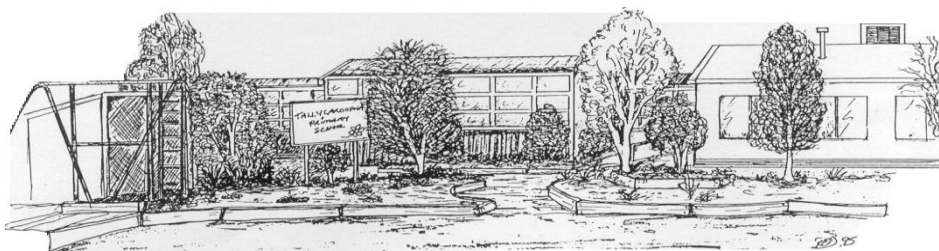


# TALLYGAROPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 3067



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## NEWSLETTER

TERM 3 NO.25

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2010

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**THE NEXT PARENTS CLUB MEETING WILL BE THUR 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST AT 10AM. THIS INVOLVES WRAPPING GIFTS FOR THE FATHER'S DAY STALL.**

**PLEASE KEEP WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER FREE. THIS IS OUR VALUES NIGHT WHICH WILL SHAPE THE SCHOOL'S NEXT STRATEGIC PLAN.**

**SCHOOL COUNCIL WILL BE HELD NEXT WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 7.30PM. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL MEET AT 6.30PM**

Dear Parents,

A huge thank you to the families who helped with the Working Bee last Friday after school. Your assistance was greatly appreciated. We spent a couple of hours pulling out weeds at the front of the school and it was amazing to see the large school bin quickly fill up in a small amount of time. The kids were a great help as well. **We will have another working bee on Sunday** and specific jobs will involve weeding, removal of branches on top of buildings, removal and replanting of trees, mulching garden beds, pruning trees and work on the resurfacing the car park. We many also start sorting out some furniture and organise some Maths and Science equipment. Any parents who can attend are encouraged to bring along any garden equipment. This may include edgers, blowers, hedgers, chain saws...etc. Some trailers may come in handy as well.

Results from our Staff Opinion Survey have been made available and these were really positive. I must say that the staff have been fantastic to work with in my time at Tallygaropna Primary School and I look forward to this continuing into the future. Last week, I conducted mid year reviews with staff also which was really beneficial. This was an opportunity to discuss Performance & Development plans with teachers and to see if any more support was needed in regard to specific teaching and learning.

This week, I will be meeting with Don Gargan from the Hume Region to discuss the future directions of the school in regard to the State School Improvement Program (\$300,000). This may involve redevelopment of existing facilities to create administration and community spaces, but we have collated a large wish list which will be discussed at this meeting. School Council will be heavily involved in this process as well.

I was away today and will be away again tomorrow because of Ultranet Training. I will be teaching on Wednesday and Thursday this week and I then have a Shepparton Network meeting to attend on Friday. Karen will be in the office until Thursday to attend to any specific needs. Have a great week everyone.

David Brodie – Principal

Cluster Day at Dookie Primary School / Grade 5 Visit to Tallygaroopna Kindergarten



### 1. Prep Enrolments for 2011

We hope to finalise Prep enrolments by the end of this term. Please contact the office if either you or a friend plan to enrol your child/ren at Tallygaroopna for 2011. **To assist with planning for 2011, we also need to know of any students who will be leaving our school at the end of the year.**

### 2. Grade 5/6 Camp

This camp will be held in Term 4, week 3 from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October until Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Information went home last Friday about the Grade 5/6 Camp to Phillip Island. As this is a cluster camp other schools attending will be Lemnos Primary School, Dookie Primary School and Zeerust Primary School. It is hoped that there will be about 45 students attending the camp and a teacher from each school will attend the camp to make the experience a great one. At this stage, Mrs Sidebottom will be attending the camp with the Grade 5/6 students.

Final numbers and payment will need to be made by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Please don't hesitate to contact Karen at the office if you would like to set up a payment plan for this camp. The cost is \$275 but \$50 will be subsidised by the school from Drought Relief Funding. **This means the final amount for families will be \$225.** It would be appreciated if a payment is made before the holidays to assist with planning. The Medical Form, Parental Permission Form and Campers Agreement will need to be returned by the 8<sup>th</sup> October also.

