

# TALLYGAROPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 3067



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## NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 NO.35 8<sup>th</sup> November 2010

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**Remembrance Day Poppies are on sale at the office for 50 cents each.**

**The Coles Sports for Schools Program closes tomorrow. No more vouchers will be accepted after this day.**

**Winners of the Public Speaking Competition will be presenting their talks at assembly next Monday. Feel free to come along and listen to some talks as students rehearse for Wednesday night.**

**Next Weeks Newsletter will be made available to parents on Tuesday not Monday.**

**Melbourne Excursion Tickets for parents need to be paid by next Monday**

Dear Parents,

There have been some major changes occur at our school last week, with the anticipation of new building arriving. We are all really excited about this and I am sure everyone in the school community will be as well. We had our patience tested with a small water problem but this was fixed up and the staff and students continue to show no problems adjusting to the alterations to the school which are necessary in order for our school to progress towards the future. Our little slithery friend wasn't spotted again so we are hoping that the building works have helped with this. We will continue to monitor this situation though and parents will continue to be informed if the snake is spotted again.

Wednesday is an important day for not only our school but the whole country as Remembrance Day is commemorated. As a result, we will be having a small ceremony at 11am to mark this occasion. Unfortunately, three teachers will be away on this day but we will encourage the children to respect this day with a minute silence.

Good luck to the students who are attending the Sailing and Kanga 8's programs. I know that you will represent our school with pride and not let Mrs Sidebottom down. Remember to do your best!!!!

I am only at school today and tomorrow this week. Mrs Haberfield and I will be attending Ultranet Training on Wednesday and Thursday and then I have a Regional Director's Meeting on Friday. Mrs Wallace will also be away on Wednesday as she will be attending a Literacy Leaders briefing in Shepparton for the whole day and networking with other small school cluster staff. Karen will be in the office until Thursday, as per normal to attend to any matters if needed. I will be away on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> November on Paternity Leave.

David Brodie – Principal

*“You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do.”<sup>1</sup>*

### 1. Building Project Update

Things are moving along quickly with our Building Works. Fences were up all of last week and we had electricians and plumbers at the site most of the week disconnecting and then reconnecting services from the school. We were anticipating the buildings being removed today when this newsletter was published. After today, the covered walkways and pavers will be removed and we will keep the latter for future use if needed. BRB is expecting the site works to be completed by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

I have been informed that the school is entitled to Split System air conditioning with the new building. I am hoping that this is in addition to the fans which were part of the initial plan – this just needs to be confirmed. Hopefully, I will have some new photos next week of an empty site for our new building – STAY TUNED !!!!!



### Scheduled Timeline:

- \* The Building arrives at school on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- \* The Building is scheduled to be finished on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

### 2. School Improvement Program

Last Friday, I had a visit from Don Gargan from the Hume Region. We discussed the funding which we are entitled to for the improvement of learning spaces and existing buildings at school. This is in the order of \$300,000. At present we are looking at the following:

- \* School Kitchen
- \* Decking connecting the new building and administration area
- \* Establishment of a computer lab
- \* Relaying of surface around the school building
- \* Under cover areas from the new building to the toilets
- \* Storage Shed for Sports Equipment.

After consulting with Don, I found out that 20% of the budget can be used towards technology in schools. This was terrific to hear and we will be using this funding to support our computer program across the school. I am hoping to have a ratio of 1 computer for every two students in the school, so we will be purchasing some more net books and laptops for student use. Two I Pads will also be purchased to trial, so that students in Grades 6 have adequate knowledge leading into Secondary school.

### 3. Coles Sports for Schools Program

We have had tremendous support from the whole community in regard to this program. I have estimated at least 2,000 vouchers being in our large collection box and this will see our school receive some sporting equipment. I will be dropping these vouchers off on Tuesday after school so this is the last day to accept any vouchers for this program. I will let everyone know of our sporting equipment when it arrives safely back at school.



