



# Tallygaroopna Primary School Newsletter

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**Term 1 #1 - January 30<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**>> NOTES / PAYMENTS DUE <<**

Please finalise any outstanding payments

**1. Staff for 2023** – This is summarised below:  
Principal – David Brodie  
Business Manager – Karen Armstrong  
Grade 4/5/6 Teacher & Literacy – Liss Lothian  
Grade 2/3/4 Teacher & Numeracy – Tori Puetz  
Grade F/1/2 Teacher – Hayley McDonald  
Mental Health & Wellbeing – Bev Montgomery  
Aide Support – Beck Wayman, Alice Biddle  
Volunteers – Sue Muston, Rob Lothian  
Auslan – Liss Lothian  
P.E – Bev Montgomery  
Music – Yuko Sasaki  
Library – Katrina Campbell  
Art – Clark Pettigrew  
TLI Tutor – Melissa Beer  
ICT Technician – Janne Kenttala

**2. Grade Expert (Parent Portal)** – This is used by our school to send you important information about your child, such as school reports, student of the week awards and details of incidents at the school. Families should have received information via email.

**3. Communication** – We all need to be mindful of contacting staff and families outside of school hours (beyond 5pm). This may involve text messaging, phone calls, Class Dojo and Skool Loop - it is important to remember that we all have lives away from the busy work day. Please feel free to discuss any issues with myself or specific class teachers. At Tallygaroopna PS, we are accessible to parents and we value the importance of positive and constructive communication with all of our families. Please contact the school to make an appointment if needed – so that issues can be addressed at an appropriate time, which does not affect normal planning and learning time. David

**4. OSH Care** – OSH Care is available for 5 days a week (excluding term holidays, public holidays and curriculum days). This service is from 3.25pm until 6pm and late fees are in place (\$5 per 10 minutes per child). An enrolment form is a requirement for each student in the service. There is now a flat rate of \$25 per session for each child.

**5. BYOD Program** – We will be offering families in Grade 5/6 the BYOD program again this year. Acceptable use agreements were sent home before the end of 2022 – return these ASAP please. Apple iPads are the preferred devices for our classroom but these are not compulsory as some will be provided for student use as per usual. [Other specific information is found here.](#)

**6. Student Information Forms** – This week a number of forms will go home to all families to be filled out, signed and returned. These forms are essential for the general operation of the school and it would be appreciated if these are returned by Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> February. These will include such things as the Green Confidential Student Information Details & Consent Form

**7. Engagement Policy** – This policy is updated annually and was endorsed at School Council in 2022. Specific information relates to behaviour expectations for all of our staff, students and families, which links to our current school values. [This policy can be viewed here.](#)

**8. E Smart Policy** – This policy is updated annually and was endorsed at School Council at the end of 2022. Specific info relates to acceptable use with the internet and other digital technologies – [this policy can be viewed here.](#)

**9. Office 365 / Minecraft** – Students in Grades F-6 have an opportunity to access Office 365 again this year. We will primarily be using this resource to use Minecraft at school. Office 365 is an online learning service to support learning and teaching.

**10. Information Evening** – Information and Meet the Teachers evening will be held at school again. This is planned for Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February from 6pm – 7.30pm and specific information will be sent home this week – please RSVP.

**11. Green Reader Bags** – Students will need to purchase this if new to the school or have lost their previous bag. Cost is \$15.00 per bag.

**12. Student Profile Folder** – Students may purchase this to store their reports. Cost is \$15.00 per folder.

**David Brodie (Principal)**

*Our general school rule is to "consider the feelings of others at all times".*

Food scraps & food wrappers will go home in student lunch boxes to assist with hygiene in the school  
The Department's latest advice on coronavirus can be found at [www.education.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

**RESPECT  
HONESTY  
INCLUSION**

**13. School Values** – Our values are [Inclusion, Respect & Honesty](#). These are used to support our students, teachers and parents in becoming positive citizens within their community.

**14. Extreme Heat** – We all know that a heat wave usually occurs as we return to school. Therefore, we shouldn't be surprised that we are expecting extremely high temperatures for the coming weeks. We have an extreme weather timetable to cover these hot day. Students will remain indoors for some or all of afternoon recess time and will be encouraged to drink lots of water. Please make sure they bring a water bottle to school each day.

