

Toolamba PS

“Striving for Excellence”

Values: Respectful, Trustworthy and Inclusive



Dear Parents and Families,

How quickly the term is passing by, we are up to Week 6 already!

LABOUR DAY

Monday 8th of March is a Public Holiday.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Junior School Council have commenced their Friday lunch time games which has been very popular. On Monday they held their first fundraiser, an out of uniform day, all proceeds will go towards some headsets for the computers and iPads.

MORNING READING

Due to restrictions on visitors to the school, we haven't commenced morning reading with parents yet. Hopefully this will commence in Week 8 from 8-45am till 9am. It will be fantastic to have parents back in the school, we will just have to adhere to the social distancing requirements.

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Next week we have Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews. Once again we are using the online booking system. Teachers find this a much easier way to allocate times.

ATHLETIC SPORTS

Toolamba Athletics are set for Friday 26th March where students from Foundation-6 participate in athletic events. We encourage families to come along and share the fun with the children. The Tatura & District Sports are on Tuesday 30th March, these sports are for students from Grade 3-6.





Have a great long weekend,

Regards Heather

ASSEMBLY AWARDS



Striving for Excellence Awards: Spencer, Flynn, Luke W, Jordan, Luke C, Olivia, Leo, Lucy, Raph, Charlee, Mia, Matilda and Finn.



JSC Awards: Emile, Havi, Chelsea, Olivia, Casey, Lachy, Eden, James, Archie, Lily, Jasper, Spencer and Max.

FOUNDATION

The Foundation children have responded well to the cooler weather conditions this week. They were settled in their approach to learning in the classroom and it is truly exciting to observe their confidence grow with tasks asked of them.

Please ensure your child has eaten a solid breakfast before arriving at school. A few children are telling me they are hungry very early into our Literacy block and its impacts on their focus with tasks asked of them. We eat our play lunch in between 10.30 and 10.45. If they are ravenous, I encourage them to eat a sandwich or equivalent at this time.

I have replaced the "My Reading Log" with the next three weeks and have filed the previous for future reference of what books have gone home. We encourage reading familiar take home books as these promote confidence, as well as assist with retaining sight words. I must again emphasize the importance of pointing to each word with their bossy finger as they read. This habit develops eye tracking, the concepts of print and assists with 1:1 correspondence of print.

The children are enjoying our "Learn to Draw" videos and I hope you have seen their wonderful attempts of the character Bluey in the classroom window. These videos are explicit, as well as promote strong listening and following instructions. These drawings develop ideas for writing. We have begun a "Learn to Draw and Write Book" which I will share with you in

Parent Teacher Interviews. Please ensure you have booked your appointment online.

We are also working hard on learning to write letters of the alphabet, as well as the numerals 0 to 9. Please refer to your Transition Pack as to the font we use, or you can simply google Victorian Cursive Handwriting.

In Mathematics we have had a focus on counting by 10's and manipulating unifix to build lots of tens. Lots of excited faces when they have built 100!! They also enjoyed our Car Park activity where they matched dominoes to the correct number parking bay. Dominoes are fantastic to introduce, consolidate and reinforce basic number facts.

Prep Assessment is now completed. Next week the children begin coming to school on Wednesdays. Some children find the five day attendance challenging, so we are very fortunate to start with the four days after this long weekend.

GRADE 3 / 4

Students are beginning to work on Making Predictions during Reading sessions. They are able to start their sentences with 'I predict that...' or 'I think _____ will happen next.' Students have learnt that predictions do not just happen at the start of the book, but can occur with each page or chapter and that they are continually changing based on what we have read.

Monitoring is a continuing focus throughout Reading, where students are practising skipping the tricky word and reading to the end of the sentence. They will then have a think about what the word could be and reread to see if it makes sense.

In Writing, we are continuing to work on the punctuation used in our writing. Students have been imitating sentences and placing correct punctuation in sentences when it is missing.

Grade 3 students have been using story maps to change up a story they have previously read. They have been asked to use contractions and proper nouns within their stories.

To link in with our work on contractions all students in Grade 3 and 4 have completed Words Their Way yellow 44 sort. This word sort focuses on not, is, have and will contractions. Students have been busy creating these contractions with word squares and writing them on whiteboards.