#### 4. Melbourne Excursion – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Our end of year excursion is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December. We will travel by train to the Melbourne Zoo and parents are invited to come along with their respective children at school. At this stage, no Preschool children will be invited because we would like parents to see this trip as an opportunity to spend some quality time with their children who are presently enrolled at Tallygaroopna PS. **The excursion will be paid for out of the Excursion Levy. As a result, parents will be the only ones who will be required to pay if they intend on attending this whole day excursion at a cost of \$36.10. However, if families HAVE NOT paid their Excursion Levy, an amount of \$36.10 per child will need to be paid for their children to attend this excursion. This will need to be paid by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November.**

On the Excursion there will be two options in regard to supervision of students:

- \* Parent Supervision – for students who have their own parents attending.
- \* Teacher Supervision – if no parent is attending the day, students will be required to be supervised by teachers. The only exception is if the school is provided with written permission of other arrangements. This will need to be given to Mr Brodie – teacher in charge. This may include students being supervised by other parents of attending students if they agree to do so.

I will be contacting V Line and the Melbourne Zoo to confirm our booking this week. Details about the trip at present are as follows:

- \* Leave Shepparton Train Station at 6.57am and return at 6.33pm.
- \* Train tickets for parents are \$17.60.
- \* Melbourne Zoo Ticket Prices for adults - \$18.50

#### 5. Parent Opinion Survey

This week, I received results of the Parent Opinion Survey. I would personally like to thank families for putting in the time and effort completing this survey and the 65% completion rate was the highest that it has been for the last couple of years. Overall, it appears that our school is doing well in the following areas which were above the State Mean:

- |                       |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| * School Improvement  | * Approachability     | * Parent Input   |
| * Reporting           | * Stimulated Learning | * Learning Focus |
| * Classroom Behaviour | * Extra Curricula     | * Social Skills  |
| * Student Motivation  |                       |                  |

Areas in need of further focus were:

- |                        |                  |                          |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| * Homework             | * Teacher Morale | * Behaviour Management   |
| * Transitions          | * Student Safety | * Connectedness to Peers |
| * School Connectedness |                  |                          |

#### 6. Xmas Concert

We have scheduled this night for Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December. This will be a very informal night with some Xmas Carols and presentations to some students leaving our school. We hope to have a BBQ on the night also. More details will be available soon.

#### 7. Australian Fitness Education Award – good running shoes required tomorrow

Students in Grades 5/6 will be participating in this program this week. The Australian Fitness Education Award (AFEA) is a program of easy to use tests, a motivational system of awards and supporting curriculum ideas. It reflects a health-related philosophy and encourages students to set personal goals by aspiring to criterion-based standards of achievement.

The AFEA is targeted at students aged 9-18 years. ACHPER developed the resource with a view to turning students towards rather than away from physical activity. We aim to reduce comparisons with others, eliminate embarrassment and focus on learning about personal health and fitness.

#### 8. Prep Enrolments for 2011

We hope to finalise Prep enrolments in the next few weeks. 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.**

#### 9. Kanga 8's Tournament – permission forms needed

Our School has entered a boys and girls team for the Kanga 8's Tournament at McEwen Reserve in Shepparton this Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November. There will be a rules/scoring review and draw finalisation at 9:45 so we will need to leave school at 9.00am. The first games begin at 10:00am and students will need to bring the necessary items such as lunch, drinks, sunscreen etc.

Schools must bring their **own bats** but balls and stumps will be provided and grounds set up prior. Mrs Sidebottom will be attending the day and assisting the girl's team but **we still need one responsible parent who would be required to coach, umpire and score the boys team. If anyone can assist can you contact our school immediately.**

During the day both teams will play three games and all teams will play off for their final positions according to where they finish after the three preliminary rounds. If our school is fortunate enough to win we will progress through to the regional final to be held on **November 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

If everyone arrives on time we should be finished by approximately 2pm and return to school by 2.30pm.