**15. Rest Days - Foundations** – Throughout February, children in Foundation WILL NOT attend school on Wednesdays. They will remain at home on 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd of February. There may be some days where Miss McDonald may require your child to attend a certain time for specific testing, but she will inform parents of this if there is a need. The first full week for Foundation students will begin on Monday 27th February – extra days can be negotiated if needed.

**16. School Council Meetings** – We are mandated to have 8 meetings a year. There are a couple of openings this year if anyone would like to join School Council – feel free to contact David for any clarification. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is set for Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

**17. Specialist Programs** – We will be having a high quality Specialist Program again in 2023 to enable our students to reach their potential in a variety of learning opportunities. Specific dates are listed in the calendar on the last page of this newsletter.

**18. Art / Library** – It would be appreciated if an old shirt could be supplied as an art smock if possible. This year, families will need their green reader bag or make a library bag for borrowing library books – a pillow slip could be ok for this also. No borrowing will be allowed without this.

**19. Term Dates - 2023** – These are summarised as:  
Term 1: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
Term 2: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June  
Term 3: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September  
Term 4: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.

**20. Headlice** – Please be vigilant in checking your child's hair for lice. There were some head lice incidents last year and we would like to have a relatively 'lice-free' year in 2023. Thanks for your cooperation.

**21. Student of the Week** – This begins this week and families will be notified. Awards are presented each Friday at assembly at 3pm.

**22. Frozen Ice Sticks** – Frozen ice sticks will be available for sale each Friday at lunchtime for 50 cents each.

**23. Fruit & Foods** – This year, all classrooms will again 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. There will still be the usual play lunch at recess time which will be eaten in classrooms for all students. This enables our school to be relatively rubbish free outside.

**24. Borrowing Agreement** – Last year, School Council again endorsed a borrowing agreement for 2023. This relates to the prompt payment of lost or damaged resources by the required date, or a borrowing suspension will take place. As a result, all families will be asked to sign a borrowing agreement before the first Library session – Wednesday 8th February.

**25. Parent Payment Arrangements** – These were approved at school council on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 and are set at \$140 per student to cover stationery, online subscriptions and MACC & MARC costs. These were sent home last year and have been reduced by \$10 from 2022. Payment would be appreciated by the end of term 1, 2023. [Further information is found here.](#)

**26. Online Resources** – Our school has again invested in a number of online educational programs which are available for student use at home and at school. These programs complement specific activities which are implemented in class. Passwords will be sent home with parents for these as soon as possible – Mathletics, Essential Assessment...etc.

**27. Sun Smart Policy** – Tallygaroopna Primary School endorses a SunSmart policy during the warm months (September until the end of April). Students must wear their wide-brimmed/bucket hat at recess and lunchtime. Students without hats must stay in the undercover area between the Multipurpose Room and the brick building. New hats may be purchased from the school at a cost of \$15.

**28. 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 being administered medication. 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.

**29. Rapid Antigen Tests** – A reminder to families that RA tests can be collected at school by parents at any time – contact the school if you would like your child to take some boxes home, please.

**30. Water & Suncream** – This can be accessed in the Project Space near the large mirror on a daily basis for all students.

**31. School Times** – We begin general organisation in the morning from 8.45am to 9am. The school day commences at 9.00am and concludes at 3.25pm. Morning recess is from 11.00am – 11.40am (lunch from 11.40am – 11.55am) and afternoon recess is from 1.25pm – 1.45pm (afternoon snack is from 1.45pm – 1.55pm). We also have a fruit break at 10am in the morning during the first 2 hours of learning.

**32. Music** – Our Music program will continue in 2023 with Mrs Sasaki. Students in Miss Puetz's class will need to purchase a recorder from the school for \$15 each if they don't already have one. Recorders are to be left at school but will obviously be owned by the students. Mrs McDonald's students will focus on percussion instruments, which the school already has. Miss Lothian's class will utilise ukuleles which the school has as well. Recorders and ukuleles will be used at the start of Term 2. Students will need their own recorder because of hygiene reasons. Music will begin on Wed 8th February. Please let the school know ASAP if you can supply your own recorder as an alternative. Percussion lessons will be done with all students in Term 1.