In Maths, Grade 3 students are beginning to wrap up their work on Place Value. This week students have been practising round numbers to the nearest 10 and the nearest 100.

In Grade 4, we have begun our unit on Time. We created a calendar for the month of March to keep at home that has all the special events coming up at school included on it. Students have been busy revising days of the week, months of the year and the seasons.

All students are enthusiastic and engaged when it comes to Integrated Studies. Both Grades are focusing on Earth and Space. In Grade 3, students have been busy learning about the Sun and how the Earth orbits around it.

In Grade 4, students are beginning to learn about the Earth's changing surface. We have explored the different surfaces and layers of the Earth. Students were very excited when we learnt about how Mount Everest was formed!

Earlier this week, the Information Night presentation was emailed home to parents. If you have not received a copy of this please contact the office and it can be forwarded to you.

Enjoy the long weekend!

SUPPORTING READING AT HOME

READING A BOOK AT HOME

When listening to your child read at home, here are a few points to consider:

- If possible, let your child choose the place for reading. Successful reading can happen on the floor, out the back, and in the cubby house!
- Encourage your child to hold the book so he or she becomes familiar with handling it (turning the pages, etc)
- The books being read at home can/should be read more than once as the repetition helps support the child's

fluency and comprehension of his/her reading.

- The books can have a different focus for each reading -ie: Rereading for accuracy, fluency, comprehension, understanding of the storyline as well as for appreciation and enjoyment

KEEPING CHILDREN ENGAGED

Because some reading practice is better than no reading practice - you may like to use one of the following strategies:

- Use a timer so that your child understands the reading practice will be for a short time.
- Read the book aloud to your child.
- Read the book aloud to your child but have your child read words that you know he/she can already read.
- Have your child point to the words while you read the words aloud.
- Read the book aloud together.
- Read half the book each.
- Put a sticky note a few pages ahead and tell your child they just need to read to the sticky note.
- Say, "I'll read it to you and then you can read it to me."
- Take it in turns to each read a page.
- When reading a storybook, try changing the names of characters to your family's names!

BOOK ORIENTATION:

- Talking about the book before reading
- Before reading a new book, talk about the title, and 'walk' through the book looking at the pictures and then predict what the story might be about.
- Discuss how to pronounce the names of characters and places in the book.
- If your child has already read the book, you may like to just ask what happened in the story? How did the story end?

THE 3PS: PAUSE, PROMPT, PRAISE

Pause— Always allow time for your child to work out an unfamiliar/tricky word themselves, or at least give it a go (about 10 sec).

Prompt— Give a helpful prompt, for example:

- "What would make sense here?"
- "Can the picture help you?"
- "Does that sound right?"
- Have another go."
- "Can you see how the word starts?"
- "Read to the end of the sentence. Any idea what the word might be?"
- after two prompts JUST TELL THEM THE WORD

Praise— Always focus on what the child does well.

- If your child makes a mistake, corrects it and keeps going...
- If your child comes to a tricky word and pauses...

- Wait, Wait, Wait.... Ask some prompting questions suggested above
- If your child makes a mistake that makes sense...
- Let it go, then come back to it at the end and, repeat what they said and ask them to have another go.
- If your child makes a mistake that does not make sense...
- Say the error back to them, does that make sense?

TALKING ABOUT THE BOOK AFTER READING

- Can you remember the title?
- Were your predictions about the story correct?
- If there was a problem in the story, was it solved?
- What was your favourite part of the story?
- If you could change one thing in the story, what would it be?
- Can you retell the story in order?
- Which character would you like to be? Why?

UNIFORMS

Just a reminder that students may wear any coloured shoes however, we expect them to wear plain white, black or blue socks with no logos. From next week students will be issued with a Uniform Reminder Notice if they are not wearing the correct uniform.

ART

Just a reminder that all students require an art smock for Art sessions. Please write your child's name on the art smock, as they will be stored in their classroom. Thank you to those parents who have already sent one along to school. Your support is greatly appreciated.

