

# TALLYGAROPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO.3067



Victoria Street, Tallygaropna

Phone 03 58298264

Fax 03 58298244

[tallygaropna.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:tallygaropna.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Website - <http://www.tally-ps-3067.vic.edu.au/>

Mobile 0403625625 / 0411960164

**SCHOOL VALUES - RESPECT, HONESTY & INCLUSION**

## NEWSLETTER

TERM 3 NO.24 13<sup>th</sup> August 2012

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**Bags of Apples are available for sale at \$2 each. There are plenty left. We would like to sell them as soon as possible!**

**Somers Camp forms and payment is due this Friday.**

**Parent Opinion Surveys are now due to be returned to the office**

Hi everyone,

On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to wish Mrs Wallace an enjoyable break during her well-deserved Long Service Leave. Sandra has been a part of the Tallygaropna Primary School Community for a long time and we will no doubt miss her input over the next 6 weeks. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Montgomery fill the Junior teaching position during this time and I have no doubt that Bev will make a valuable contribution to our school over the next few weeks. We know her creativity will shine out during planning for the School Production.

Friday night at the Tallygaropna Recreation Reserve, was again a great success with 44 meals being served. Our Parents Club should be commended for their continuous hard work for the school – this is definitely not taken for granted because it takes a lot of time, effort and organisation for events like this to occur. The next planned event will be the Father's Day Cooking Day which will take place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. I am sure the teachers and students of the school will look forward to being able to utilise our kitchen facilities again during this time.

This week is again pretty much a normal one, although the week will culminate with the Annual Cluster Book Day. This year this event is again held at Katandra West and I am sure all of our kids and teachers will get into the spirit of the day and dress up and have fun. These days give all of our children the chance to renew acquaintances with friends from other schools so the day should be enjoyable for all involved. Next year, this day will again be held at Tallygaropna PS so we look forward to this opportunity in 2013. A reminder that permission forms and \$5 for the day will need to be in before Friday. There will be an extra cost if children decide to buy a lunch order – forms were sent home last week with the permission forms.

I was away today at a Briefing in Benalla but I will be back in action tomorrow. Karen will be in the office until Thursday this week, if any matters need addressing. Have a great week everyone.

David Brodie – Teaching Principal

*"Let us guide children to be considerate of themselves, others and the world in which they live, with sound reasons for the things they say and do....From this, all else will follow."*

Wilson McCaskill

**If you would like to receive this newsletter by email contact our office.  
An alternative is to go to our school website.  
Enrolments for 2013 can now be made. Tours of the school can be requested as well.**

### **1. Cluster Book Day**

This Friday 17<sup>th</sup> of August, our whole school will attend Katandra West PS for the whole day for the annual Cluster Book Day. This will involve plenty of fun activities and schools from Congupna PS, Dookie PS, Zeerust PS, Currawa PS and Lemnos PS will be in attendance. **The theme for this day is Champions Read. Children can dress up as a book character of a champion of any kind.** The author for this program is DC Green, who will be selling books on the day. Permission forms and lunch orders went home last week and will need to be returned before the event. The cost for the day is \$5 per students, but this does not cover the lunch orders. There is an extra cost if children choose to buy a lunch order. Students are able to bring their own lunch obviously if they wish. We will leave Tallygaroopna PS at 9am and return to school at 3pm. The day begins with a Dress Up Parade at 9.30am, followed by 3 activities throughout the day.

DC Green is selling and signing his books at our cluster days. Students who want to buy a book will have to look after their own money and buy it at the end of the session (recess or lunch). Mrs Mitchell (MARC Van Teacher) has showed and discussed his books with each class. Books are \$15 and the picture book costs \$10 each (see below).

### **About DC Green**

Before he became a zany children's author, DC Green was an award-winning surf journalist. He has written about shark attacks, the Bali bombings and profiled the likes of nine-times world champion Kelly Slater (who DC beat (at a game of pool)). In the last four years DC has performed 500 school shows around Australia. His shows are funny, dramatic and full of great writing tips and ideas.

You can check out DC's stuff at his website, [dcgreenyarns.blogspot.com](http://dcgreenyarns.blogspot.com).