#### 10. Puberty Education

As part of the physical, personal and social learning strand of the VELS Sexuality Education Curriculum, students learn about significant transitions between life stages, particularly the changes associated with puberty. We have again arranged for Robyn Lewis, Visiting Primary School Nurse with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, to work with students in grades 5 & 6 to assist their understanding. Robyn will present a program consisting of two sessions, held 1 week apart. The first session focuses on puberty, the second looks at human development and reproduction. The sessions will utilise videos, group work and activities to deliver this information.

These education sessions will be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of November from 9.30am until 11am. A brief parent information session can be offered from 09:15 - 09:30am on 9th Nov if there is interest. Contact the office in regard to this please. Alternatively, parents can be provided with specific lesson plans for the two sessions. **If you would not like your child to be involved in these sessions could you contact the school please. No permission forms will be sent home.**

#### 11. Sailing Program – permission forms needed

The Grade 5/6 students will be participating in a Sailing Program this Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November from 1.15pm until 2.45pm. This is held at Kialla Lakes so we will leave school at 12.30pm and return to school at 3.15pm. The cost per child is \$25 but this is being subsidised by the school.

Mrs Sidebottom will be attending this day and the students will need to bring the following:

- \* a pair of old sneakers to wear in the yacht and walking on land
- \* bathers and towel
- \* sunhat or woollen beanie depending on the weather
- \* windproof jacket if cold
- \* sunscreen
- \* plastic bag for wet clothing
- \* change of clothes
- \* water bottle

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's) will be supplied by Yachting Victoria

#### 12. Active After School Communities Program / Funding for 2011

Taekwondo was held today, but there will be no Touch Footy tomorrow again. In fact, Touch Footy will not resume until Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November because our coach is away on a holiday. Taekwondo will continue to run over consecutive weeks.

Participation winners for last week were – Jordan, Chelsea, Mollie, Olivia, Abby and Ella.

Participation winners for this week were – Brenton, Bill, Connor, Taylah, Lachie and Justin.

### 13. The Ultranet

Last week, students received their welcome letters inviting them to come onto the Ultranet. There have been some initial problems with passwords, but teachers will be working through these issues over the next few weeks.

Today, parents from the school will receive a welcome letter inviting them to log onto the Ultranet. This welcome letter has a temporary username and password which is valid for 30 days. Information relating to specific steps to follow is in this edition of the newsletter. If any families have difficulty logging on, we can assist you at school if needed. After logging onto the Ultranet parents will need to add their children to their Ultranet Household.

Mrs Haberfield and Mr Brodie will be attending two more days of training on the Ultranet on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November. This will be completed with other similar small cluster schools.

Last week, our staff started implementing an attendance program called eCases. This enables staff to mark attendance online and then this information is directly imported into the Schools Management System (CASES) and subsequently then put onto the Ultranet for parents to view. As a result, the normal pen and paper way of marking attendance has become extinct.

### 14. Book Fair

We will be holding a Book Fair at school beginning on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November. This fair will give families an opportunity to purchase books leading up to Xmas and the school will make some commission out of anything which is sold at the fair. This will be a great opportunity for some fundraising. The book fair closes on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

### 15. Public Speaking Competition - reminder

Last week we decided to alter the topics of the Public Speaking Competitions so that students would feel comfortable having a go at the Public Speaking Competition. **As a result, topics are open and students are working on these at school and I encourage all parents to assist with these at home also.** Some topics discussed by children have been: The Titanic, Jim Stynes and Steve Irwin. We hope to decide who will represent our school this week for the Grade 2/3/4 and 5/6 classes and students will present their talks at assembly next Monday. The night at the Tallygaroopna Community Centre is planned for Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

Students who represent both grades will receive a prize which they will decide upon. All students who participate will receive a certificate and perhaps some goodies also.

School Competitions – need to be finalised by the end of this week.

