

# TALLYGAROPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO.3067



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

## NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 NO.40 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012

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*School Begins in 2013 on  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January for all  
students.*

**Friday is a Casual Day. A Gold Coin  
Donation would be appreciated to go  
towards the Klein Family.**

**Christmas Hamper Raffle Tickets can be  
purchased from the office - \$1 each**

**There are a lot of unnamed items in lost  
property, particularly small sized  
windcheaters, etc – could parents please  
check this box asap.**

Hi everyone,

This is our last newsletter for the year. 2012 has been a very challenging but enjoyable one for everyone associated with Tallygaropna Primary School and there have obviously been many highlights throughout the year. On reflection, I would like to acknowledge our wonderful staff, students and parents who have made the year such a rewarding one and I cannot wait for what 2013 brings. I hope everyone has a safe and happy Christmas break and I look forward to catching up with everyone in the New Year.

This year, we say goodbye to some wonderful families who have been great members of our School Community for a number of years. As a result, we bid farewell to the following Grade 6 students together with their families –Daniel Bagley, Kaleb Oxley, Corbie Humphrey, Ebony Mills and Jamie Woodley. We will also be saying farewell to Shae Montgomery, Olivia Meyland and Zailie Dempster as they move onto secondary school. We hope that we are able to renew acquaintances with all of these families down the track – they are all part of our wonderful school and are always welcome.

Our School Christmas Concert / Graduation Night begins at 7.00pm and will conclude at approximately 8.30pm and I look forward to catching up with everyone on the night. This will be very informal with some carols and presentations to students and families who are leaving the school, before a surprise guest appears.

Karen will be at the school all week until Thursday to attend to any matters that arise. I am teaching all week but Mrs Haberfield will be away at a Funeral tomorrow unfortunately. I will be on a break from December 24<sup>th</sup> until January 11<sup>th</sup>, but I will be in and out of school on most days in preparation for the New Year

David Brodie – Teaching Principal

**PUPIL FREE DAY ANNOUNCEMENT: There is the possibility that we may utilise Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January to implement a Kidsmatter PD session with Currawa PS and Dookie PS. If this eventuates, all parents will be notified by phone early in the new year.**

**On behalf of my family I would like to thank everyone for the kind thoughts and generosity we have received over the past few weeks after the passing of my husband Andrew. I have been totally blown away by the support we have received and I know Andrew would have been also. Tallygaroopna is such a great little community. Thanks again**

**Jo Klein**

### **1. Thank you**

On behalf of everyone associated with the school, I would like to thank everyone who assisted in any way with the funeral last Friday. It was terrific to see the comradeship and teamwork that was clearly evident during this difficult time. Many of our families helped out with preparing food, serving drinks, cleaning up...etc and your support and effort is really appreciated.

It was humbling to see many of our families along with their children at the funeral on Friday and I can't say enough for how brave and inspiring Jo, Abby, Bill, Dan and Jade were. Special thanks to Robyn Mitchell and Gwen Hack who assisted with supervision during Friday afternoon.

### **2. Get Well Soon Bev**

As we all know, Bev Montgomery had a nasty accident a few days ago and it was great to hear that she is on the road to recovery. Bev is currently our Uniform Coordinator and an active member of our Parents Club and it won't be too long until Bev is on her feet again.

### **3. 96.9 Star FM – Toy Drive**

A huge thank you to the children of our school for participating in the "I Believe in Christmas Toy Drive" organised by 96.9 Star FM. The students raised over \$200 and we were able to purchase a number of gifts for disadvantaged children. We are very pleased that the children either donated their own pocket money or did jobs around the house to raise their donation. Great job everyone!!

### **4. Attendance Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who have had outstanding attendance (95% or above) and have been able to maximise their potential for learning. At Tallygaroopna PS, we are extremely proud of student's attendance rate and this speaks highly for the engaging and motivating programs which are implemented at school. These awards were presented at assembly today.