'I loved when DC sang and rapped. I couldn't stop laughing. I laughed my head off.'

- Milka, St Patrick's School, Port Kembla, NSW.

### **SIGNED BOOKS!**

All DC's books cost \$15 except for Three Little Surfer Pigs which has been slashed to \$10! Students who buy more than one book will receive a free signed poster!! Buy all three Erasmus James books for just \$40 or all five DC books for a mere \$60!!!

### **Three Little Surfer Pigs**

A hilarious picture book of the classic fairy tale, featuring gorgeous art by Simon McLean. Ten per cent of all proceeds go to CanTeen Australia. \$10.

'Evilly entertaining.... The rhyme is great fun!' – Sally Odgers.

### **Erasmus James and the Galactic Zapp Machine**

Erasmus James zapps to a weird world where humans, ninja horses and mutant chooks live in peaceful harmony. At least they all did ... until Erasmus makes a deal that could lead to galactic war! \$15.

'An awesome read from the literary giant of surf journalism!' - Australia 's Surfing Life.

### **Erasmus James, King of Kid's Paradise**

Erasmus James zapps to a tropical world where adults are banned, there are no rules and all the other kids want him to be their king! But what is the dark secret that lurks beneath Kid's Paradise? \$15.

'Far out, funny and fabulous!' - CoastKids magazine.

## Erasmus James and the Grats Siege

Grats! Giant rats!! – surround my castle. My troops defend bravely. My mates - mutant chooks, ninja horses and grommets - are also out-numbered, starving and stinky. They turn to me for inspiration. To Erasmus James, the boy who doomed the universe! \$15

‘Hilarious and action packed... an unforgettable book.’ – Kids’ Book Capers.

## Stinky Squad

Oztrailer has mysteriously turned into a nation of brain-eating zombies. The only hope is five teens with revolting superpowers like acid vomit and super-sticky pimple pus: Stinky Squad! Ages: 10+.

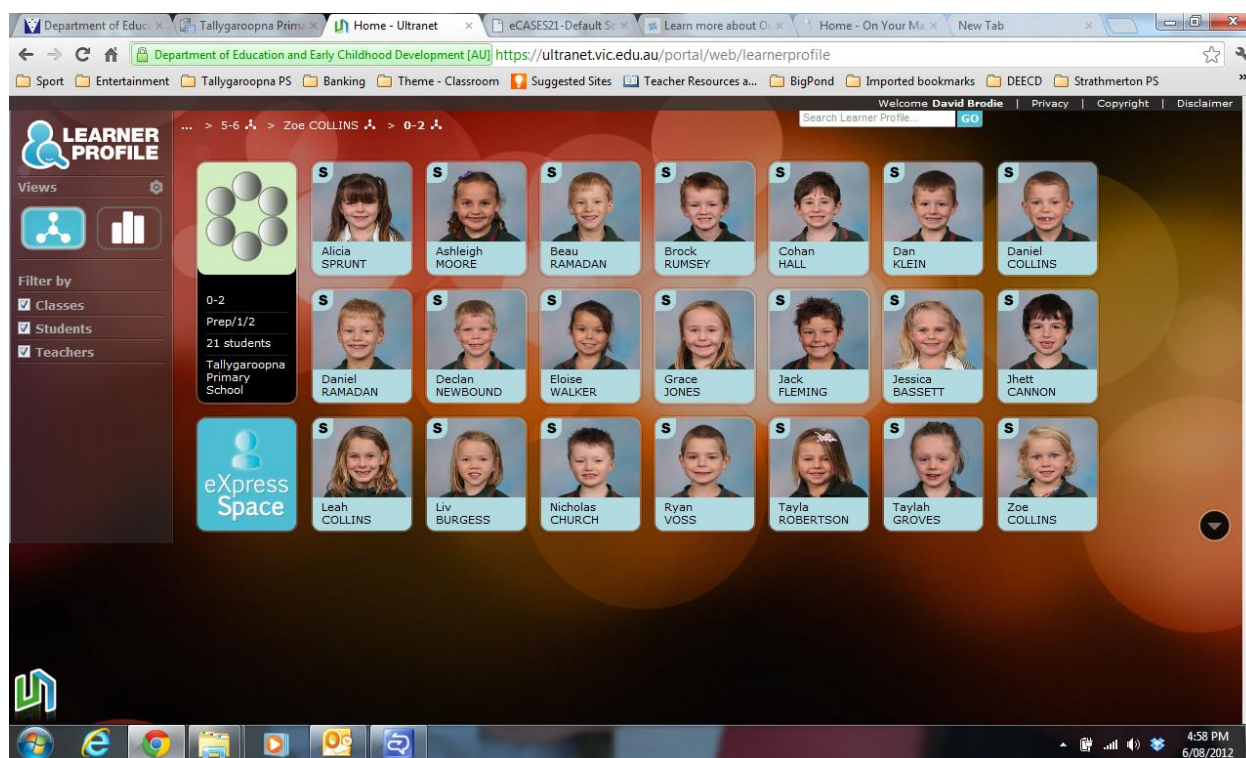
‘A very, very funny book.’ – HG Nelson, This Sporting Life.

