

TALLYGAROPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 3067



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SCHOOL VALUES - RESPECT, HONESTY & INCLUSION

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 NO.1 7th February 2011

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**School Captains & Junior School Council
will be announced at Assembly
on Monday 14th February**

**An Information & Meet and Greet Evening
will be held at school on
Tuesday 15th February. The night will begin
at 5.30pm and conclude at 6.30pm.**

**All students need to please bring their green
reader bags back to school ASAP as they
will be used this year to hold their readers,
homework, notes, etc.**

**Our first School Council Meeting for the
year will be held on Wednesday 23rd
February. Information will be sent home to
School Council Members**

**If you would like to receive this newsletter
by email contact our office.**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2011 School Year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful holiday period and I am sure we are all looking forward to an exciting year at Tallygaropna Primary School. Over the holiday period, lots of work took place in regard to our new school building and we are expecting this to be delivered any day now. Once this arrives we will need approximately 6 weeks before it can be handed over to the school – fingers crossed! We are hopeful of starting Term 2 in our new building. Our new alarm system has been successfully installed in the school and our new computer resources will make our school a thriving learning environment now and into the future. We now have 46 computers in the school for student use which is a ratio of almost 1:1. This is almost unheard of in education today.

The school numbers are listed above but if anyone needs to contact me out of school hours, my mobile number is 0411960164. Feel free to see me at school in regard to any matters that arise no matter how trivial they may be. I have an open door policy at school, and I will always seek to do what is best for our children. Apologies for such a large first newsletter, I promise they will be condensed more in the future.

This year we welcome **Shaye and Peter Burgess (Liv)**, **Philippa and Peter Collins (Daniel & Leah)**, **Jillian McFarlane and Anthony Moore (Ashleigh)** and **Kirsty Ramadan (Beau & Daniel)** into our community and we trust that their time will be both rich and rewarding. New pupils are **Liv Burgess, Daniel & Leah Collins, Jack Fleming, Cohan Hall, Ashleigh Moore, Beau & Daniel Ramadan and Eloise Walker (Preps)**. We wish them well in their first year at Tallygaroopna Primary School.

On behalf of our school community, I would also like to welcome Miss Ella Bicknell to our school for Term 1. Ella will be teaching the Grade 5/6 class from Tuesday to Friday, while I will teach the children on a Monday. I will also be providing Specialist classes with Physical Education (suitable footwear needed) & Information Technology on a Tuesday, releasing staff. Obviously with our building works, the Grade 5/6 students will be in the Multi Purpose room again for Term 1. However, I can guarantee all parents that the students' learning will not be affected at all. In fact, Miss Bicknell has spent a lot of time and effort turning the Multi Purpose room back into a classroom and I am sure that the students will be impressed by the results. Let's hope they want to move into the new building when the time comes!

Throughout the term, I will keep everyone updated with our building works as much as possible so **WATCH THIS SPACE!!** I look forward to catching up with everyone in the not too distant future. Karen will be at the school all week until Thursday to attend to any matters that arise.

David Brodie – Principal

New School Building / Information Technology Program



Second-hand Uniforms

If anyone has any small sized uniforms that they no longer require could you please send them along to school. Bev Montgomery (Uniform Coordinator)

1. Prep Information

Throughout the month of February, children in Prep WILL NOT attend school on Wednesdays. They will remain at home on 9th, 16th and the 23rd February. There may be some Wednesday's where Mrs Wallace may require your child to attend a certain time for specific testing, but she will inform parents of this if there is a need. We will continue to implement a whole school buddy program on Friday afternoons, once every fortnight.

2. Newsletter / Website

For the information of new parents, please note that newsletters are usually sent home each Monday. Please check your child's bag for these as they contain important information on what is taking place in the school. Any items for the newsletter must reach the office by 9.00am on Monday. The newsletter will also appear on the school website and it will be there each Monday after school. I encourage all families to take a look at this site as it will be constantly evolving over time and many other valuable resources for parents and children are found here.

3. Staffing

Staffing arrangements for this term are as follows:

Principal - Mr David Brodie

Prep/1 - Mrs Sandra Wallace

Grade 5/6 - Miss Ella Bicknell / Mr David Brodie – Mon

Physical Education (Specialist) – Mr David Brodie

MARC Van (Library) – Mrs Robyn Mitchell

Keyboard Lessons – Cliff Doornkamp

Business Manager - Mrs Karen Armstrong

Grade 2/3/4 - Mrs Claire Haberfield

Information Technology (Specialist) – Mr David Brodie

MACC Van (Art) – Mrs Gwen Hack

PING Music (Specialist) – Joel Muston

4. School Fees

At School Council last year, we were able to approve our new school fees for 2011. There were obviously some changes that occurred but we made these still affordable and in line with other schools in the local area. Keep in mind that last year's fees for one student were \$150 - which included \$90 for Excursions and \$60 for fundraising. We have also been able to rely on our Bingo account and Drought Relief Funding to support excursions and programs in the past, both of these will not be available this year.