GOULBURN MURRAY DIVISION SWIMMING

Sophie Crawford and Teagan Roberts represented Toolamba at the Goulburn Murray division swimming trials on Monday. Sophie competed in the 50m freestyle and Teagan in the 50m backstroke. Both girls swam extremely well and enjoyed the experience competing.



PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Easter Raffle

Easter is just around the corner and P & F will be running our annual Easter Egg Raffle leading up to end of term. Tickets on sale from next week.

We are seeking donations of Easter eggs to assist with prizes. Baskets will be available from this Monday in the office foyer to receive donations. With thanks.

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub catalogues have been sent home with students today. We have some spares in the office.

SMILE PROGRAM

Life is hard for some of us at the moment and the effects of COVID and cost of living has been difficult for a lot of people.

The Toolamba community is a resilient and generous network that is there to help and lift up others when they need it.

Parents and Friends committee members; in conjunction with our local CWA group have volunteered to provide assistance to local community members and their families if the need is there.

The Smile Program system is simple and confidential. If you need a hand or know someone who is struggling contact the school on 5826 5212 or via email Toolamba.ps@education.vic.gov.au and attention to Heather. The school will co-ordinate the assistance within the two groups without divulging who requires the help.

Primarily assistance will be available to help with meals, groceries or healthy school lunch supplies, although help is available through grants and other avenues for the following: funding for school clothing items, and school bag/lunch boxes/drink bottles.

We believe that the town motto 'Little Town, Big Heart' and Toolamba PS motto 'Where everyone Counts!' are both very fitting for this program.

Please reach out.

SPORTING IN SCHOOLS TERM 1 2021

HOCKEY

The first session started on Tuesday (March 2nd) at 3.15pm-4.00pm.

Each session is 45 minutes. All sessions will be held at Toolamba Primary School.

This is a free program as it is funded by Sporting in Schools.

For more information please see Sarah Maskell or phone the school.

Dates: Tuesday 2nd March, Tuesday 9th March, Tuesday 16th March and Tuesday 23rd March.

If your child/children are interested, please complete the Parent/Guardian Consent Form.

TIMELINE FOR SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2021

Thurs 11th Feb	Call for nominations for School Council
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Thurs 4th Mar	Closing Date for Nominations
Thurs 11th Mar	Ballot Papers Distributed (if necessary)
Tue 18th Mar	Close of Ballot for School Council
Mon 22nd Mar	New Council is able to meet.

The first meeting of the new Council will be held on Monday 29th March to elect the office bearers.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF SCHOOL COUNCIL

- Establish the broad direction and vision of the school within the school's community
- Develop and monitor the school strategic plan
- Develop, review and update school policies
- Develop, review and monitor the Student Code of Conduct and the School Dress Code
- Raise funds for school related purposes
- Approve the annual budget and monitor expenditure
- Maintain the school's grounds and facilities
- Enter into contracts (e.g. cleaning, construction work)
- Report annually to the school community and to DET.
- Stimulate interest in the school generally

THE COUNCIL DOES NOT:

- Manage the school
- Employ teaching staff
- Represent sectional interests
- Renew the principal's contract or hire and fire the school principal
- Determine class allocations
- Discuss individual issues between teachers and students and/or parents
- Purchase land, buildings or motor vehicles

- Enter into hire purchase agreements or obtain credit or loan facilities, unless authorized by the Minister

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year.
- Contact the school for further information or nomination forms.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - CSEF

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category

also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

SAVER PLUS – BERRY STREET



Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- lessons & activities
- uniforms & shoes
- books & supplies
- sports fees & gear
- camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or starting next year, attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner)*, have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment*



Contact
your local Saver Plus Coordinator
Phone
1300 610 355
Email
GrSheppartonSP@berrystreet.org.au
Online
saverplus.org.au
Find us on Facebook



*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.
*Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with The Smith Family, Berry Street and other local community agencies.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library has resumed a full schedule, including visits to schools. We have made some adjustments to the schedule, which includes changing our visit to Toolamba to a Monday afternoon 2.00pm – 3.00pm.

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE 2021

Toni-Marie Arnold has taken on the role as, Before & After School Care Coordinator. We are also very fortunate to have Sharon O'Connell working with Toni-Marie as well.