## 2. NAPLAN Results

The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) anticipates that the NAPLAN Parent Reports will be delivered to schools for distribution to parents in mid September. The format of the reports will be the same for all states and territories and will be similar to those provided in 2011.

## 3. Ultranet Update

All of our children in the school have their new photos now on line on the Ultranet. We will continue to upload student work so that it can be available to parents as much as possible. Below is a sample of a class page which is available under every student’s learner profile. All children currently have access to the Ultranet and if any parents would like to be able to access this resource as well contact the school office.



## 4. AusVELs – National Curriculum

Today, Mr Brodie went to a briefing in relation to the National Curriculum at Benalla. Over the last few years, there has been a lot of discussion about this and it will begin implementation next year. AusVELS is the Foundation to Year 10 Curriculum for Victorian government and Catholic schools for implementation from 2013. AusVELS outlines what is essential for all Victorian students to learn for F-10 and includes the Australian Curriculum F-10 for English, Mathematics, History and Science. It provides a single, coherent and comprehensive set of common achievement standards which schools use to plan student learning programs, assess student progress and report to parents.

Website - <http://ausvels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

## **5. Parent Opinion Surveys**

These were distributed to all families a couple of weeks ago. 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. It would be appreciated if all surveys could be returned to the school office ASAP.

## **6. Shepparton Show**

The Shepparton Show is on from Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October until Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October. There are a number of craft competitions which children are able to enter in. Details can be gained from the office if interested. All entries must be submitted by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September

## **7. Community Tea**

A big thank you to the parents who assisted with the community tea on Friday night. By all reports it was again a great success and your support is greatly appreciated.

## **8. BBQ at Bunnings**

Our school will be holding a fundraising BBQ at Bunnings on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September. All money raised on this day will go to the school. If any families are available to help on any of the times below could you leave names at the office please. It would be beneficial if we could have at least 2 to 3 families for each 2 hour block. Children will not be able to use the BBQ facilities but they may assist with collecting money on the day.

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Family Helpers</u></b>
8am – 10am	Brodie, O'Brien
10am – Noon	McNab, Hall
Noon – 2pm	Newbound, Jones
2pm – 4pm	Woodley,
4pm – Close	Brodie,

## **9. Somers Camp**

A couple of weeks ago, we conducted our random Somers Camp draw out of a hat. This was the only fair way that we could select 5 children to attend this camp so commiserations to all of the unlucky students who missed out. The draw was conducted in front of the students. As a result, Brenton O'Brien, Corbie Humphrey and Connor McNab have been selected as the 3 boys and Abby Klein and Ebony Mills were selected as the 2 girls. We have a waiting list at present, which resulted from the draw and if any students choose to not attend this camp we will go down the list until our 5 spots are filled. Behaviour leading up to the camp will be closely monitored as well. Relevant forms have been sent home (Application and Medical Form) and these need to be returned with the camp fee of \$160 by the 17<sup>th</sup> August.

I have contacted the District Secretary, who allocates spots to schools, and have asked for some more allocations if these become available. I will contact families immediately if this eventuates.