2011 School Fees Structure per student:

Subject Levy \$140

Excursion Levy \$45

Total of \$185 (increase of \$35)

The subject levy includes many programs which are implemented at school including MACC Van, MARC Van, Mathematics, etc.

The Excursion Levy includes the following (whole school activities):

Life Ed. Van

Cluster Days

* Term 1 – Aquamoves

* Term 2/3/4 – Cluster Days at other small schools

* Performance at Wanganui Park SC

* Athletics Sports

Please note that these fees are both compulsory fees. We have decided to not put Swimming under the umbrella of the Excursion Levy because of the cost associated with this program. This year, this program will again be held at Aquamoves for 1 week in Term 3. The cost for this program is \$42 per student and families will have a choice in regard to whether their children participate in this program. Other excursions that happen throughout the year will not be whole school activities, so there will be a pay as you go policy implemented as well. Examples of these are Sailing, Kanga 8s and the Richmond Footy Clinic.

Parents are able to pay school fees in one payment or organise a plan which would involve partial payments throughout the school year. If you have any queries in regard to this please feel free to contact David or Karen at the office.

5. School Assembly

A school assembly is held each Monday morning beginning at 9.00am. Parents are quite welcome to attend.

6. EMA

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; **and**
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004* **or** be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner **or** be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (**1 February 2011**) which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (**18 July 2011**).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by **28 February 2011** for the first instalment and **5 August 2011** for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of **\$230** for primary students and **\$460** for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. Students turning 16 years in 2011 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

Payment Amounts

Instalment	Portion	Primary school*	Secondary school*
One	Parent	\$ 80.50	\$ 161.00
	School	\$ 80.50	\$ 161.00
Two	Parent	\$ 34.50	\$ 69.00
	School	\$ 34.50	\$ 69.00
	Total	\$ 230.00	\$ 460.00

*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will form the basis for calculating the amount payable to parents and schools.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2011 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after **28 February 2011** and prior to or on **5 August 2011**, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

Contact: School Office for application form and further information.

7. School Times

The school day commences at 9.00am and concludes at 3.30pm. Recess is from 11.00 – 11.30am and Lunch is from 1.00 – 2.00pm (children eat in classrooms from 1.00 – 1.10pm). **There is the possibility that Bus Travellers may be dismissed at 3.20pm to cater for the new bus route. Parents will be informed of this in due course if this occurs.** We are obliged to give children 5 hours of instruction at school so we will make sure that this is still adhered to if changes occur.

8. Homework

Homework is an opportunity for parents or carers to participate in their child's education. Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning, and fosters good lifelong study habits. We acknowledge that families have busy lives but all we are asking for as staff at Tallygaroopna PS is a minimum of 30 minutes a week along with nightly reading. Spelling and tables may be implemented by classroom teachers on top of this. As staff, we will accept notes by families if

homework is unfinished, as long as this is not a regular occurrence. Homework will be handed out early in the week and will be expected to be returned and completed by Friday.

To support students at our school we will open a Homework Club on Fridays for anyone who is having trouble with homework. This will be from 1.15pm – 1.45pm in the Multi Purpose Room.

Parents can help children by:

- encouraging a regular daily session to examine and complete homework
- discussing key questions or suggesting resources to help with homework
- helping to balance the amount of time spent between homework and recreational activities such as watching television or playing computer games
- asking how homework and class work is progressing, and acknowledging success
- talking to teachers to discuss problems with homework
- for upper primary and secondary students, checking whether homework has been set and ensuring that their child keeps a homework diary
- reading texts set by teachers and discussing their child's responses to set texts and asking to see work they complete in relation to these texts

9. Sun Smart Policy

Tallygaroopna Primary School endorses a SunSmart policy during Term 1 and Term 4. Students must wear their wide-brimmed hat at recess and lunch time. Students without hats must stay in the undercover area between the Multi Purpose Room and the Brick Building. New hats may be purchased from the school at a small cost.

10. Religious Education

Parents wishing to change previous arrangements with their child undertaking RE will need to notify the school. This program is extremely beneficial and links directly into the important school values that we are aiming to get our children to live by (respect, honesty and inclusion). This will be held on a Thursday and is scheduled to begin on 3rd March.