Any bookings for either, Before School Care or After School Care can be made by calling Toni-Marie on

0448 585 568. There will now be only one phone number to call to make a booking.

TOOLAMBA LIONS CLUB

If you are new to town or just interested in becoming more involved in the community, Toolamba Lions Club is again running our monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the Toolamba Junction Hotel at 7pm (COVID permitting). It is a great way to meet new people and serve our great town. If you would like to come and find out what Lions Club in Toolamba is all about, we would love to have you attend one of our meetings and shout you a meal! Call Amanda Sibio (Membership Coordinator) on 0447 405 335 or email amandasibio@gmail.com

TOOLAMBA JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB

Returning and new players that are interested in playing soccer, please contact Jon Calvert on 0429 777 402. We are also seeking expressions of interest for prospective coaches and team managers. Teams open for registration are:

- Kinderoos
- Under 6
- Under 7
- Under 8
- Under 10
- Under 12

TOOLAMBA NETBALL CLUB

The Toolamba netball club is hoping to enter the Tatura Netball Association Friday night netball

competition that commences 23rd April, 2021. We are looking to enter a team in each division.

Division 1 (grades 5 & 6) coach is Carita Anderson 0409 561 407

Division 2 (grades 3 & 4) coach is Bree Giles 0438 889 571.

If your child is interested in playing netball please contact the coaches above.

We will hold a light training on Tuesday 16th March from 4:30 – 5:15pm. An information session will follow in the amphitheatre for parents.

TATURA NETBALL ASSOCIATION

NetSetGo: (Prep to Grade 2) are to complete their registration directly at www.netsetgo.asn.au

The first NetSetGo session will be on Friday 30th April, 2021 from 5pm – 6pm.

LADIES SOCIAL TWILIGHT TENNIS

Join us for a hit and giggle in a relaxed and friendly environment. All abilities welcome.

When : Thursday nights, 6.30pm

Starts : 4th February

Cost : \$60 per person (2020/21)

Please contact Mel Calleja on 0488 004 004 if you have any queries.

TOOLAMBA TENNIS CLUB

The Toolamba Tennis Club is running a bulb fundraiser for upgrades on their facilities. Details of the fundraiser and order form are attached to the email. Please contact Selina Sorraghan on 0428 565 947 or Mel Calleja on 0488 004 004 for further information. Selina will be at the Tennis courts on Tuesday 9th if you would like to drop off forms.

ADVERTISEMENTS



Watches & Diamonds
Manufacturing Jeweller and Watchmaker.
All work done on the premises.
150 Hogan street Tatura, Victoria 3616
(03)5824 1100

GVSPORTSCARE
Physio & Podiatry

E: admin@gvsportscare.com.au
PH: 0417600532
W: 111.gvsportscare.com.au

Physiotherapist, Sophie Woodhouse enjoys treating a mix of sports and spinal injuries.
Tom Davey is a biomechanical and sports focused Podiatrist, who is also skilled in general nail and diabetic care.
Sophie and Tom are excited to move back to Shepparton and work in the Goulburn Valley!

MURCHISON-TOOLAMBA FNC

**UNDER 12
FOOTBALL
2021
GAMES PLAYED AT
9.00AM
4 X 15 MIN
QUARTERS**

LOOKING FOR BOYS
AND GIRLS IN GRADE
4, 5, 6 TO JOIN OUR
UNDER 12S

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL CRAIG THOMPSON
0407465560



CALENDAR 2021

Mon 8th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tues 9th –	Parent Teacher Interviews
Fri 12th March	
Mon 15th –	Life Education Visit
Wed 17th March	
Tues 23rd March	Bravehearts
Fri 26th March	Toolamba Sports Day
Mon 29th March	School Council AGM
Tues 30th March	Tatura Sports
Thur 1st April	Last day Term 1
Fri 2nd April	Good Friday
Mon 19th April	Term 2 starts
Fri 25th June	Last Day Term 2
Mon 12th Jul	Term 3 starts
Fri 17th Sept	Last Day Term 3
Mon 4th Oct	Term 4 starts
Fri 17th Dec	Last Day Term 4