## **10. Prep Enrolments for 2013**

A couple of months ago, we put our enrolment banner out on the school fence again to promote our school and encourage enrolments for 2013. Currently our school is thriving with an enrolment of 52 students and we look forward to aiming to continually build on this over the next few years. Parents can enrol their children for 2013 now and request a tour of the school if needed. I look forward to discussing the many advantages of our small school.

## **11. Active After School Program – Term 3**

Our Active After School Program will continue this week with Taekwondo being on a Monday and BMX being on Tuesday's. Both of these activities began very well and the children were really enthusiastic and active during both of these programs. Each session begins at 3.35pm and concludes at 4.35pm. Our two supervisors for this term will be Andrea Walker on Monday's and Gill O'Brien on Tuesday's. Their assistance with this program is really appreciated. Fruit will continue to be provided to all participants and a participation award will be presented to one lucky student each week at assembly. Last week's winner was Mikayla.

Reminder for BMX - **all children will need to have a long sleeve top, long pants and enclosed shoes**

## **12. Apples for Sale**

There are still a number of bags of apples available for families if they wish. Each 2kg bag can be purchased for \$2. These funds will be utilised at school to support our students.

### **13. Book Fair**

Our School Book Fair will begin next Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August and finish on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> August. Family involvement in reading activities can have a strong, positive impact on a child's educational achievement. Come to our Book Fair and help strengthen the most important skill children can develop: Reading! Have fun choosing together or have your child fill out a wish list after they have viewed the collection. Books are able to be viewed and purchased from 8.40am to 9am and 3.25pm to 4pm. Payment can be made either by cash, cheque (made payable to Tallygaroopna Primary School) or Credit Card. The school will benefit from receiving a percentage of all sales in valuable books for the library!

### **14. Subzero Visit**

Next Tuesday we will be having a visit from Subzero, the famous horse that won the Melbourne Cup in 1992. Upon retirement from racing, the big, near-white gelding with a lovely temperament was employed as the clerk of the course's horse by Racing Victoria's long-time Clerk, Graham Salisbury, and has made numerous appearances on television, at charity functions, and at schools. This program will involve the whole school and begin after lunch

### **15. Term Dates**

Over the next few weeks, I will continue to update this section. Dates for TERM 3/4 are:

August 17<sup>th</sup> – Book Day at Katandra West PS  
August 21<sup>st</sup> – Subzero School Visit - **Change**  
August 29<sup>th</sup> – Parents Club Meeting - .30pm  
September 2<sup>nd</sup> – Father's Day  
September 7<sup>th</sup> – School Disco  
September 10<sup>th</sup> >14<sup>th</sup> – Swimming Program  
September 21<sup>st</sup> – Last Day of Term 3  
October 15<sup>th</sup> – Division Athletics Carnival  
October 21<sup>st</sup> – Solar Boat Challenge  
October 24<sup>th</sup> – Science Excursion – G. 5/6  
October 31<sup>st</sup> – Kanga 8's Clinic  
November 5<sup>th</sup> – Pupil Free Day (Reporting)  
November 6<sup>th</sup> – Somers Camp Begins  
November 17<sup>th</sup> – Rotating Dinner  
December 6<sup>th</sup> – End of Year Excursion  
December 17<sup>th</sup> – Reports Home  
December 21<sup>st</sup> – Last Day of Term 4

August 20<sup>th</sup> – Book Fair Begins  
August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Father's Day Activity Day  
August 30<sup>th</sup> – Solar Boat Workshop  
September 5<sup>th</sup> – Finance & School Council 6  
September 9<sup>th</sup> – Community BBQ (Bunnings)  
September 19<sup>th</sup> – School Production  
October 12<sup>th</sup> – Life Education Van  
October 19<sup>th</sup> – Region Athletics Carnival  
October 28<sup>th</sup> – AASC Begins – Term 4  
October 24<sup>th</sup> – Finance & School Council 7 – TBC  
November 1<sup>st</sup> – Bravehearts Safety (P-3)  
November 6<sup>th</sup> – Melbourne Cup Holiday  
November 13<sup>th</sup> – Grade 5/6 Camp  
November 28<sup>th</sup> – Finance & School Council 8  
December 11<sup>th</sup> – Orientation Day  
December 18<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Concert

### **16. Student of the Week / Values Vault**

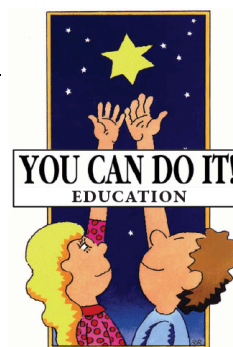
Congratulations to the following students who received Student of the Week last week.