Whole Year (36 students – an increase from last year where we had 29 students reach 95%)

Jessica Bassett, Nicholas Church, Daniel Collins, Leah Collins, Zoe Collins, Jack Fleming, Taylah Groves, Cohan Hall, Declan Newbound, Tayla Robertson, Alicia Sprunt, Ryan Voss, Eloise Walker, Brock Austin, Mitchell Bassett, Mikayla Church, Kelsie Dempster, Stephanie Fleming, Preston Hall, Taylah McKenzie, Bailey McNab, Brittany Meyland, Kyle Montgomery, Jordan O'Brien, Brooke Voss, Harvey Walker, Daniel Bagley, Teagan Brett, Zailie Dempster, Connor McNab, Olivia Meyland, Ebony Mills, Shae Montgomery, Brenton O'Brien, Harri Ring, Jamie Woodley

Semester 2 – Terms 3/4 (35 students – an increase from last year where we had 31 students reach 95%)

Jessica Bassett, Nicholas Church, Daniel Collins, Leah Collins, Zoe Collins, Jack Fleming, Taylah Groves, Cohan Hall, Ashleigh Moore, Declan Newbound, Brock Rumsey, Ryan Voss, Eloise Walker, Brock Austin, Mitchell Bassett, Mikayla Church, Kelsie Dempster, Stephanie Fleming, Preston Hall, Taylah McKenzie, Bailey McNab, Brittany Meyland, Kyle Montgomery, Jordan O'Brien, Brooke Voss, Harvey Walker, Teagan Brett, Zailie Dempster, Connor McNab, Olivia Meyland, Ebony Mills, Shae Montgomery, Brenton O'Brien, Harri Ring, Jamie Woodley

Term 4 (33 students – an increase from last year where we had 28 students reach 95%)

Liv Burgess, Nicholas Church, Daniel Collins, Leah Collins, Zoe Collins, Taylah Groves, Cohan Hall, Declan Newbound, Brock Rumsey, Ryan Voss, Eloise Walker, Brock Austin, Mitchell Bassett, Mikayla Church, Kelsie Dempster, Preston Hall, Taylah McKenzie, Bailey McNab, Brittany Meyland, Kyle Montgomery, Jordan O'Brien, Brooke Voss, Harvey Walker, Teagan Brett, Zailie Dempster, Connor McNab, Olivia Meyland, Ebony Mills, Shae Montgomery, Brenton O'Brien, Kaleb Oxley, Harri Ring, Jamie Woodley

Congratulations to those students who featured in all of these specific groups and keep up the great work in 2013.

## **5. Parent Helpers**

The staff would like to thank all parents who assisted in the following areas during 2012:

Reading	School Council	Grounds
General Jobs	Transport	Swimming
Classroom Projects	R.E.	Excursions
Book Covering	Munch & Crunch	General Maintenance
Parents Club	Sport...etc.	

Your support is greatly appreciated and we look forward to your continued support in 2013

## **6. School Publicity**

In recent times, it has been great to hear about some great things that are happening in and out of the school community on the radio and in the newsletter. This speaks highly for everyone's willingness to chip in, contribute and help each other. Congratulations everyone!!!

## **7. Orientation Days**

Last week, we had a successful Orientation Day at Tallygaroopna PS. The students moved into their new classrooms for the day and discussed timetables and programs for 2012. The Grade 6 students also had a very worthwhile day at Wanganui SC and by all reports, gained lots of valuable information.

## **8. Farewell to Year 6 Students**

Our Year 6 students are now ready to move into the next phase of their education. Their primary years will come to an end in the next few days and then they will begin to move into the teenage world at secondary school. I have every confidence that they will be the best they can be and more importantly that they will continue to be good people. They will always be welcome at Tallygaroopna Primary School and we hope to see all of the kids again in the not too distant future.

## **9. Shirt Signing – Grade 6**

Only Grade 6 students will have an opportunity to sign some of their school shirts if they have **written permission by their parents. This will need to be handed into Mr Brodie.** This will occur on the last day of school in the morning and all shirts to be signed should be placed in a plastic bag. The last day of the year is a Causal Day so no school uniforms will be required on this day. Please take into consideration if you would like to use these uniforms into the future. The day gives students the chance to take away a souvenir from their time at Primary School – not compulsory.