11. Music Lessons

Keyboard will again be offered this year. I have approached Cliff Doornkamp again and he is able to visit our school on a Monday if there is interest from families. He will need at least 6 students for this program to go ahead. Lessons would be on an individual basis for 20 minutes each and they would cost \$15 a session. Families would have to commit to 5 weeks and the program would cost \$75 for term 1. We would be hopeful, that this would then continue for the whole year. If this program goes ahead, we are hopeful that lessons for the term would begin in week 3 (14th February) and conclude during the last week of the term. Lessons would be conducted in the morning. Guitar Lessons are also available. A student would need to own their own guitar to participate in guitar lessons (tuition guitars cost \$80 to \$90). Expressions of interest need to be at the school by Friday 11th February.

12. Term Dates

Over the next few weeks, I will continue to update this section. Confirmed dates for TERM 1 are:

February 4 th – School Captain Elections	February 14 th – AASC Program Begins
February 14 th – Music Lessons Commence	February 15 th – Information & Meet / Greet Night
February 21 st - School Photos	February 23 rd – School Council
March 1 st – World Maths Day	March 3 rd – R.E. Begins
March 4 th – Aquamoves Day	March 14 th – Labour Day Holiday
March 23 rd – School Council (AGM)	April 4 th – Athletic Sports

13. The Ultranet

We have managed to bring all of our students online with the Ultranet. Students will be utilising this resource in and out of the classroom over the next few weeks and their new learning goals should be online soon. If parents need any assistance getting online could they contact David at school ASAP. There have been a few small issues with this resource and we will endeavour to assist if there is a need. New Welcome Letters will be given to new parents this week.

<https://ultranet.vic.edu.au>

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/directions/ultranet/default.htm>

14. Book Club

Book Club booklets went home with students today. If you would like to make an order, fill out the order form at the back of the booklet complete with your child's name and return to school with payment (make cheques payable to Tallygaroopna Primary School) by Friday 11th February.

15. Payment Envelopes

Specially printed envelopes have been sent home with the students today. When sending money to school, please seal it in the envelope, fill out the details on the front of the envelope and post it in the green box inside the office door.

16. School Improvement Program

More exciting building works is scheduled to take place this year once our new building project is in place. Within the next few weeks we will be erecting our new Sports Shed and this will be followed by a School Kitchen and Computer Lab development.

17. Medicine at School

For those students required to have medication whilst at school, a Medication Request Form is required to be filled out, signed and returned to the school office prior to the student be administered medication. A form is attached to this newsletter. Further copies are available at the Office. This does not apply to children with asthma with their puffer, although the office must be informed of the child's needs in this regard. Any change to the child's medical condition should be relayed to the office ASAP.

18. Headlice

Please be vigilant in checking your child's hair for lice. We were relatively 'lice-free' last year and would like to continue in this vein this year. Thanks for your cooperation.

19. Frozen Fruit Freezes

Frozen fruit sticks will be available for sale each Friday at lunchtime for 50 cents each.

20. Kids & Fruit

Kids and Fruit is once again offering our students the opportunity to enjoy fresh and tasty fruit and vegetables 5 days a week. Cost will be \$10 per term. Please complete the form and return to school with the money by this Wednesday morning, 9th February. The program will start next Monday, 14th February.



Kids & Fruit Program Term 1 2011

Student Name	Class	Comments – Allergies?
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NB# From time to time, Kids & Fruit Inc. will introduce new fruit and vegetable varieties to the program and therefore it is imperative that you inform the school of any allergies your child suffers which will be forwarded onto Kids & Fruit Inc. (eg. allergy to citrus fruit or strawberries). If a fruit or vegetable is provided that your child is allergic to, Kids & Fruit will compensate accordingly.

21. Fruit in Classrooms

This year, all classrooms will be having a fruit/vegetable break at 10.00am each morning. Students are asked to bring along a piece of fruit/vegetable to eat at this time. Students involved in the Kids and Fruit program will be given their fruit at this time. There will still be the usual play lunch at recess time.

22. Conveyance Allowance

To be eligible to receive conveyance allowance, a student must:

- Be aged between 5 years by the 30th April and 21 years;
- Live more than 4.8 km by the shortest practicable route from the nearest school attended.
- Be enrolled at the nearest government primary school.
- Have NO access to bus travel

Those people eligible need to obtain an application form from the office and return it to school by the 18th of February. 6

23. Uniform Order

The uniform order list is currently being updated and will be sent home with the newsletter next week.

24. Parents Club

A big thank you to the Parents' Club for organising the Morning Tea last Friday. It was a great idea and it was terrific to see so many families attend the first assembly for the year. New and existing parents are always welcome to join this club which constantly supports the school.

25. Student Information

Over the next week we will be sending home forms indicating information currently held at the school. Could you please check, complete and sign these forms and return them to school as soon as possible.

26. AASC Program

We will be starting our Active After-school Program next week. We will be offering Basketball on a Monday (starting next Monday 14th February) and Lawn Bowls on a Tuesday (starting next Tuesday 15th February). Both sessions will start at 3.45pm and finish at 4.45pm. Participating students will be given fruit for afternoon tea prior to the start of each session. If your child/ren are interested, please fill out the attached form and return to school by this Friday, 11th February.