Term 3 – Week 4

**P/1 – The Rock N Roll Kids – Brock Rumsey** for his great getting along skills. Brock is always willing to work or play with any of his peers. Well done Brock.

**2/3/4 – Mrs H's Brainy Bunch – Preston Hall** for the fantastic way he always tries to help everyone regardless of whether they are another student or a teacher. Good work Buddy!

**5/6 – The Grade 5/6 Rebels – Connor McNab** for the effort that he is putting in with his Spelling and Tables – this is really paying off. Great work!



All students receive a certificate and an Icy Pole Voucher.



Bring in any vouchers that you may have.

We will be handing in Coles Vouchers by 24<sup>th</sup> August and Woolworth Vouchers by 31<sup>st</sup> August.

Sorry for any confusion.



## **Northerners Football**

Northerners 3 4 22 defeated St Georges Road 2 3 15

Goals: Brodie Poole 2 Micadam Read 1

Best: Brock Austin, Daniel Bagley, Brenton O'Brien, Corbie Humphrey, Jye Clarke, Brodie Poole

## **Northerners Netball**

Last week of the rounds before finals. We played the top side St Georges Road, who is unbeaten and we started well leading 7-3 in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, unfortunately we let ourselves down in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, regrouped in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> but they were too good. Final score was 13-25. Let's have a real go at finals girls. Congratulations to Keely and Shae who made the 11/Under S.N.A. representative squad to play in Geelong.

## **Tallygaroopna Tennis Club**

The Tallygaroopna Tennis Club AGM will be held on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm at the clubrooms. Interested people need to attend or contact Yvonne Sprunt on 5829 8523 or 0408 269 440.

## **Parent's Club News**

Parent's Club would like to advise our school community of a project we hope to get underway in the next couple of months.

Considering our Tally township and surround has endured a couple of pretty memorable and intense events in 2012, we thought it'd be a great idea to create a 2013 CALENDAR to sell toward the end of this year, with assorted pictures of flooding of the area, and maybe even a few pics of our precious old pub.

The Shep News have kindly offered to let us use some of their images free of charge, which is a fantastic help. But we'd also like to ask our school students, parents and friends if you have any good quality photos from during the floods, or any photos of the Tally Pub, that you think would be suitable to go in a calendar, please forward a couple of your favourites (funny, freaky, sad, whatever you like) on to: [jmcf@iinet.net.au](mailto:jmcf@iinet.net.au) or drop a USB stick containing a selection of your pics (with your name on it) into the school office.

The calendars should hopefully turn out to be a great pictorial memoir of some of our town's crazy recent times, to have on your wall next year. 😊

## **Parents & Community Making a Difference**

### **“The step from Primary School to Secondary School”**

- Helping your child and family cope with the transition from primary school to secondary school
- Finding out how communication works in secondary school
- Talking about the future with your primary school student

**Tuesday 11th September, Mooroopna Hub**

(23 Alexandra Street, Mooroopna)

**OR**

**Wednesday 12th September, Wesley Hall,  
UnitingCare Cutting Edge**

(Maude Street, Shepparton – near Video Easy)

**5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

(Meal provided 5:30—6:00 pm. Session starts 6:00 pm.)

Child minding available for younger children during the presentation.  
Register your attendance by calling Goulburn Murray LLEN on 5831 5198  
or emailing [linda@gmlen.com.au](mailto:linda@gmlen.com.au)

# FREE

Information session  
for parents, carers and  
interested people



## **Angie Wilcock**

is a highly regarded Australian expert and speaker on transitions in education. She has appeared on 'Mornings with Kerrie-Anne', and has worked with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg and Dr Andrew Fuller. Angie is a published author with a strong background in teaching, as well as being the mother of two sons. Angie now works with teachers, parents and students across Australia in the area of transition to secondary school.