## **10. School Reports**

As stated previously, all staff will be completing written comments for school reports this semester. Written reports will be a minimum though in line with AEU action taking place. If parents would like some more feedback about individual student performance at school feel free to contact class teachers to arrange an informal meeting once reports are distributed to families on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Teachers spend a lot of valuable time putting these together so please take the time to read these before the school year ends. Remember that these reports can be placed in the green report folders which every student at school should have.

The report cards have:

- a chart with an A-E rating, showing your child's current progress against the expected state-wide standard as well as the progress they have made since the previous year
- a chart showing your child's level of effort and class behaviour
- details about attendance
- easy to understand comments from teachers outlining what your child knows and can do, any areas in which your child needs to be given further help or extended, and how this will be done
- suggestions for how you can help at home

## **11. Parents Club**

Due to our last munch n crunch being on the last day of term we decided to treat the kids with McDonalds lunch – orders have now closed. **Parents Club will supply a drink and an icypole free of charge to all children whether they have ordered or not. There will now be a choice of a cup of soft drink, cordial or water available with these orders. Please inform the school if you do not want your child having soft drink.**

**Please reserve your calendar this week to make sure you don't miss out on one of these great keep sakes.**

Dot & Tom Stevenson donated a general goods hamper and Campbell's have kindly donated 2 hampers to the value of \$60 each. It was agreed at the Parents Club meeting that proceeds from this raffle will be kept at school to go towards assisting the Klein family next year. Participation is optional, so tickets can be purchased at the school office for \$1 a ticket. To be drawn on Tuesday 18th December at the school concert.

A morning tea will be held on Wednesday, 30th January 2013 to welcome new and existing families into the new school year. This will be held in the new school kitchen straight after assembly from about 9.15am to 10am. Could families bring a plate to share if possible and tea and coffee will be provided.

### **12. Graduation / Christmas Night**

We have scheduled this night for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December beginning at 6.30pm with tea if families wish. This will be a very informal night with some Christmas Carols at 7pm and presentations to Grade 6 students at 7.15pm followed by Powerpoint presentations at 7.30pm. BBQ facilities will be available on the night – families will need to bring their own food (plus plates and cutlery), a salad to share and drinks if they wish. Santa will be arriving on the night at about 7.45pm and we are hoping to invite new children and families who will be at our school next year. **Families received a small note about the night last week in a sealed envelope.**

***NEWS FLASH – There is a rumour that on Christmas Eve Santa will be visiting Tallygaroopna at around 6pm on his way to the North Pole!***

### **13. Grade 5/6 Class**

Grade 5/6 students have decided to participate in Kris Kringle for Christmas. These will be handed out to students on the last day of school – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Details are below:

- Presents can be things you have at home, which you don't use but are wrapped and not opened. The other choice is to buy something.
- Minimum limit of about \$10. You can spend more if you wish – personal choice.
- Try and get something suitable for the person you have drawn – Mr Brodie has details about this.
- Who you draw out should remain secret to add a little bit of fun.
- You can tell them if you like when they receive their present.
- You can add your own flavour to this – poem, photos, stories, funny moments
- To make it fun as well – you can over the next couple of weeks give them little treats (small lollies, toys, treats). You will need to be sneaky and clever with this.

There will be no homework and tests for the last week of school. Home Reading is still strongly encouraged. This week we will have our Class Party on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> of December (a movie will be included – either G or PG) and Grade 6's will have an opportunity to sign shirts for souvenirs on the Friday – last day of school.

### **14. Pupil Free Days**

At School Council a couple of weeks ago, we were able to approve some Pupil Free Days for the 2013 School Year and finalise a starting day for the school year. A summary is included below:

Teachers First Day of School – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January (Pupil Free Day 1)

All Students First Day of School (P-6) – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January (Preps will remain at home on Wednesday's in Feb).