Details about the Camp can be found here - [http://www.camps.ymca.org.au/htm/htm\\_phillipisland.asp](http://www.camps.ymca.org.au/htm/htm_phillipisland.asp)

### 3. DEEWR Assessment

Over the last four weeks of this term, all of the students in the school will be involved in assessment tasks which focus on Literacy & Numeracy. The assessments carried out during this time will assist staff to make informed decisions in regard to student achievement and aid teachers to make judgments in regard to end of year reports also. This is an extension of a pilot project which began last year and this assessment was conducted during the first semester this year. The Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Literacy and Numeracy Pilot Project focuses on reforms that accelerate progress towards the Council of Australian Government (COAG) literacy and numeracy targets, particularly for low socio-economic status school communities or disadvantaged students. The outputs to be produced by this project are:

- evidence-based resources and professional learning programs for principals, literacy and numeracy leaders and coaches, and teachers
- identification of tools to enable schools to track individual student progress and to use such data to inform local resource allocation, teaching programs and professional learning needs
- development of assessment tools to diagnose specific student difficulties in literacy and numeracy learning and advice about linking these to appropriate teaching strategies
- evidence-based advice for schools and networks about effective ways to support continuous improvement in literacy and numeracy outcomes for students
- documentation of effective intervention strategies for students who require targeted intervention to achieve expected outcomes in literacy and numeracy
- evidence-based advice for the government on system, network and school level approaches that most effectively build on and sustain literacy and numeracy learning for students at risk of not attaining expected levels of achievement.

### 4. Swimming Program

Our Swimming Program is scheduled for a 9 day period from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September until Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September. There is an expectation that all students will be involved in this program as it is a key feature of our P.E. assessment for the year. No swimming will occur on 9<sup>th</sup> September because of the Cluster Day at our school. More details will be available soon. **This program will be funded from the Drought Relief Funding which the school has received.**

### 5. Parent Opinion Survey

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August, the two week period for the Parent Opinion Survey opens. The overall objective of the Parent Opinion Survey is to collect data about parent opinions and for individual schools to then use this information to drive further improvements. More details will be available soon.



#### 6. Book Week at Tallygaroopna Primary School

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September, our school will be the venue for the Cluster Day focusing on Book Week. Munch N Crunch will be available at a cost of \$5 and this will include a Hot Dog, Prima, Apple and Bag of Chips. Some other specific details about the day is mentioned below

\* **The Author visiting on the day is Justin D'Ath.** He has written The Extreme Adventure series which was focused upon earlier in the year with the Grade 3-6's. He has also written some Aussie Bites and Aussie Nibbles, so he is recommended for all age groups.

\* **Dress up as a book character.**

\* Please **collect newspapers** for one of the activities.

\* Please **collect any old book club order forms.**

\* **Grade 3-6 students are to bring an old shoe to decorate** for one of the activities. Feel free bring a few pairs if you wish.

#### 7. Fruit in Schools Program

Students in the Prep / Grade 1 class will participate in a Fruit in Schools Program on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August. The session will be held in the Multi Purpose Room and begin at 10am and conclude at 10.30am. This program will also involve children from the Tallygaroopna Pre School and it is in line with our Go For Your Life Program which promotes healthy eating at school.

The popular program sponsored by Fruit Growers Victoria visits junior children in primary schools in urban and regional centres. A reminder of Aussi's visit is a slinky machine, which he presents to each class so that they can make their own "apple slinkies" for their morning snack. **The children also receive a show bag of goodies** from Aussi including a colourful little storybook, which tells how Aussi grows from a little blossom into a juicy red apple. A lucky boy and girl will get to wear a child size apple-picking bag to "pick" apples into. The presentation is a fun filled 30 minutes, which is enjoyed by the volunteer presenters and the children alike.

#### 8. Passions Program – Term 4

Thank you to the parents who have offered to help in regard to the Passions program next term. I am hoping to implement this for about 4 to 5 days on Thursday afternoons. This will give students an opportunity to participate in a range of activities which they are passionate about. This could range from such things as photography, scrap booking, knitting, cooking, lawn bowls, badminton, woodwork...etc. I am looking for assistance from the school community, so if anyone believes they have a special talent or interest which they would like to share with students at Tallygaroopna Primary School could you contact me ASAP. Dates set at present are: November 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### 9. Active After-School Care Program

At assembly, I am continuing to hand out some small prizes for any students who participate in this great program so I would encourage all students to be involved. Weekly prizes awarded this week went to Mitchell, Stephanie, Bailey, Kyle Montgomery and Connor.