**SHEPP NORTH TENNIS CLUB A.G.M**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

**7.30pm at the Clubhouse**

**All welcome!!**

**Any Senior and Junior players interested in playing the  
coming season are to contact Wendy Sidebottom  
by the A.G.M.**

**For further enquiries please contact Wendy on 58 298385  
or mobile 0427 298385**



**JUNIOR STADIUM NETALL - INDOOR  
SHEPPARTONS SPORT STADIUM  
THURSDAY NIGHT NETBALL  
STARTS 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST**

**3 DIVISIONS.....MODIFIED NETBALL AGES 7 & 8,  
UNDER 9S AND UNDER 11S**

COME AND ENJOY THE INDOOR EXPERIENCE. GAMES PLAYED FROM 4.00PM OR 4.45PM THURSDAYS.

10 WEEKS OF NETBALL NOT INCLUDING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS \$55 PER PLAYER  
NO WEEKLY FEES.

EXPERIENCED UMPIRES, (TEACHING UMPIRES FOR MODIFIED) INCLUDED.

BRING YOUR SATURDAY TEAM OR MAKE UP A TEAM OF FRIENDS!!!

FINALS PLAYED FOR UNDER 9S AND 11S WEEK 11.

FOR TEAM REGISTRATION OR INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION CALL KYLIE.

Registration: Kylie 0419 998190 or email: [Hutchy0642@bigpond.com](mailto:Hutchy0642@bigpond.com)



## Separated Parents

Are your Children?

Feeling  
uncertain or  
anxious

Torn  
between  
their parents

Having  
difficulty  
facing strong  
emotions

Worrying  
about the  
future



Helps kids to:

Begin to name & acknowledge **feelings**

Deal with feelings in a **fun** way

Explore what is **special** about them

Explore **change**

Learning **new** skills – **coping** plans

Move forward with a **positive** focus

**For children aged between 7 and 11 years old**

**Kids Turn Around** is **interactive**, challenging, yet **fun & rewarding**; all at the same time!

**6 weekly sessions** from 4.30-6.00 pm OR 2 days in the **school holidays** from 10am – 2pm.

**Next KTA is 2 Day Holiday Version - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> AND Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

- a small fee applies -

For information or an application pack please contact

Berry Street on 58 228100



## Prep for Parents: Finding Books For Your Child

The best books for your child are ones that have stories or things they are interested in. Try for a wide variety of stories – fiction, non-fiction, plays, poetry, short stories and graphic novels – to expose your child to a number of different genres.

Genres are the way books are categorised and it helps you find books that have things in common. For example, science fiction/fantasy books will have an element of make believe, other world or futuristic stories. The more stories and books you read to your child from across all the available genres the better. Not only does this help you narrow down the types of stories your child is interested in, it also helps you develop your child's vocabulary and understanding of the written word.

It can also help you look for books that have characters your child likes, for example fairies, dinosaurs, dragons, Alice in Wonderland, Grandma Bendy, Peter Pan or Winnie the Pooh.

If you and your child aren't enjoying a particular book, put it aside and pick up another one. You can always come back to it later.

### Ask your local librarian

Your local librarian is an invaluable source of information about children's books. They can help you find award-winning books in the library and books that will allow your child to develop and pursue their interests.

Taking your child to the library regularly is a great way of increasing access to a variety of stories and books.

Libraries often hold special reading or story times, and some offer books in languages other than English.

Many local libraries are also hosting events during the National Literacy and Numeracy Week (27 August–2 September) as well as throughout this year – the National Year of Reading.

Check out your local library to see what activities and events they offer.

### Electronic books

There are various types of electronic books that use a variety of devices to 'read' stories. There are Kindles which are a small tablet-style device that is text based. There are iPads or similar tablets that can display colourful, animated stories with a narrator to read the story to your child. Each has their own advantages, like the ability to engage and interest a reluctant reader – this is especially so for the iPad or similar tablet. For Kindles you'll need to set up an Amazon account before you can download any children's books, though the Kindle Amazon site has a wide variety of children's books available. For iPads, you'll need to have an iTunes account before you'll be able to search for and download books from the Apps Store.

