



# School News

*Aim High, Achieve Together*



Respect



Responsibility

**BULLETIN**  
Edition 25 – August 15<sup>th</sup> 2018



Doing Your Best



Care and Compassion

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Morning Bus Duty

8:30-Morning Yard Duty

-4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

So what do you want for your child's *education*?

Stop and ponder that for a moment, it is important.

What generally guides the answer to this question is our values. If you value *examination success*, you will be hoping your child builds knowledge and skills in the core subjects of reading, writing and maths. These areas provide the basic skills that we know are critical to so many subjects later in schooling as well as life skills we can depend on. If you value *social success*, you will be hoping that your child is able to develop an extensive social network, develop social skills such as being able to hold a conversation. An ability to present in front of audiences and develop a whole host of social skills such as empathy, honesty and humour. Others would be hoping for *creative success*. The ability to create ideas and worlds that interest and inspire, to find solutions and possibilities to complex issues.

Some of you may select one of these, but my guess is that most parents wish for a bit of each. But, is this the message we give our children? When reports come home, do we highlight the child's success at collaborating with others or do we focus primarily on the core areas? Schools are guilty of this too. Governments set targets for the core areas, which ultimately flows down to schools and the goals they set each year. This model alienates many students for many reasons; some because they struggle to sit and listen for long periods as life has taught them to be highly distractible; some because they don't have the support networks, such as home reading, that these areas require. If this is the only focus of an education then we will be alienating these children from learning, which is a far scarier proposition. We also know that *examination success* is not enough. "High achievers in these areas often struggle with the inability to grapple calmly and intelligently with genuinely difficult challenges. They love to be successful and go to pieces when they cannot be. Instead, we need to cultivate learners with a confidence and capacity to be a good learner." (Claxton, 2018).

So what sort of education do we want for the students at Tarwin Valley? Next year, our school will create a new strategic plan that will guide the way we educate our students for the next four years. We all need to start thinking about what a *Tarwin Valley education* should look like. In our current strategic plan, teachers have been looking at inquiry methods as a way of fostering *good learners*. I have met with and will continue to discuss with students how they learn best, what they value and what they feel they need. Next year, it will be the parents turn, so please take the time over the next few months to consider what you truly value and help guide our school to meet the needs of our students.

## CALENDAR

**This week 15/8– 22/8**

16<sup>th</sup> Aug – Wast Free event 1pm

22<sup>nd</sup> Aug – School council Finance Training 7-9pm

### Upcoming

26<sup>th</sup> Aug – Parent Opinion Survey closes

5<sup>th</sup> Sep - Hot Lunches

10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Sep – Dental Van

20<sup>th</sup> Sep – School concert

21<sup>st</sup> Sep – Last day term 3

### NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The newsletter is compiled on Monday afternoons. All items need to be submitted by 1:50pm to be included.

**Gene VanderZalm, Acting Principal**



**THANK YOU** to Kelloggs who have kindly donated cartons of cereal for our breakfast program, which will commence soon. Stay tuned for details.

**REMINDER:** Families who received a letter regarding Birth Certificates and Immunisation Certificates – please return to school as soon as possible.

## **SWIMMING**

As in 2017, all students will have the opportunity to participate in the TVPS swimming program. As per requirements of the Victorian Curriculum, all students are expected to learn water safety knowledge, be able to demonstrate rescue and survival skills and swim a continuous distance of 50 meters by the end of their primary school years.

Years 3-6 students will attend 4 swimming lessons over 4 days in the second week of term 4, Tuesday to Friday. Prep to Year 2 students will attend 5 swimming sessions over 5 weeks (Fridays) commencing November 9th.

Whilst the school covers the cost of lessons, parents are required to pay for the bus and pool entry. In order to finalise the costings, could you please indicate your child's participation on the PARENT REPLY form accompanying the newsletter. Please return to school by next Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

NB: Families who have a 'Camps, Sports & Excursion Funding' credit balance will be able to use it to pay for the swimming program.

# **WASTE FREE EVENT**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August, 1pm onwards**

For Science this year there has been a strong focus on caring for our planet.

During one of our discussions, the upper primary students decided one way to change the way we use plastic and waste energy was to have an event to showcase different ways we can reduce waste.

The students have called this our "Waste Free Event" and in small groups they have taken on different projects.

We have everything from waste free cosmetics to dairy free, waste free smoothies and even some exciting Lego displays. Many things will be free this event but some things will be for sale just to cover costs.

### **The beeswax wraps will have 3 prices**

\$1.50 to be made on the day

\$1.50-\$2 for bowl covers (great for when you have to bring a plate)

\$2.50 for pre-made

These are excellent prices as they cost a lot more to purchase in the shops/markets.

There will be hand made lip balms and scrubs for 20-50c.

Soup will be available at no cost for children who bring their own cup.

Feel free to come along to share in some student driven waste free fun!

If you have any questions please talk to any of our 4-6 students or Miss Giliam.

Due to limited space in this week's newsletter, award winners will be posted next week.

## **SWIMMING-EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (see newsletter)**

**Please return by 9am Wednesday August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

(Non returns will be assumed as not participating)

Children	Year Level	Participating (please tick)	
		Yes	No