#### 10. Bike Education Program

Our Bike Education Program will go for 2 weeks in Term 4. Mrs Sidebottom will be implementing the program and it will begin in week 2 and conclude in week 4. **The program will not be conducted in week 3 because Mrs Sidebottom will be attending the Grade 5/6 camp at Phillip Island during this time.** We will be hiring a Bike Education trailer to assist with this program but students are encouraged to bring along their own bike and helmet if they have one. We are also planning to organise an out of school bike ride to finish the program for the more senior students. More details will be available soon.

Bike Ed is a bicycle skills and road safety education program run by teachers who have trained as instructors. Each school has the same aim for their program - to get their students riding more skillfully and safely - but how they organise the course is an individual thing.

Bike Ed is a program intended for children aged 9-13 years.

The aims of the Bike Ed program are to enable children to:

- Gain knowledge and understanding of the road traffic environment and the road laws.
- Develop the physical and cognitive skills to manage the road traffic environment safely as a cyclist.
- Develop responsible behaviours, attitudes and decision-making skills for the safe use of bicycles both on and off the road through participation in enjoyable learning experiences relevant to their ages and abilities.

The ultimate goal of the Bike Ed program should be for children to become competent to ride safely and independently on the road.

11. "You Can Do It" Awards

Congratulations to the following students – Week 6 (ending 20<sup>th</sup> August)

**Prep / Grade 1** **Chelsea Lindrea** for her enthusiasm towards writing, and her terrific 'getting along' skills.

**Grade 2/3/4** **Harri Ring** for the excellent way he has been persisting in the classroom in both schoolwork and behaviour. Great effort Harri!

**Grade 5/6** **Rhiannon Florence** for her wonderful 'getting along' skills in and out of the class and the enthusiasm she displays towards her school life, especially with her holiday work.



**Northerners Soccer Results**

**Under 6** – Northerners played Orrvale after a quick start to the game the kids ended up with a close finish. Finally everyone on the team has kicked a goal. A great team game guys – one more to go. Hope to see you all next year.

**Under 7** – Northerners played Orrvale Rovers and won 8-2. A great team effort this week – keep up the good work.

**School Values Night**

This will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September to discuss our school's purpose and specific values in preparation for our new Strategic Plan. The night will begin at 6pm and conclude at 7.30pm and a BBQ will be provided. The night will involve an open forum in regard to the future directions of Tallygaroopna Primary School and students in Grades 2-6 and parents are invited so that constructive discussion can occur. The following questions will be looked at:

- What is the school's fundamental reason for existence?
- What is the purpose of the school?
- What do we value in our school?
- What does the school stand for and how does it want to operate?
- What are the influences that will impact on our school community in the next 4 years?

**J.S.C. News**

**Footy Day**

We will be holding a footy day next Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Students are able to come dressed as their favourite footballers or dressed in the colours of the club they support. J.S.C. will conduct footy activities with the school between recess and lunch.

**Disco**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. See flyer.

**School Working Bees - rescheduled**

I/we .....can assist with the working bee which will be held on: Circle below

**Working Bee 2 – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August**

**How many people will need to be catered for? 1,2,3,4,5**

**Signed.....**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **WHAT IS THE ULTRANET?**

The Ultranet is a new online system that will take Victorian government schools and students into the learning environment of the future. It is a state-wide, secure site that students, parents and teachers can access on the internet.

Students and teachers can use the Ultranet for online learning activities. From the end of September, parents will be able to view this and other information to help keep up-to-date with their child's progress.

The Ultranet provides the opportunity for parents to gain a better understanding of their child's learning progress. It aims to encourage open communication about what's happening at school.

### **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE ULTRANET?**

The Ultranet provides parents with another avenue to support their child at school. It gives parents access to information that will enable them to keep up-to-date with their child's learning progress. This could mean viewing test results, teacher feedback, timetables, homework activities and attendance records.

The Ultranet presents opportunities to open lines of communication between parents and their child so they can discuss learning or schooling issues as they arise.

The Ultranet also allows students and teachers to work together using online tools such as wikis, blogs and discussion forums. Students can create their own learning portfolios and take part in online learning activities, whilst teachers will be able to liaise and share resources with other teachers across Victoria.

### **WHAT WILL THE ULTRANET COST TO SCHOOLS?**

The Ultranet is a \$60.5 million project funded by the Victorian Government. It is being provided to every Victorian government school so that they do not need to divert funds into their own online learning systems.