See:

- [Top 10 iPad Books for Kids](#)
- [Kindle e-books: Children's Chapter Books, ages 4-8](#)
- [Best iPad Children's Books](#)
- [5 amazing iPad e-books for kids](#)
- iPad Family's [iPad Children's Book Review: BOOK APPS FOR KIDS](#).

It's important to encourage your child's reading and using electronic books is one way of getting your child interested in reading.

Talking to your child about what is happening in the story or what is likely to happen in the story is the key. You can do this whether your child is reading on-screen or paper books.

A balance between traditional books and electronic books is ideal. But the most important thing is that your child is reading and enjoying the experience.

### Bookshops

Many bookshops have large children's book sections, usually organised according to age. Some major centres may also have specialist children's bookstores.

Bookshops also have websites; these are usually arranged by books, e-books, audio books and then by category like 'kids and teens' or 'children'.

- Angus and Robertson's Early Readers aged 5-7 – a range of titles from simple stories for the child who's just putting their toe in the water of reading, to chapter books
- Dymocks' Children's Books
- ABC Store's Books – you can search via genre, category or format.

## Second hand books

You can often get really great children's books from second hand book stores as well as opportunity shops like the St Vincent De Paul and Salvation Army stores for much less than the full-priced item. Look for books that are in good repair and have stories, pictures, rhymes or poems that will interest your child. Garage sales are also a possible avenue for buying good quality second hand children's books.

## Thought of starting a children's book club?

With the help of your friends and other parents at your child's school you can start a children's book club. You could hold this in the local library; rotate the meetings between the member's homes, at your child's school or at your local community centre. You may consider structuring the book club meetings around a story hour (or half hour), allowing time for the kids to talk about the characters in the story, their good/bad qualities and what is likely to happen. Children are much more likely to look forward to reading if they know they can socialise and have fun. Knowing there will be questions asked and a discussion about the book may also help your child enjoy the experience and look forward to reading.

## Beyond Primary: Science is Everywhere

What better way to highlight science and its role in helping us understand our world and our universe than NASA's rover, Curiosity's, successful landing on Mars earlier this week.

Now safely on the Mars surface, Curiosity is sending back photos as it begins its science mission. Its mission has a close connection to Australia. The rover landed in a crater named after Walter Frederick Gale, an amateur astronomer from Sydney, who observed Mars in the late 19th century. The Parkes and Tidbinbilla telescopes brought the images of Curiosity's spectacular landing to the world, just as the Parkes telescope did when the first man stepped on the surface of the moon.

Curiosity was designed to assess whether Mars ever had an environment able to support small life forms or microbes. And the name of the rover itself – Curiosity – is what science is all about.

## What's happening at school

Science is taught in schools because it helps your child understand the way the world works; for example, how clothes are made or why volcanoes erupt. It also develops patience and perseverance – a lot of time things don't happen overnight. And science helps your child develop problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Science can also help students understand that they, too, can help solve the world's big problems.

Teachers have a wealth of resources available to them designed to make science fun and interesting for your child, including hands-on science experiments and excursions. In fact, Victoria has six science and mathematics specialist educational centres, one specifically based on space. See: [Victorian Space Science Education Centre](#)

## Why science is important

We take science for granted. It is part of our daily lives, from the daily weather report to reading a map and talking on the telephone. Advances in technology and science are transforming our world and our understanding. Our children's future will surely be filled with leaps in technology we can barely imagine.

Science is for all students, no matter their background or ability. Science is important no matter if your child wants to be a doctor or a dancer.

It is important because it helps us make everyday decisions like the type of cereal we eat (knowing what a 'healthy cereal' means is based on science), recycling our rubbish (our understanding of the impact of rubbish on our environment is due to science), the amount of exercise we do (our understanding of how to keep our bodies healthy is due to science) or the plants we choose for our gardens (knowing which plants occur naturally in our area and those that need little water is due to science).