- Only two students can represent each school – 1 for each category (Grade 3/4 and Grade 5/6)
- Topics are (5 Minute Maximum) – 30 second warning bell.
  - **Grade 2/3/4 – Open Topics**
  - **Grade 5/6 – Open Topics**
- Schools to use their own initiative in regard to how they go about this – marking, judging.
- School certificates will be awarded for any students prepared to have a go with this.

#### Finals

- Venue: Tallygaroopna Community Centre ( to be confirmed)
- Date: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November
- Time: 6pm to 9pm ( Grade 3/4: 6pm – 7.15pm, Grade 5/6: 7.45pm – 9.00pm )
- Tea may be provided between the two sections – tea & coffee
- 9 Presenters for each category ( Grade 3/4 and Grade 5/6 )
- The same format and topics would be presented.
- Students to be judged by independent panel selected from the Lions Club – Rubric utilised
- At the completion of each Category a spontaneous question is given to students.
  - They will have 10 minutes to prepare a 2 minute speech.
- All participants to receive certificates
- Winners to receive awards organised by the Lions Club – book vouchers and perpetual shields have been mentioned.

#### 16. Dates for 2011

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

February 4<sup>th</sup> - Students first day  
February 21<sup>st</sup> - School Photos  
March 14<sup>th</sup> – Labour Day Holiday  
April 26<sup>th</sup> – Anzac Day Holiday  
May 10<sup>th</sup> > May 12<sup>th</sup> - NAPLAN  
June 13<sup>th</sup> – Queens B'day Holiday  
June 30<sup>th</sup> – Dance Festival (G. 5/6)  
July 29<sup>th</sup> – Zone Footy & Netball

February 14<sup>th</sup> – AASC Program Begins  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> – R.E. Begins  
April 4<sup>th</sup> – Athletic Sports  
May 4<sup>th</sup> – Interschool Cross Country  
June 6<sup>th</sup> > June 8<sup>th</sup> - Urban Camp for Grade 5/6  
June 28 – Dance Festival (G. 3/4)  
July 25<sup>th</sup> > 27<sup>th</sup> – 15 Mile Creek Camp for Grade 3/4  
October 17<sup>th</sup> – Zone Athletics

#### 17. "You Can Do It" Awards

Congratulations to the following students –

**P/1 Bailey McNab** for the confidence she shows in her work and the way she is using her 'getting along' skills. Well done Bailey.

**2/3/4 Abby Klein** for the fantastic way she puts 100% into her schoolwork and for her excellent 'getting along' skills. A marvellous effort Abby!

**5/6 Skye Austin** for your 'have a go' attitude towards school and other activities, and persistence shown in school work. Well done Skye.



#### **Prep Orientation Program – new students for 2011**

We currently have 7 Prep students enrolled to start next year. Our next orientation visit to Tallygaroopna PS will be held tomorrow from 9am until 11.30am. Other scheduled days for this program are:

- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November – 9am to 2pm
- December 7<sup>th</sup> December (Statewide) – All day

#### **Northerners Under 13 Cricket**

Well done to all the boys on Saturday. We had a big run chase on our hands (Kialla made 197) but we just couldn't quite get there. We ended up making 7 for 161 with Zane Newbound retiring on 30 runs. A super effort to bat out all the overs!

#### **Book Club**

Book Club order forms went home with students last week. If you would like to order from Book Club, please return the completed form together with payment to the school office by this Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> November.

## Parenting Tips from Michael Grose

Michael is Australia's number one Parenting Educator.