**33. Skool Loop** – To aid communication between our school and the home we will continue to use an application which is available on computers and mobile devices called Skool Loop. This is a school app and business program designed for newsletters, notices, absences...etc. The school app includes an instant message service to alert when new information is available - it would be appreciated if all families could download this ASAP so that immediate alerts go directly to everyone.

**34. School Payments** – When making payment to the school bank account for multiple items, please make one direct deposit for the total amount with your family name listed and email the school a message detailing the breakdown of the payment.

**35. Student Headphones** – In past years, students have supplied their own headphones to use at school. We are encouraging this again in 2023 for all students so that these can be used daily with a variety of ICT programs utilised at school.

**36. Absence Notes** – The preferred method to notify the school is via Skool Loop. A written note will also be accepted by families, so that we have something in writing

**37. School Bus Safety** – Thanks to all families who returned information about the school bus for 2023 before school began. It is imperative that families who have children who are bus travellers contact the school on 59298264 if their children are not going on the bus in the afternoon (before 3pm). All families are mandated to join the BUS - EM group on Skool Loop.

**38. English Online Interview** – [The English Online Interview \(EOI\)](#) is an online tool for assessing the English skills of students in Foundation and Grade 1. A timetable with more specific information will be sent home hopefully this week for families. Contact the school if alterations need to be made please.

**39. 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 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.

**40. Conveyance** – [The Conveyance Allowance Program \(CAP\)](#) is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school or campus. Parents applying for the allowance are required to complete an application form – contact Karen if needed.

**41. Parents' Club** – New and existing parents are always welcome to join this club which constantly supports the school. In previous years some great fundraising has occurred and the school was able to utilise some funds to go towards school programs and excursions which was greatly appreciated. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be set soon.

**42. Newsletter / Website** – The newsletter will be available to families via Skool Loop and on our school website each Monday after school. Some copies are available at the office if needed – contact Karen about this. There will be some items / notes / permission forms...etc, which will be sent home still, please check your child's bag for these as they contain important information on what is taking place in the school.

**43. Tutoring Program** – Melissa Beer has kindly offered to run this support program again for 2023. At present, we anticipate that this will begin on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February and consent forms will go home with specific children soon. These sessions will be held each Monday throughout the school year.

**44. Building Works** – This work has now concluded and the Multi Purpose room looks fantastic with all new windows.

**45. Accident Insurance** – Our school does not have an accident insurance policy to cover student injuries or ambulance transport. A reminder to parents and guardians that they are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment and ambulance attendance / transport. We recommend all families arrange ambulance cover in case of emergency. There are also a variety of commercial insurance policies available that would cover accidents at school.

**46. Camps for 2023** – We will be having the Grade 3-6 camp at 15 Mile Creek early in Term 1. The first day on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February will be an induction held at Tallygaroopna Primary School followed by 4 days at the Camp returning to school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. More specific information in regard to departure and return times will be available soon. Relevant information is going home to families this week – can this be returned by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February please. We anticipate that the cost of the camp will be only \$180 - TBC. **Please contact the school if your child will not be attending the camp – this is urgent so that the final cost can be confirmed.** We anticipate that staff attending the camp will be – Mr Brodie, Miss Peutz or Miss Lothian and potentially a parent. If you are interested contact the school ASAP please. The Grade 5/6 Camp will be held at Canberra this year from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

**47. Camps & Excursion Policy** – Our Camps & Excursion policy is [found here](#) for parents to refer to if needed.

**48. CSEF Applications** – The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. [Further information is found here.](#)

**49. Sharing of Food** – We would like children at our school to continue to not share food for special occasions (ie: birthday cake), however pre-packaged food which doesn't require anyone to touch this food is ok (ie: lollipop). Please contact the Principal in regard to this, so that families can be informed (via Skool Loop / Dojo) and then make an informed decision in regard to participation.

**50. Respectful Behaviours Policy** – The Education Department has developed a new Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy, which promotes the importance of respectful and collaborative relationships between parents, carers and school staff. This policy is [found here](#)

**51. Mental Health in Schools** – This year, all schools will have an opportunity to employ a qualified teacher, to implement a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing. Mrs Monty will be fulfilling this role by implementing Respectful Relationships, the Resilience Project and Rumbles Quest and be at our school each Thursday and Friday. Men's Shed Visits, cooking and keeping our vegie patch maintained will also occur as this role evolves over time.