Parent Teacher Interviews – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June (Pupil Free Day 2)

Report Writing Day – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December (Pupil Free Day 3) – day after the End of Year Excursion

All Schools have 4 Pupil Free Days for the school year and currently we have one floating day which will be confirmed next year. We hope to utilise this day perhaps in the first semester if possible. **There is the possibility that we may utilise Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January to implement a Kidsmatter PD session with Currawa PS and Dookie PS. If this eventuates, all parents will be notified by phone early in the new year.**

### **15. School Fees for 2013**

Next year, school fees will increase by \$10 to \$150 for the school year. This is in line with the ongoing cost increases with many things in society at present. This includes subsidizing school supplies along with many programs which are implemented at school including MACC Van, MARC Van, Athletics, Reading Eggs, Ziptales, Skoodle, etc. Again, there will be no set Excursion Levy included next year. As a result, families will have 2 options – either to pay for excursions throughout the year as they occur or, pay an amount upfront which will be allocated to excursions as they occur. This system allows families to be able to track what excursions are held and paid for.

### **16. 2013 Preps**

During the month of February, students in Preps will not attend school on Wednesdays. The first full week will begin in the week starting Monday 4th March. All students will be required to attend school on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

### **17. Bus Service for 2013**

I am currently in the process of organizing the new bus route for the start of 2013. This takes some time to organize and I will be contacting families over the holiday period to inform them of specific times and drop off and pick up points. Currently, I have the following students probably using the bus for the beginning of 2013.

Kyle Montgomery  
Matthew Church – **New Prep**  
Bill Klein  
Harvey Walker  
Daniel Collins  
Kelsie Dempster  
Jake Buckland – **New Prep**

Mikayla Church  
Harri Ring  
Dan Klein  
Eloise Walker  
Leah Collins  
Ryan Voss

Nicolas Church  
Abby Klein  
Jade Klein – **New Prep**  
Liv Burgess  
Zoe Collins  
Brooke Voss

If any of this information is incorrect, could you contact me ASAP so that the bus run can be finalized and organized without any problems. Mr Brodie

### **18. Active After School Program**

Our AASC program has concluded for 2012. We look forward to continuing to implement this engaging and worthwhile program for 2013 free to our children. We hope to begin this on Monday 11th February. Our Term 1 program has been confirmed and we will be running 2 activities on Monday and Tuesday's after school, as per normal. These will involve – AFL and Aerobics

Last week's participation award was handed out to Dan Klein – free icy pole.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR ANYONE LOOKING TO**  
**BE A SUPERVISOR FOR 2013 – IF ANY**  
**PARENTS CAN HELP OUT LET THE SCHOOL**  
**KNOW PLEASE.**  
**THIS IS A PAID POSITION**

### **19. Term Dates**

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

December 17<sup>th</sup> – Reports Home  
December 21<sup>st</sup> – Munch N Crunch

December 18<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Concert  
December 21<sup>st</sup> – Last Day of Term 4 – 2.25 Dismissal

2013

January 29<sup>th</sup> – Teachers First Day  
February 6<sup>th</sup> – School Council 1 – week 2  
February 15<sup>th</sup> – Cluster Aquamoves Day  
March 5<sup>th</sup> – Kindergarten Visit  
March 12<sup>th</sup> – Parents Club AGM  
March 24<sup>th</sup> – Bunnings Fundraising BBQ  
March 26<sup>th</sup> – Athletic Sports Back Up Day

January 30<sup>th</sup> – Students First Day  
February 11<sup>th</sup> – AASC Begins  
February 21<sup>st</sup> – Responsible Pet Program  
March 11<sup>th</sup> – Labour Day Holiday  
March 13<sup>th</sup> – School Council 2 (AGM) – week 7  
March 25<sup>th</sup> – Athletics Sports

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

Congratulations for the following students for week 10 – Term 4

**Rock & Roll Kids – Prep / Grade 1 – Jhett Cannon** for his organisational skills in getting himself ready for school each day and the way he has persisted in his Mathematics. Well done Jhett.

**Mrs H's Brainy Bunch – Grade 2/3/4 – Mikayla Church** for the fantastic getting along skills she shows and the persistence she puts into everything here at school.

