TALLYGAROOPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 3067



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NEWSLETTER

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TERM 1 NO.3 15th February 2010

Remember that this newsletter can be accessed from the school website listed above.

Parents' Club

The first Parents' Club meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd March at 3.30pm at school. This is when Preps begin having a full week at school so we are hopeful some new families might be able to attend.

Dear Parents,

I will be teaching on Monday and Thursday this week and Karen will be in the office all week. It is hard to believe that we are already in week 3 of the first term. At present, many of the children in the school are completing some term one testing and I have been very encouraged to see the effort that all of the students are putting in with this.

Tomorrow I will be meeting with Judy Rose (Regional Network Leader) and discussing a few important issues relating to school improvement and the building projects. Tomorrow night is also the Information and Meet the Teachers Evening, so all the staff look forward to catching up with as many families as possible. The night will be very informal and will begin at 5.30pm and finish at 6.30pm. At 6pm Mrs Wallace will speak to Prep/1 families for approximately 30 minutes. I have been very encouraged to see the positive attitude that children are having with their homework at present and it has been pleasing to see most of the homework policy forms returned for Grades 2/3/4 and 5/6.

Today, new Preps had a visit by the school nurse and over the next few weeks these students will be taking part in English Online Interviews. This is a mandated assessment to be used for P-2 students in Victorian government schools, replacing the Assessment of Reading P-2 program. The English Online Interview takes the form of an interview between the teacher and the student, with responses being recorded by the teacher in an online system. The English Online Interview assesses student against all dimensions of English VELS (reading, writing and speaking and listening) and provides comprehensive information about student achievement.

David Brodie Acting Principal

1. Prep Information

Just a reminder, that Prep children WILL NOT attend school on Wednesdays in the first month of the school year. They will continue to remain at home on the 17th and 24th February before starting a full week at school. There may be some Wednesday's where Mrs Wallace may require your child to attend a certain time for specific testing, but she will inform parents of this if there is a need. We will continue to implement a whole school buddy program on Friday afternoons. Prep photos will be conducted by the Shepparton News tomorrow at approximately 10.30am and will be published in this paper on Wednesday March 17th.

2. EMA

Information for 2010

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

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

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

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

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (27 January 2010 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (12 July 2010).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by **26 February 2010** for the first instalment and **6 August 2010** for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of \$225 for primary students and \$450 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. Students turning 16 years in 2010 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

Payment Amounts

Instalment	Portion	Primary school*	Secondary school*
One	Parent	\$ 78.75	\$ 157.50
	School	\$ 78.75	\$ 157.50
Two	Parent	\$ 33.75	\$ 67.50
	School	\$ 33.75	\$ 67.50
	Total	\$ 225	\$ 450

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

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2010 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 26 February 2010 and prior to or on 6 August 2010, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

Contact: School Office for application form and further information.

3. Art Van / Library Van

A reminder that Children will need an art smock (when the Art MACC Van visits the school every second Friday), with a name on it (most already have one) eg. old shirt, etc to protect their clothes from paint, glue, etc. The Library MARC Van is also visiting the school on a fortnightly basis and children are asked to bring a library bag (either cloth or strong plastic) to protect the library books.

4. Keyboard

At present, four students have shown interest in keyboard lessons. There is a possibility that students (Grade 1 – 6) may be able to still have Keyboard lessons this year. I have approached Cliff Doornkamp who is presently taking lessons at Kialla Central PS and he is able to visit our school on a Monday if there is interest from families. He will need at least 6 students for this program to go ahead. Lessons would be on an individual basis for 20 minutes each and they would cost \$15 a session. Families would have to commit to 5 weeks and the program would cost \$75 for term 1. We would be hopeful, that this would then continue for the whole year. If this program goes ahead, we are hopeful that lessons for the term would begin in week 4 and conclude during the last week of the term. Lessons would be conducted in the morning. Expressions of interest need to be at the school by Thursday 18th February.

5. Conveyance Allowance

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

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

Those people eligible need to obtain an application form from the office and return it to school by the 19th of February.

6. Grade 6 Printed T-shirts

Thankyou to all of the Grade 6 families who brought in uniforms so promptly. The printing should be completed in 2-3 weeks time and we will be in touch with families when these arrive to be collected.

7. Student Information

Attached to the first newsletter of the year was an envelope containing your child/ren details held at school. Could you please check these details to ensure they are accurate, sign, date and return the form with any changes back to the school office as soon as possible. Extra student information forms can be collected from the office.

