



School News

Aim High, Achieve Together



Respect



Responsibility

Edition 22 – JULY 31ST 2019



Doing Your Best



Care and Compassion

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Supervision Times:	8:15 Mornings Duty	-4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty	Assembly: Wednesdays 3pm

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It's time for a goodbye from me and back to Mirboo North Primary School on Monday. I can honestly say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at Tarwin Valley Primary School. Whilst it's only been two weeks I have been able to master many of the names of the children and spend time with every grade at different times across the weeks.

I know that the school will be back in good hands this week with many of Mr Vanderzalm's experiences to share from his time abroad. He will be pleased to learn that we have had two new enrolments during his time away. Riley B in Prep G and Harvey K in 3/4 R whom are both settling in extremely well to the school culture and expectations.

I can't help but feel that Tarwin Valley Primary School is a great learning environment for all. Its student population size lends itself to many great experiences and supports a strong sense of community and belonging amongst its students, staff and parent community.

I have witnessed professionalism from all staff and I mean all. Kathy Smith on the crossing, Shane and Malcolm with the daily bus runs, Vicki cleaning our school after hours, let alone all of the ES staff that the school employs. We've had many casual teachers here in my two weeks and the students continued to go about their learning in the same manner as if it was their regular teacher. Hats off to all!

I would like to finish with a big thanks to the classroom teachers and Allyson and Janelle in the office for their support during my short tenure. We ran a very successful practice 'off site evacuation' and supported each other in the office with new enrolments and general business. It's been great to work with you all.

I look forward to hearing all of the great things that Tarwin Valley Primary School are up to in 2019 and beyond.

Acting Principal, Anthony Collins

LOW REZ CHOIR FUNDRAISER

Thank you all so much for the delicious cakes, slices and treats for the 'Low Rez Men's Choir' fundraiser on the weekend. This event was a good show of school spirit from our volunteering parents, the suppliers of treats (you all!) and our student helpers. There is something very special about sharing the hall kitchen with vibrant humans and listening to fabulous music. Not only did we make around \$500 for our new building but a warm memory is stamped into my mind. I look forward to this sort of thing happening again. Thanks, Donna Giliam

On Saturday night we went down to the town hall. I was the one who did the acknowledgement to country in front of the whole crowd. I gave out food in exchange for money to the audience. The conductor was funny because she was doing all sorts of things and laughing.

Emily EB

On Saturday we went to the hall to listen to a group of people sing. Rose, Sienna, Emily, Sarah and I were helping the parents sort out the food. Then Rose and I welcomed people into the hall so they could watch too. We had to open and close the door quickly so the cold air couldn't come in. Lots of people said "thank you" and "are you the door ladies?" they also said that they liked Rose's beanie. We collected dishes from people who had finished their food. At the end when everyone was gone we had a plate of food each. It was FUN! *Josie S*

CALENDAR

This week 31/7 – 7/8

July 31st – Pie Drive orders/money due
Aug 1st - Book Club order close COB
Aug 2nd – Father's Day slip & money due

Upcoming

Aug 8th – Y3-6 Prom trip consent due
Aug 11th – Parent Opinion Survey closes
Aug 14th - Pies Distributed
Aug 15th – Years 3-6 Wilson's Prom trip

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

“Travel isn’t always pretty. It isn’t always comfortable. Sometimes it hurts, it even breaks your heart. But that’s okay. The journey changes you; it should change you. It leaves marks on your memory, on your consciousness, on your heart, and on your body. You take something with you. Hopefully, you leave something good behind.” – Anthony Bourdain

This quote perhaps best sums up the last 4 weeks for my family and myself. Cambodia was an amazing country, vastly different to Australia in almost every way and a place that allowed us as a family to clearly gauge our priorities in life. Of course this spilled over in my own mind to our school and what is truly important for the students at Tarwin Valley. Leng, the founder and director of the ODA schools in Cambodia, certainly had his priorities in order with a very clear philosophy on what was important for children:

1. *Education is the key for children. With an education, anything is possible.* In a place like Cambodia this is quite literal. He is referring to the fact that there are still some children without any formal education. Personally, he has transformed the lives of countless students by providing them with an education that has enabled them to make a life for them and their families. The students there were so ambitious, they just wanted the opportunity to learn and grow....never an easy thing in Cambodia.

Of course, we get this in Australia, our society understands the importance of an education. What I did question however was, what is an education? Is it just what you do at school?

2. *Noisy children are smart children.* As a father of four very lively children this took me some time to comprehend. As we constantly reminded our children to behave, Leng quietly made this point as we travelled across the countryside in his pick-up while our 4 children sat on the back tray singing and tapping along a song about ‘coconuts!’ They were noisy, we were becoming embarrassed, but Leng loved it. After he gently reminded us that ‘Noisy children are smart children, it is no good if a child just sits, they must do’.

I sat and pondered this message for some time. In the end I realised, he was right. It is the reason I became a teacher. Life is short and should be fun. An education can be exciting and noisy and we need to be mindful at all times of what feels right versus how society sometimes just wants us to conform. I’m so thankful for our visit to the ODA schools and would like to take this opportunity to thank Anthony Collins for doing a tremendous job during my short absence. We are so lucky with all that we have here at TVPS and should never lose sight of this gratitude ☺

Principal, Gene VanderZalm



PARENT OPINION SURVEY:

Thank you to the 10 families who have completed the survey. Details were sent home last week to randomly selected families in an envelope attached to your newsletter. If you have not yet completed the survey, you are reminded that access to the survey closes on Sunday August 11th.



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- ☺ **Joseph W** for independently making great choices to avoid distractions and focus on learning.
- ☺ **Chloe G** for her persistence and effort to learn her Gold words.
- ☺ **Christian L** for always listening well to feedback about his learning.
- ☺ **Braydon P** for the thoughtful and honest way he reflects on his needs and goals as a learner.
- ☺ **Xavier S** for the focus and effort he is giving to his work efficiently with arrays.
- ☺ **Sienna B** for the effort she put into creating an entertaining and engaging characterisation.

YARD DRAW AWARD

☺ **Keerah P**

HOUSE POINTS

Weekly winner: Waratah

Overall Winner: Bluegum



CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS

WHAT WE EXPECT AT TARWIN VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

- ❖ Everyone connected to our school can help children be safe.
- ❖ We have zero tolerance of any abuse of children.
- ❖ We have policies and procedures in place to protect the care, safety and welfare of children.
- ❖ There are clear boundaries about how adults in our school community may interact with our students.
- ❖ The new Child Safe Standards go further than child protection arrangements did in the past.
- ❖ The Child Safe Standards apply to school staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors and students' family members.
- ❖ Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility.
- ❖ We want to ensure you know how we are keeping your children safe at school, and how we would like you to support us.
- ❖ Unsupervised contractors will be asked about their child safety arrangements as a condition of working with us if they work with children enrolled in the school (or children can reasonably be expected to be present while they are at the school).

Please see further information on Child Safe Standards on our school website.

Community members are encouraged to raise any concerns about child abuse with the Principal or report directly

FATHER'S DAY BY COB Friday 2nd August

I would like my child/children to participate in the Father's Day crafty present activity and enclose \$5 per child.

Child's name Grade.....

Child's name: Grade.....

Child's name: Grade.....

Total.....

My child/ren will not be making a gift