**Grade 5/6 Rebels – Grade 5/6 – Abby Klein** for the bravery that she showed last Friday and the consistent effort that she always shows in the classroom.

*All students received a free icy pole voucher*

**Values Vault Winners for the Week –Daniel Bagley, Brittany Meyland, Bailey McNab, Alicia Sprunt, Brock Austin, Preston Hall and Liv Burgess**

## **2013 TERM DATES – confirmed**

Please keep these in a handy spot as you may wish to book your family holidays during the school holidays.

Term 1: 30 January (students start) to 28 March    Term 2: 15 April to 28 June

Term 3: 15 July to 20 September  
December

Term 4: 7 October to 20

### Keyboard and Guitar Lessons for 2013

Cliff Doorncamp will be conducting both guitar and keyboard lessons at the school in 2013. Lessons are held each Monday with individual lessons lasting 20 minutes. The cost of the lessons is \$16 per session (payable at time of lesson). For more information, please contact Cliff on 5831 4270. Please return form below to the school office to express your interest.

Name .....

Grade .....

Parent's Signature .....

Phone .....

☐

Guitar

☐

Keyboard

## Second-hand Uniforms

If anyone has any small sized uniforms that they no longer require could you please send them along to school.

Thank you Bev Montgomery (Uniform Coordinator)



### Positive Parenting Telephone Service:



**Are you the parent or carer of a child or  
children aged 2 – 10 years?**

**Are you looking for ways to have more positive communication with your child/ren?  
Do you have other commitments that prevent you from attending regular group parenting courses?  
Well, how about this?**

We are running a fantastic parenting program for parents, grandparents and carers of children aged 2 – 10 years **that you can  
do from the comfort of your own home.**

It is called the Positive Parenting Telephone Service and you get a weekly telephone appointment at a time that suits you (day or evening) with a trained parent educator for 6 – 10 weeks.

Our program educators aim to assist you in developing a stronger and more positive relationship with your children, as well as offering some practical suggestions on how to manage everyday behaviour problems such as disobedience, temper tantrums and disruptive behaviours.

**Interested? - For more information or to enroll phone  
FREECALL 1800 880 660**

ENROLMENTS TAKEN ALL YEAR ROUND  
*Start now and make a positive start last a lifetime*

  
**gatewaycommunityhealth**  
connecting our community

This service is funded by Department of Human Services Victori

# "KIDS MATTER"

family day care

where quality childcare matters

Available places for 2013.

Monday - 3 Places.

Tuesday - 1 Place.

Thursday - 1 Place.

Friday - 2 Places.

Sue Lau

58298428

0408054233

## Mathletics

### Tallygaroopna Primary School

January – December 2012

### Improvement and Usage Report

During 2012 53 students from Tallygaroopna Primary School used Mathletics to support learning in maths. We recorded the score each student gained after first completing an activity and measured it against subsequent scores achieved after completing that same activity. Each time an activity is attempted a different set of questions is presented to students.

#### Overall School Usage Results

Tallygaroopna Primary School	Number
Live Mathletics Correct Answers	57363
Full Curriculum Correct Answers	43639
Average 1st Attempt	68%
Average Final Attempt	92%
Average Improvement	35%

\*A Star Improver is a student who has made significant improvement (more than 10%) on a particular activity.

#### Top Three Concept Masters

Student	Teacher Name	Concepts Attempted	Concepts Mastered	% Concepts Mastered
Kelsie Dempster	Claire Haberfield	117	113	96%
Leah Collins	Sandra Wallace	103	100	97%
Daniel Collins	Sandra Wallace	95	89	95%

Results are rounded up.

\*Concept mastery level is 85%+ on any pre-test, activity or post-test.



# Science



This year in Science we did lots of fun things.

- We learnt that balloons can hold up a teacher, a table and 8 kids.
- We learnt how water comes from underground to our tanks.
- We made telephones out of tin cans and string.
- We made wind chimes.
- We learnt how to float a paper clip.
- We got lettuce seeds from the Melbourne Show.
- We made sounds from water in bottles. We made music.