***"Healthy families know how to fight well. When parents take an active approach to helping their children resolve their fights, they are teaching them a valuable life skill as well as reducing the incidence of fighting over the long term."***

### **Resilience —Character —Confidence**

If your kids constantly fight with each other, then don't despair. All that emotional energy isn't going to waste. According to a recent study sibling fights teach kids important conflict resolution skills. In fact, parents who stop their children from arguing may well be depriving them of important learning opportunities. Researcher Laurie Kramer from the University of Illinois in the US found that kids who learned how to argue with their siblings had more advanced emotional development. Anecdotally, it seems that sibling fighting is one of the biggest impediments to parents enjoying family life. Many parents tell me that if their children stopped bickering their lives would improve dramatically. Many parents also worry that their children who fight with each other will not get along as adults. The evidence doesn't support this view. The test for strong families is more about the willingness for kids to pull together when the chips are down, than the frequency of the squabbling. Healthy families know how to fight well. When parents take an active approach to helping their children resolve their fights, they are teaching them a valuable life skill as well as reducing the incidence of fighting over the long term. Here are some ideas;

✔ **Model good conflict resolution skills.** Kids wear L plates when it comes to solving disputes. Some kids will yell, get abusive or even get physical when they are settling disputes. Show them better ways of sorting out problems by talking things through with your partner, compromising and apologising when you've said something upsetting to your partner or your children.

✔ **Focus on emotions.** When kids come to you for help, say something like: "Yep, it would make me mad too if someone said that to me." Usually someone's feelings get hurt when siblings argue so make sure you recognise their emotions without taking sides. This focus on feelings helps kids develop emotional literacy and promotes empathy

✔ **Explain why siblings may have behaved the way they do.** Ask questions like, "What do you think she meant by that?" Kids are faulty observers and only see one side during disputes. It's the job of parents to round out the picture, and help kids see that there are two sides to any dispute.

✔ **Coach them on sorting out disputes.** Kids need the chance to sort their conflict out themselves, but sometimes they need a little coaching. Don't waste time trying to sort out who started an argument. Instead make some suggestions such as taking turns, giving way, bargaining and swapping.

***"Taken from [www.parentingideas.com.au](http://www.parentingideas.com.au)"***



## LOGGING INTO THE ULTRANET FOR THE FIRST TIME – STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

### 1. GET A COPY OF YOUR WELCOME LETTER

- Your child's school will give you a Welcome Letter with a one-use parent/guardian key
- You must use your Welcome Letter to register for the Ultranet within 30 days or it will expire
- To register, you need internet access and a personal email address.



### 2. ENTER YOUR EMAIL DETAILS

- Go to: [www.education.vic.gov.au/ultranet/parent](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/ultranet/parent)
- Read the Privacy Statement
- Read and accept the Ultranet Terms of Service
- Answer the security test question
- Enter your personal email address (this becomes your username).



### 3. COMPLETE THE STUDENT DETAILS

- Enter the parent/guardian key exactly as it appears on your Welcome Letter
- Provide details about the student as requested
- Select the type of relationship you have with the student (parent, guardian or other).



### 4. COMPLETE YOUR DETAILS

- Enter your personal details. All fields marked with an asterisk (\*) must be completed in order to continue registration
- Set your password. Your password must have seven or more characters. It must also contain at least one character from three of the following:
  - > Lowercase (a-z)
  - > Uppercase (A-Z)
  - > Numeric (0-9)
  - > Special characters or punctuation (!@#%&).
- Eg: sampLE2, test#12, pAssWd%, !Log^ON.

### 5. SET UP YOUR SECURITY QUESTIONS

Your security questions allow you to change your details at a later stage:

- Choose three secret questions from the ten options provided
- Type your answers in the spaces provided
- Set up a four-digit PIN that you won't forget
- Click on Submit to save all your details.



### 6. ACTIVATE YOUR ACCOUNT

- After you have completed steps 1 – 5, close all internet browsers to exit the registration system
- Check your email for confirmation of your registration and a link to activate your account
- If the email doesn't appear in your inbox, try your junk mail folder
- Follow the instructions in the email.



### 7. LOG INTO THE ULTRANET

Now you are ready to log into the Ultranet for the first time:

- Go to: [www.ultranet.vic.edu.au](http://www.ultranet.vic.edu.au)
- Enter your username (the email address you provided when you registered) and password
- Read and accept the Ultranet Terms of Service
- Click Login and you will be directed to your personal Home page.