The Curiosity rover's landing is based on centuries of science knowledge and understanding, from the very first people who looked at the sky and saw that certain stars changed during the year through to the invention of the telescope and sending man to the moon and beyond.

## What you can do

Some things you can do to make science a part of everyday life, includes:

- Start with your child's personal interests. For example, your child may be interested in sports. There is a lot of science in the Olympics, like investigating wheelchair technology for a paralympian or understanding the biology behind running in a marathon. See: [Get Set: Science](#) for some ideas.
- Take advantage of not knowing all the answers, and embrace any opportunities to learn science with your child. This will encourage them to seek answers and may develop their interest in science over time.
- Tie science into what your child already knows, such as how blood moves around their body. For example, have your child take their heart rate – this will be their 'resting' heart rate – and record what this is. Then ask your child to run around the block or skip for 10 minutes, taking their heart rate once they have finished. Talk to your child about the differences between the two rates and ask them why they think this happens. See: Better Health Channel's [Exercise intensity](#) for more information.
- Foster your child's curiosity and creative thinking. Science is based on observing things and making guesses about what is happening. For example, ask your child lots of questions about what they seeing, hearing and experiencing. Ask them things like 'Can you hear any frogs?', 'How many different kinds of creatures can you see in a rock pool or creek?', 'What do you think would happen if...?'
- Talk about and discuss any new discoveries or science news with your child. The Curiosity rover is a great place to start. If you have a Twitter account you can receive tweets from Curiosity and discuss the ideas behind this endeavour with your child.
- Seek out opportunities to introduce your child to individuals in your community whose work relates to science or technology. This may include trades and professions such as construction or manufacturing, public safety, medicine, natural resource management, or research. If your child is particularly interested in science, consider taking them to ScienceWorks' [Inspiring Scientists](#) – where your child can meet scientists from a range of research and career backgrounds and talk to an expert to find out what exciting and varied opportunities a career in science has to offer.
- Provide opportunities for science learning, especially in the coming week – National Science Week – through visiting one of Melbourne's museums or zoos. For example, ScienceWorks has a number of special events that may interest your child – see: [National Science Week 2012](#).

## Related links

- [NASA](#) – read all about Curiosity beaming back images of landing from Mars as well as everything else NASA is working on, including their planned manned trip to Mars
- [Your Weight On Other Worlds](#) – ever wonder how much you would weigh on Mars? Well, here's your chance to find out
- [Your Age On Other Worlds](#) – find out how old you are if you happen to be on Jupiter or Mars
- [Build A Solar System](#) – make a scale model of the solar system and find out the real definition of 'space'

## Other interesting science links

- ABC's [Science](#) – includes information about what is new in science, and has links to things like Dr Karl's [Great Moments in Science](#)
- National Science Week's [Get Involved](#) – there are loads of different ways to get involved in National Science Week – and for some of them you don't even need to move from your computer!
- CSIRO's [Double Helix Science Club](#) – includes a huge array of games, events and activities
- RSPCA's [WOAW](#) (World of Animal Welfare) Ages 8 and Under – a fantastic resource for quality animal information, learning resources and piles of fun stuff to do and learn, but there's just one catch...it's all about animals
- [Melbourne Museum](#) – includes links to all three museums (Melbourne, Scienceworks, Immigration), including exhibitions and visiting
- [Zoos Victoria](#) - includes tips for planning your visit to all three zoos (Melbourne, Healesville and Werribee)

## Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL)

Does your child:

- Work at a faster rate than his/her classmates?
- Love reading, problem solving and learning?
- Have a passion for music, languages and the Arts?
- Need to be challenged academically?

If you have answered *yes* to any of the questions above then perhaps you would like to consider your child for Shepparton's SEAL Program in 2013.

### Second Round Testing Day

Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> August, 9am – 12pm  
McGuire College

**Applications need to be submitted to  
McGuire College by Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August.**

For more information, please contact  
Rob Steer or Susan Kerwin

Phone: 5858 9800

Email: mcguire.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

## Absence Note 2012

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Date/s of Absence \_\_\_\_\_

Reason \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## Absence Note 2012

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Date/s of Absence \_\_\_\_\_

Reason \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_