# WHAT FREE ACTIVITIES ARE ON THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS?

## Kite Making in the Park

Design and make your very own take home kite and watch it fly above the tree tops. All equipment supplied.

Monday 14th January 2013: SPC Ardmona KidsTown  
Wednesday 16th January 2013: Toolamba Recreation Reserve  
Friday 18th January 2013: Undera Recreation Reserve  
Monday 21 January 2013: Merrigum Recreation Reserve  
Friday 25th January 2013: Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve

All sessions run from 2.00pm—4.00pm



## Seek, Explore, Find

Gather your family together during the school holidays and walk, ride and explore Greater Shepparton's tracks and trails searching parks and playgrounds for Parks Victoria Junior Ranger animals. So look out for the Wombats, Possums and Owls. There are some fantastic prizes up for grabs so start exploring.

Monday 14th January 2013—Tuesday 29th January 2013

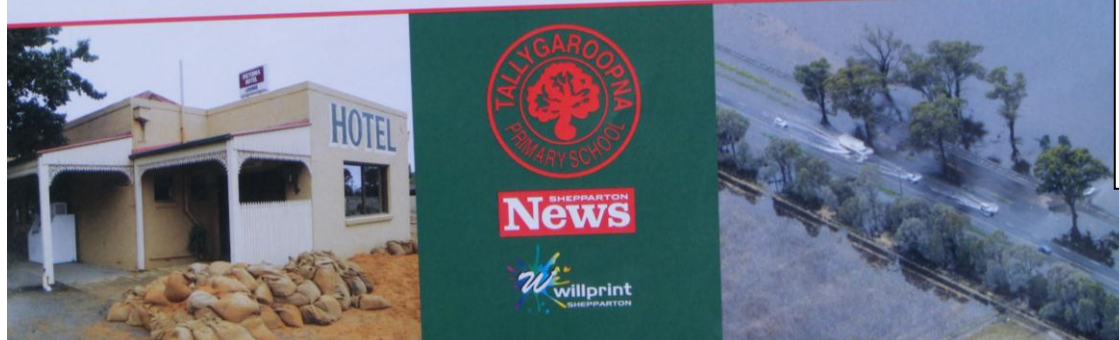
Download your entry form from [www.onthemoove.com.au](http://www.onthemoove.com.au) and start exploring all Greater Shepparton parks

For more information please contact the Council's Leisure Facilities Branch on (03) 5832 9431 or visit [www.onthemoove.com.au](http://www.onthemoove.com.au)

## Activities in the park



# TALLYGAROPNA 2013



Please support our final fundraiser for the year: The Tally Calendar. They cost \$20 each and are available at the school office.



# Breakfast with the Birds - 'Gemmills Swamp' Mooroopna

Saturday  
15th December 2012



Grey Shrike-Thrush by David Taylor



**Come and be entertained by the  
'DAWN CHORUS' @ 8.00am**

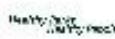
**Followed by Breakfast @ 9.00am**

**Meet at Gemmill's Swamp  
Echuca Road - Mooroopna  
(near the Scout / Guide Hall)  
Bring the family! - (and a chair)**

