, Max T, Alex A, Oscar N, Katie H, Joe S, Jazia Y, Lily B, Tully M, Maddison H, Toby M, Natalie H, Lilli Y, Ruby S, Bowen E, Angus S, Aidan H, Jack S

Silver Award

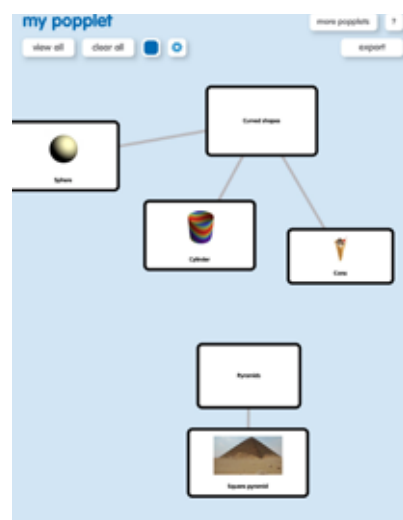
Maurice S, Jordan M

Gold Award

Matthew H, Bradly A, Kelsie G, Talia D, Anthony L, Harrison T, Regan C, Zac S, Kayla A

Trying Out Technology In Year 2

On Monday 20th March, students of 2 Opal were given the option to participate in our very first Technology Fun Day. The idea of the fun day was to let students try out the BYOD program that is currently run in years 3-6. The trial aimed to better prepare them for the rules, routines and procedures of the program and provide access to rich, engaging tasks in literacy and numeracy. Eighteen students participated in the program and brought their own devices to school to use in their learning. They engaged in lessons using 'Toontastic' and 'Popplet' apps to retell key parts of a story and to classify 3D Shapes. Participating students, teachers and parents have since been surveyed and results are being collated to help guide possible trials and fun days in Term 2. All students who opted in to participate in the fun day commented that it was a lot of fun. They enjoyed learning about new apps and using technology to help them learn.



Anzac Day Commemorations Coming Up

Anzac Day is a very important part of Australian culture and at Towradgi Public School. We believe it is of great importance to teach our students about this significant part of Australian history. This year, a small group of school leaders will once again represent our school at the Anzac Day Schools Service in Wollongong. On Friday 28 April at 9:15am we will hold a special whole school Anzac service. We would like to invite all members of our school community to come along to this very special service. It would be very much appreciated if the students could bring along a small bouquet of flowers if possible. All families are also invited to accompany ToPS staff to the community dawn service, which will be held in Wollongong on Anzac Day.

Reporting On Student Progress At Parent/Teacher Interviews

As part of our reporting process we offered opportunities for parent/teacher interviews last Wednesday. We trust that these interviews provided you with a snapshot of your child's progress to date and 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.

School Photographs Just Around The Corner

School photographs will be taken on Tuesday 4 April. Envelopes for purchasing photographs were previously sent home and must be returned on the day of the photos. Students are required to wear their full regular school uniform, including white socks and black shoes on the day. Sports uniform is not to be worn for the school photos. Your cooperation in ensuring the students wear the appropriate attire is greatly appreciated.

Leadership Day Postponed

The Premiers Sporting Challenge Leadership day which was to be held at Corrimal High School last Friday has unfortunately had to be postponed again due to the wet weather. It will now take place on date to be decided in Term 2. Notes will be sent home to students as soon as new dates have been set.

Cross Country

Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, the ToPS Cross Country Carnival had to be postponed. The carnival will now take place on Wednesday 5 April. You will have received a note explaining that the carnival will still follow the same program as communicated in previous correspondence. If you require a new copy of this note, please contact the school. We look forward to seeing you all next week for a great day of running!

Life In The Early 1900s

Last week, 4/5 Gold and 6 Onyx were lucky to have a visitor from the Illawara Historical Society. Mr Shipp brought some primary sources of evidence to show what life was like around the time of federation. This talk coincided with our studies about federation and gave a new context to help deepen understanding of the content studied in class. The students were very interested and keen to ask questions about life in Australia in the early 1900s around the time of federation.



Starting Big School Information Night

On Wednesday evening, we welcomed our prospective families to the school for an evening of information and sharing the success of the school. It was great to see so many keen new families as well as some familiar faces. Community is very important to us here at ToPS and Wednesday night was a great example of us all working together to share the positive ToPS vibe.

Students Get Ready To "Tell Them From Me"

Once again this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them.

We want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school in Week Eleven. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey was sent home with students in Years 4-6. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Friday 31 March. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.



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



See your class teacher for
login details.

Aussie of the Month



Congratulations
Jarrah Banks-Robinson
A Friendly Reminder

Please use extreme care whilst driving out the front of the school and please do not park across our neighbour's driveways whilst dropping off and picking up your child from school.
Thank you.

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

Next Meeting

Due to the Easter School Holidays, our next meeting is Tuesday 9th May. If you have anything you would like to discuss, please send an email through to mark.c.mccarthy@gmail.com so we can add it to the agenda. If you have any suggestions for some novel fundraising ideas or you have thoughts on how the funds should be spent, please let us know.

Uniforms

If you are in need of uniform please contact Renee Stewart. Orders are taken 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. As there is limited opportunity to provide change, the correct money is required.

Fundraising

MSP Photography have generously donated two basic photo packs as prizes for the P&C Contribution Draw. The P&C Contribution Fees, \$30 per student or \$50 per family are due each year and this is a reminder that although your P&C 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.

There are two ways to pay your fees and go into the draw; either deposit your fees at the school office where your family's name will be marked off or pay by direct deposit in into the following account and 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 child's education.

Trivia Night

Organisation of the Trivia Night is in full swing. We are now looking for businesses or families that would be interested in providing or sponsoring a prize for the night. If you own a business or know of a business that would be interested, please let us know.

Receipts

We understand some parents may not have received a receipt for money paid to the office / P&C.

If you have paid any money to the P&C and are due a receipt, please email mark.c.mccarthy@gmail.com and we will sort it out for you.

Easter Raffle

We are calling on all families and students to get involved in our Easter Raffle. We ask that each student brings in a suitable item for the raffle. It could be a chocolate egg or bunny or something else that would be perfect for the baskets. We each student bringing something in we can make some fantastic prizes up.

P&C Facebook

Come and join us on Facebook! The P&C Facebook page has been well received with a variety of questions and answers being posted. Simply search for "Towradgi Public School P&C" in the Facebook search bar or visit

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TOPSPC/>

This is a moderated members only group.



Next Meeting

Tuesday 9th May
ToPS Library
7:00pm