8. Active After-school Communities Program

Our Active After-school Program started last week very successfully. Children may still participate in this program if they wish. Multi Skills is on Monday and Badminton is on Tuesday. Both sessions start at 3.45pm and finish at 4.45pm. Participating students will be given fruit for afternoon tea prior to the start of each session. If your child/ren are interested, please fill out the AASC Permission form (available at the school Office) and return to school as soon as possible.

9. School Council

The first school council meeting for the year will be this Wednesday, 17th February at 7.00pm. This meeting will involve discussion regarding the appointment of a School Principal so all members will need to attend. Marian Lawless (Regional Network Leader), will be attending the meeting to formally discuss the selection process for this and she will talk to school councillors at 7.00pm, before the school council meeting begins at 7.30pm. This year, there will be a couple of positions available for parents to be a member of school council. If anyone is interested in being part of School Council for 2010 could you contact David at school.

10. School Photos

The 2010 School Photos were taken last Friday. I have been informed that these should be available in 3/4 weeks time and will be sent home with children when they arrive safely back at school.

11. School Volunteers

One of the tasks for School Council at the start of the year is to approve the current list of volunteers working in the school and any additions to the list during the year. Therefore, we require any volunteers to leave their name at the Office and let us know if they have a current Working with Children Card. Information about getting a Volunteer's Working with Children Check (which incurs no cost) is available at the Office.

12. Themes for Term 1

This term the school will be focusing on a number of different themes in class. These can be summarised below:

Prep / Grade 1 – Celebrations

Grade 2/3/4 – Local Government / Protecting the environment

Grade 5/6 – Federation / Australian Democracy & Law / Constitution

13. Junior School Council

The senior grades have elected a Junior School Council for this year. Congratulation to the following people: Shannon Keenes, Christiaan Van Taarling, Ella Sidebottom, Emily Stivala, Alex Ring, Soraya Cannon and Darcy Collins. The two Reps from the 2/3/4 room are Teagan Brett and Ebony Mills. The Junior School Council held its first meeting last Wednesday, 10th February at lunchtime and discussed the school rules. Office Bearers were elected and are as follows:

President Soraya Cannon
Vice-President Darcy Collins
Secretary Shannon Keenes
Treasury Ella Sidebottom
We look forward to their valued input for 2010.

Wendy Sidebottom

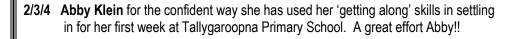
14. "You Can Do It' Awards

Apologies for leaving this out of last week's newsletter.



Congratulations to the following students – Week 1

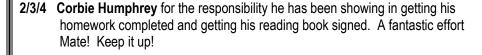
P/1 Jordan O'Brien for his great 'getting along' skills that he has used in the classroom and playground to make our new students feel a part of the grade. Well done Jordan.



Shannon Keenes for displaying great organisational skills in class and putting in a big effort for her first week in Grade 5/6. Keep up the great work Shannon.

Congratulations to the following students – Week 2

P/1 Preston Hall for the great leadership qualities he showed in helping others to pack without having to be asked. Well done Preston.



Alex Ring for being a caring and helpful big buddy and showing great leadership and a responsible working attitude in class. Great effort Alex.



NORTHERNERS FOOTBALL

Expressions of interest are invited for students who would like to play school age football for Northerners Football Club. Please Contact Karen at Tallygaroopna PS and leave your name, date of birth and a contact number if you are interested.

TALLY NETBALL

If there are any girls interested in playing Under 11 Netball in the Shepparton Saturday morning Competition, please leave your name and DOB at the school Office.

SOCCER NEWS

Anybody interested in playing this year needs to get their name into the office before Thursday. Thursday 18th is the SJSA Annual General Meeting. As a club we need to send 2 representatives to this meeting as there is to be major discussions about the age groups and format for this coming season. Anybody who is willing to volunteer to be a part of the club this year in an official capacity needs to attend the AGM. Please phone Yvonne Sprunt on 5829 8523.

Tally Tennis

Saturday 13th Feb – Another win to our little champions – congratulations!

Tallygaroopna 4/33 defeated Mooroopna Lawn 2/19. Only two matches to go. Training at the courts on Tuesday after school with Kerry. Saturday we play St Brendan's at St Augustine's church courts, Orr St. Corbie and Shannon on duty.