**FREE EVENT!**

**RSVP to RiverConnect  
0488 313 152 / 5832 9700  
for catering purposes**

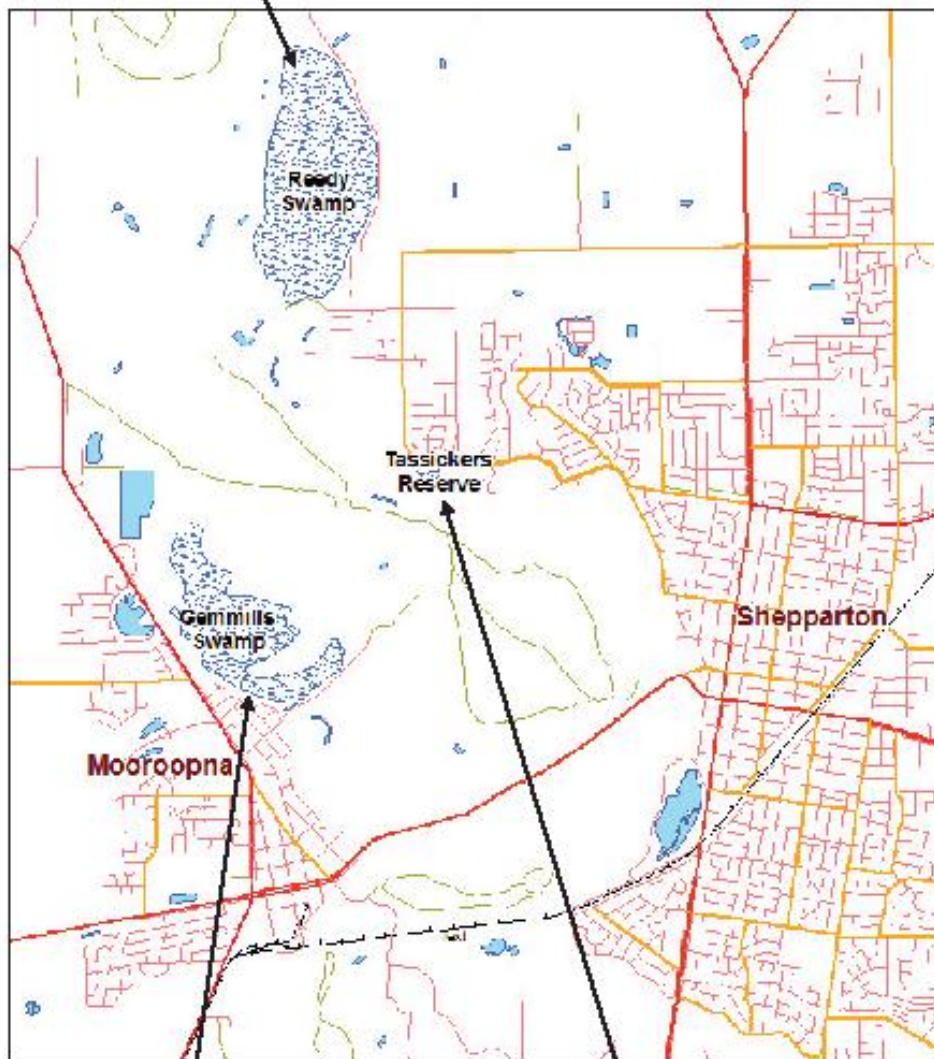
**Activities in the park**



**Join us for 'Brekky with the Birds' @  
three locations**

**8am Walk / 9am breakfast**

**Reedy Swamp, Shepparton**  
**End of Wanganui Road**  
**Saturday 19th January 2013**



**Gemmills Swamp, Echuca  
Road**  
**Near the Scout/Guide Hall**  
**Saturday 15th December 2012**

**Tassicker's Reserve , The Boulevard  
near Shepp Cemetery**  
**Sunday 18th November 2012**

# **Prep for Parents:**

## **Preparing For Next Year**

Your child is almost at the end of their first year of school. If you think back to the start of the year and everything that you and your child have been through – all the things they have learnt and the way they have developed and changed – it may feel like no time at all.

But what's next?

Apart from all the activities your child's school may have to celebrate the end of a year of learning, developing, finding friends and getting to know a whole brand new environment, there are the summer holidays to look forward to before your child starts another year of school.

## **Preparing for the summer holidays**

Remember, your child needs some downtime just like you do. Giving them time to just be themselves is as important as giving them good food and lots of love.

The summer holidays are an opportunity to allow your child some space to just be themselves. This may help them work through their feelings about going to school and should help your child to imbed all the learning they've done during the year and help make sense of their lessons.

Celebrating Christmas is also a time to encourage family and friends to give your child books and activities that will support their learning. Choose things your child is interested in and look for presents that will keep them busy and occupied during the heat of the day.

## **What your child will be learning at school next year**

During their first year of school your child's teacher focused on developing reading, writing, spelling, maths and problem-solving skills. Your child explored the world around them and developed physical, creative and technical skills. And hopefully they had a wonderful time meeting and making new friends and settling into a whole new environment.