**52. School Uniform Reminder** – A uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. A reminder to all families to reinforce this please. From May until the end of August, school beanies and scarves are permitted to be worn outside – beanies can be purchased from school in line with our uniform policy as well – we would appreciate green or red beanies and scarves only.

**53. Annual Privacy Reminder** – Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy. [More information can be found here.](#) For more information about privacy, see: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents.](#)

**54. Policies** – Some specific policies which are communicated to our school community at the start of each year are found here:

[Car Parking Policy](#)

[Homework Policy](#)

**55. Class Dojo** – All families will be granted access to classrooms ASAP. Passwords will be sent home to enable families to view classroom activities and also communicate with class teachers as needed.

**56. Late Arrivals / Early Departures** – There is a Late Arrivals/Early Departures book at the office, which needs to be signed for late arriving or early departing students. This needs to be signed by parents (or whoever is dropping off or picking up your child). There is also a Visitor's Book to be signed by all visitors to the school (this includes parents who stay for Parents' Club activities, etc). This will aid our emergency management.

**57. Swimming Vouchers** – The School Swimming Outside of School Hours voucher program is being extended to give current primary school students who missed out on school swimming lessons in 2020, 2021 or 2022 the chance to catch up. The voucher program is being extended into 2023, with schools able to issue vouchers through to Thursday 6 April 2023. All lessons using the vouchers will need to be completed by Sunday 9 July 2023. Contact the office if interested.



## **Photos of the Week – School Captains**



**Congratulations to Krysta Watters and Tim Brett on the birth of their beautiful little girl Adaline who was born on 10<sup>th</sup> January. A new sister for her big brothers – Braxton and Nikolas.**

**Supervision** – Parents are reminded that grounds supervision does not begin until 8.30am so please do not send students early to school for the sake of it or to play. [This is documented in our staff supervision policy.](#)

*This year we welcome the following 4 families to our school for the first time – Rachel & Stephen Bonham (Maggie), Bianca & Anthony Cook (Molly), MJ & Sab (Zain) and Toni Mason & Lachlan Vassallo (Iluka) Welcome back to Tanya & Glenn Webster also (Lachlan) Welcome to our school community and we trust that your time at Tallygaroopna PS will be both rich and rewarding.  
New pupils starting this year are: Eliza Bentley, Maggie Bonham, Molly Cook, Zain Hamza, Iluka Mason, Lincoln Prossor, Reuben Tucker and Lachlan Webster (all Foundation students).*

# TALLY P.S. CALENDAR

(all dates TBC)



## Term 1 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>JAN</b> 30 All Students Start	31	<b>FEB</b> 1 Prep – Rest Day Art / PE	2 Respectful Rel. & Resilience Project	3
6 Tutoring Begins - TBC	7 Safer Internet Day	8 Prep – Rest Day Lib / Music / PE	9 RR & RP	10
13	14 Meet & Greet	15 Prep – Rest Day Art / PE	16 RR & RP	17 Men's Shed
20	21 Bravehearts	22 Prep – Rest Day Lib / Music / PE	23 RR & RP	24 Pool Day - Merrigum
27 Induct. – 34 Camp School Council 1	28 34 Camp Red Balloon Day	<b>MARCH</b> 1 Art / PE 34 Camp	2 RR & RP 34 Camp	3 Men's Shed 34 Camp
6	7	8 Lib / Music / PE	9 RR & RP	10 Colour Run - TBC
13	14	15 Art / PE NAPLAN Begins - 35 Conference Day 1	16 RR & RP	17 Men's Shed
20 Conference Day 2	21	22 Lib / Music / PE	23 RR & RP	24 Athletic Sports
27 NAPLAN Ends – 35 School Council 2	28	29 Art / PE	30 RR & RP	31 Men's Shed
<b>APRIL</b> 3	4	5 Lib / Music / PE	6 RR & RP Term 1 Ends	7 Good Friday
DIRECT BANK DEPOSIT - Account Name: Tallygaroopna Primary School BSB: 063—527 / Account number: 0090 7788				