### **WHEN WILL PARENTS BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE ULTRANET?**

Parents will be able to log into the Ultranet from the end of September 2010. Prior to this, parents will be invited to register for their login and password to the Ultranet.

The Ultranet will be gradually implemented in schools across Victoria from May onwards. Teachers will start introducing the Ultranet into their classrooms at different times during this period. Students will have access to the Ultranet before their parents, so it may be beneficial for parents to ask their child to show them around the site before they come on board.

Each school will start using the functionality that best suits the students', teachers' and school community's needs. This means that the information available on the Ultranet from the end of September will vary from school to school.

Parents should contact their child's school for information about when the Ultranet will be implemented.

### **WHEN WILL STUDENTS BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE ULTRANET?**

The Ultranet is gradually being rolled out across Victorian government schools so parents should contact their child's school to find out when they will begin using the Ultranet.

### **WHAT IF A PARENT DOESN'T HAVE THE INTERNET AT HOME – CAN THEY STILL ACCESS THE ULTRANET?**

Once parents have their username and password, they will be able to access the Ultranet from any computer with internet access. This means that they can log into the Ultranet anywhere, at anytime.

Parents without easy access to the internet should contact their child's school to see if there are community facilities or programs in place to support internet use.

### **WHAT IF A STUDENT CHANGES SCHOOLS?**

One of the many benefits of Ultranet is that information will build up over time, creating an ongoing record for each student. These records will travel with the student from year to year and school to school.

## **WILL PARENTS MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT INFORMATION IF THEY ARE UNABLE TO ACCESS THE ULTRANET ON A REGULAR BASIS?**

Parents will not receive any less information than they do currently if they do not have access to the internet. However, there will be a lot of valuable information on the Ultranet and teachers may invite feedback about students' progress from parents via the site. The Ultranet will not replace personal communication between parents and teachers – parents should continue to contact the school directly if they have concerns about their child's learning.

## **WILL TEACHERS RECEIVE TRAINING IN HOW TO USE THE ULTRANET?**

In addition to undergoing training over the coming months, teachers will receive a full day of professional training on August 9, 2010. This will be a dedicated, state-wide **pupil free day** for the purpose of training Victorian government school teachers in using the Ultranet.

## **HOW SAFE IS THE INFORMATION ON THE ULTRANET?**

The Ultranet is accessible to school staff, teachers, students and parents in Victorian government schools. It is a closed website which means it cannot be accessed by other internet users.

No health, welfare or contact information will be displayed on a child's Ultranet profile. The only personal information about students will be their name and photograph (parents may request that their child's photograph not appear). All other information on the Ultranet about a child will be specific to their learning.

Learning information about a student can be seen only by that student, the teachers at their school and their parents.

## **WHO CAN PARENTS CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION?**

Parents should contact their child's school for further information or visit the Ultranet information website: [www.education.vic.gov.au/ultranet](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/ultranet)

## **DEVELOPING RESILIENCE AND SELF ESTEEM IN YOUR CHILD**

Dr. Helen McGrath, Psychologist, Educator and Researcher from Deakin University says that resilience is the ability to cope with negative events and being able to 'bounce back' emotionally afterwards. If a person has this ability then they are less likely to resort to maladaptive behaviours (truancy, drug use and anti-social behaviour) in order to cope.

Healthy self esteem is defined as the value one places in oneself and is strongly linked to resilience. It is important to help children deal with negative feelings and outcomes in order for them to have healthy self esteem. Young people who are protected from these things and are continually praised, develop a sense of entitlement, and are prone to feeling like victims when disappointment occurs.

Dr McGrath says that, "Trying to shield young people from sadness, frustration and anxiety when they lose, fail or make mistakes can deprive them of the motivation to persist until they succeed.... It is necessary to fail, feel bad and try again repeatedly until success occurs. It is success in the face of these difficulties that can genuinely make children feel good about themselves".

Dr McGrath offers a comprehensive list of strategies to help parents teach resilience and develop healthy self-esteem in their children. They include avoiding over-focusing on making your child feel happy all the time and teaching them how to accept difficulties and sad times. Building self-knowledge, good social skills, conflict management skills, optimistic thinking, pro-social values, initiative, goal achievement skills and an attitude of courage (being prepared to face fear) are some other strategies that she suggests. The strongest message she sends on developing resilience and self-esteem in your child is the importance of parents modelling these behaviours.