School Uniform

Dear Parents.

We are looking at some different options for our school uniform and we are interested in your thoughts and ideas. This is the start of a long process and if families are keen for change it will take time to sort out, source companies, prices etc. We don't want to change logo or color. We mainly want to focus on a new style and or fabric for our shirt and offer an alternative to our current bomber jacket.

What do you think? What would you like to change or add to uniform list? Color change is not an option!

- -No, I am happy with design and style.
- -New shirt design and fabric.
- -Keep bomber jacket but add an alternative.
- -Get rid of the bomber jacket.
- -Add something new ie vest, water proof jacket.

Please give us your thoughts and ideas so we can get an idea of what you would like and then we can try and find something that suits.

Looking forward to your responses.

Bev Montgomery Uniform Co-Ordinator.



G.N.E.F.A. Country Championship Representative Squad Trials

All G.N.E.F.A. soccer players are invited to trials for the 2010 County Championships Representative Squad.

Trials will be held on Saturday 20th February at McEwen Reserve at the following times.

Girls Under 12: 3-4pm Born in 1998 or before

Girls Under 14: 3-4pm Born 1996 - 1997

Girls Under 16: 3-4pm Born 1994-1995

Open Women: 3-4pm

Boys Under 11: 4-5pm Born 1999

Boys Under 12: 4-5pm Born 1998

Boys Under 13: 4-5pm Born 1997

Boys Under 14: 5-6pm Born 1996

Boys Under 15: 5-6pm Born 1995

Boys Under 16: 5-6pm Born 1994

Boys Under 18: 5-6pm Born 1992 – 1993

Players are asked to register a ½ hour before trial times.

All players are reminder to bring soccer boots, shin guards and a soccer ball to the trials.

Further information will be given at the trials or contact Karen on 58 267282.

Golf Competition

You may or may not know that I am a passionate golfer who is a member of the Shepparton Golf Club. The golf club has asked me to act as liaison person for schools in their latest initiative.

They are very keen to promote the sport of golf as a leisure activity that has something for all people of all ages. In particular they are keen to start a primary and secondary school competition with a trophy for the winner.

Their initiative would ideally see each primary and secondary school place a team in this round robin competition. There would be a primary division and a secondary division. It is hoped that each school would have a team of four players. The competition would be held in the upcoming autumn season over a four week period. It would be held after school on a designated day probably a Monday or a Wednesday and would be from four o'clock to six o'clock. The golf would be free and the only stipulation would be that every player has their own set of sticks. There would be some provision of golf clubs for a small number of students if needed.

For the competition to work it would need one parent who has knowledge of the game of golf to help supervise and manage their school's team.

A BBQ would be provided at the end of the competition for all players and managers. The whole idea is to provide more leisure options for our students. Golf is an ideal sport that can be played in a team format as well as an individual format; it has a lot to offer our students.

The Shepparton Golf course is one of the best in the country and the club is keen to promote the sport. All I need from you is a confirmation (no later than 26th February) by return email kop.jerry.j@edumail.vic.gov.au of your interest in participating in this competition. If there is enough interest I will proceed to formalising dates and draws. Thanks for taking the time to consider this initiative and have a great first term.

Jerry Kop (Lemnos Primary School)

Numurkah District Soccer Club

Registration & Training night

Wednesday February 17, at 6pm. Numurkah Showgrounds. BBQ & Drinks

All past, new and current players welcome Age groups from under 12 to over 18 ladies and mens teams For inquiries please call Len Webb 0429 036 655 or Mary Bau 0408 306 599

Soccer is a great game to play Numurkah Knights is a great club to support



Could you be a permanent care parent?

There are a number of children supported by the Department of Human Services who require a *family for life* as they are unable to live with their birth families. We are seeking committed and motivated people who would be interested in learning more about providing a permanent family for a child.

Assistance payments are made to the Permanent Care family to assist with the day to day expenses of caring for a child/young person. Assistance payments are considered to be a reimbursement for expenses and not an earned income.

We are also keen to speak with families who are particularly interested in caring for children between the ages of 5 and 10 years.

Information sessions are being held @ Department Human Services **Seymour** 16 Station St *Tuesday 16th March* 6.30pm and **Benalla** 26 Church St Thursday 18th March 6.30pm

For further information please contact: Adoption & Permanent Care Program 2: 5832 1559 or 2: 5832 1552.