27. School Council

The first school council meeting for the year will be Wednesday, 23th February at 7.30pm. The Finance Committee will meet beforehand at 6.30pm. **This year, there will be a couple of positions available for parents to be a member of school council. If anyone is interested in being part of School Council for 2010 could you contact David at school.**

28. Personal Property

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Early Child Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to school property. Therefore, staff, students, parents and guardians should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

29. School Photos

The 2010 School Photos will be taken on Monday 21st February in the morning. Please ensure that all school children are in school uniform. We will be taking a Grade 6 photo and a School Captain photo. Please contact the school if you want either or both of these photos. Photo order envelopes will be sent home shortly.

30. Information Evening

An Information and Meet the Teachers evening will be held at school on Tuesday, 16th February from 5.30pm - 6.30pm. At 6pm Mrs Wallace will speak to Prep/1 families for approximately 30 minutes. This year there will be no evening meal as we have found that very few families have made use of this facility in recent years.

31. I.T. – Acceptable Use

This week, all families will receive information in regard to acceptable use with the Ultranet, Internet and other Digital Technologies. Although, there is a lot of information in this document, page 2 is all that is needed to be returned to school. Could this be done by Monday 14th February please.

32. Engagement Policy

Only new families will receive the schools Engagement Policy. This document was approved in 2010 and it is a living and breathing document so new additions / alterations may occur throughout the year. Could Prep parents return the last page of this document to the office by Monday 14th February please.

33. You Can Do It

This year, all classes will deliver the You Can Do It Program in a more formal manner. Lessons will be conducted on a regular basis on a Monday and will focus on the 5 keys which are: Confidence (academic, social), Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along and Resilience. The Core Purpose of this program is aimed at the development of young people's social and emotional capabilities.

34. School Bus / Safety

At present, the bus route has been extended until official approval at School Council. This will be in a couple of weeks. All families should have received information about the School Bus for 2011. Could information regarding Safe Travel and Bus Rules please be returned to the school office by Friday 11th February please.

I am also currently seeking approval from the School's Regional Director to allow for Bus Travellers to be dismissed at 3.20pm. These students will still receive the standard 5 hours of instruction at school per day. If approval is granted buses will arrive home 10 minutes earlier than what was outlined in the Bus Time Table. This is to cater for Zeerust PS whom we share the bus with.

35. Art / Library Van

The mobile Art Van will visit fortnightly on Fridays commencing 11th February. Children will need an art smock with a name on it (most already have one) eg. old shirt, etc to protect their clothes from paint, glue, etc. The Library Van will also visit the school on a fortnightly basis commencing on Wednesday, 16th February. Children are asked to bring a library bag (either cloth or strong plastic) to protect the library books.

36. Athletics / Ziptales

Our school has again invested in these two great educational programs which are available for student use at home and at school. Passwords will be sent home with parents for these this week.

<http://www.mathletics.com.au/>

<http://www.ziptales.com/>

37. English Online Interview

The English Online Interview is a powerful online tool for assessing the English skills of students in Years Prep to 2 in Victorian government schools. The Interview assesses students across the three dimensions of the English domain of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) – Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening. Teachers will be conducting these tests over the next few weeks. It is compulsory to conduct these with Prep students and we will also be endeavouring to complete them with students in Grade 1 and 2 also.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/teachingresources/english/englishonline/default.htm>

38. School Values

These values are used to support our students, teachers and parents in becoming positive citizens within their community.

Inclusion: including others and to not leave anyone out. It is important to let people join in if they are not playing with anyone and to involve others in decision making so that everyone gets a say.

Respect: being nice to others and to treat others how you would like to be treated. If you show respect you look after property that belongs to individuals and consider other peoples thoughts and opinions. Respect also involves being considerate of differences and personal space.

Honesty: tell the truth and own up to things in a mature manner. Individuals who are honest don't lie and always strive for their best without settling for second best.

39. Soccer Teams

Any children wishing to play soccer this year can leave their names at the office. The Northerners Club is hoping to have 3 teams this year for Under 6's, 7's and 8's. More information will be available soon.

40. Zone Sport

Zone Swimming and Tennis Trials are coming up soon. If any one is interested in these could they see Mr Brodie ASAP.

Funding for Parents – Aust Swim Course

In the past the school has funded any parents who are interested in completing an Aust Swim Course which would assist our school to run the Swimming Program. This would obviously reduce costs over the long haul. I have had a couple of parents express some interest in regard to this so if any parents are interested in completing such a course could they see either Karen or David at the office. I have contacted Kate Nichols and courses which she is offering for 2011 are listed below. Dates for Aust Swim 2011

* Shepparton – March 19th & 20th