Next year, your child's new teacher will add to and extend your child's reading and writing skills. They will encourage your child to continue to develop good relationships with others in their class and in their school and to understand themselves as well.

Your child's teacher will continue to develop your child's co-ordination skills by encouraging them to play, run, jump, catch, balance, skip, and extend their physical activity through dance, gymnastics and games.

Your child will also add to their mathematics and science learning by describing things that are similar, using things like size, shape, colour and weight; using everyday objects to identify and describe points, lines, edges and surfaces; and comparing objects using terms such as longer, heavier, fuller and hotter.

And your child will continue to explore their creative side, discussing the things they are creating and describing their, and others' work, and how they feel about it.



# What you can do at home

There will be many opportunities to continue to take an active part in your child's learning next year.

Keep talking to your child about the things they did and enjoyed at school each day. Talk to your child about the things they had concerns about as well.

There is a lot you can continue to do at home that will support your child's learning through everyday experiences.

- Have problems they can help solve, like a jigsaw puzzle or helping you sort the laundry (especially the socks!) These are great ways to tap into their problem-solving abilities.
- Do things that interest them, like an existing hobby or activity they love. For example, if your child likes helping you cook you can introduce a lot of learning – like reading, maths and science – while you cook together.
- Enjoying spontaneous activities in response to your child's questions can go a long way to encouraging their curiosity.
- Help them find answers or solutions to problems themselves. Show your child how to look things up in a book, in an encyclopaedia or on the computer, and let them find the answers themselves.
- When talking to your child, ask reflective questions like 'how' 'why' or 'what if...' as this helps them to think deeply about their responses.

Lastly, we wish you and your family a safe and healthy Christmas and an exciting and rewarding 2013.



**READY? PLAY.**

Welcome to tennis played on kids terms

Keystone Tennis “creating meaningful opportunities”  
[office@keystonetennis.com](mailto:office@keystonetennis.com) | 0407 476 041  
[www.keystonetennis.com](http://www.keystonetennis.com)

Enrol in term 1, 2013 to receive a  
**FREE Hot Shots shirt & FREE racquet!**  
Limited to the first 30 new enrolments.

MLC **HOT SHOTS** tennis  
hotshots.tennis.com.au

# Beyond Primary: Preparing For Next Year

The end of primary school marks a major transition in your child's life. It's a time for reflection on what your child has experienced and learnt during their primary school years – perhaps wondering where the years have gone.

Many parents have concerns about the changes that the next year will bring. After all, your child may be entering a new environment, with new and greater expectations, especially academically.

You may already have visited your child's new school and met or spoken to their new teachers.

You'll have probably looked at purchasing new school uniforms, books and equipment, including calculators, laptops and other items your child will need for their schooling next year.

So what more can you do to prepare your child for this next big step in their lives?

## What you can do

At secondary school there will be many opportunities for you to continue to take an active part in what your child is learning at school.

Show your child that you are there to help and support them by listening and offering suggestions.

One way to help is by building your child's confidence. You can do this by openly acknowledging the things they do well. They don't have to have done anything particularly special; telling your child that you value them and appreciate their qualities – like how well they help around the house or how thoughtful they are – will go a long way to building and maintaining your child's confidence.

Talk to your child about going to secondary school as often as you think is needed over the summer holidays. Ask your child what they think it will be like. Do they expect they'll have more homework? Will they learn more things? Are they expecting to enjoy themselves? Feel safe and at ease? What do they think their teachers will be like? What do they think the other kids in the classes will be like? What are they most looking forward to? Listening to your child talk may give you some indication of their concerns. If they have concerns, discuss their options. Let them know that you take these seriously and are there to help.

Ask your child's primary school about things you can do at home over the coming school break to help make this step easier for your child.

Lastly, we wish you and your family a safe and healthy Christmas and an exciting and rewarding 2013.



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5 to 15+

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The students of our school raised over \$200 for the "I Believe in Christmas Toy Drive" organised by 96.9 Star FM. Well done everyone!