

TOORA PRIMARY SCHOOL

5 Harriet Street TOORA, 3962
Email: toora.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ph: (03) 5686 2283 / Fax: (03) 5686 2451
Website: www.tooraps.vic.edu.au

Newsletter Issue 02

Thursday 9th February, 2017

2017 CALENDAR

BELL TIMES

9:00am School starts
11:00am - 11:20 Recess
12:20pm—1:00pm Lunch
2:00pm—2:15pm Afternoon Recess
3:20pm Dismissal

FEBRUARY

3rd School Assembly 2:50pm Parents very welcome
07th Playgroup commences at Toora PS 10-12:00pm
08th Swimming Program Year 1 - 6
08th NO Prep Students at school
08th MARC Library Van visit - Mrs Barb Quinn
10th School Assembly 2:50pm Parents very welcome
13th School Nurse visiting to see Prep students
14th Playgroup in Toora School Stadium 10-12:00pm
15th NO Prep Students
15th Swimming Program Year 1 - 6
15th MARC Library visit
17th Whole School AFL Clinic at Foster
17th School Assembly 2:50pm Parents very welcome
21st Playgroup in Toora School Stadium 10-12:00pm
22th NO Prep Students
22th Swimming Program Year 1 - 6
22th MARC Library visit
24th School Assembly 2:50pm Parents very welcome
25th Foster & District Show
26th Swimming Program Year 1 - 6
28th Playgroup in Toora School Stadium 10-12:00pm

MARCH

01st Preps come to school every day from now on
01st Swimming Program Prep - 6
3rd Working Bee & Sausage Sizzle dinner 2:00—6:00pm
08th Swimming Program Prep - 6
12th Toora Annual Pear Party
13th Labour Day Public Holiday
15th Final Swimming session Prep - 6
31st End of Term 1 2:20pm dismissal

APRIL

18th School resumes Term 2
25th ANZAC Day public Holiday
26th Tentative date for Major Fundraiser

Absences - All absences are recorded electronically using our COMPASS program, please phone the office on 56 862 283 or write in your Child's communication book if your child has had an absent day or will be away for any reason.

OUR FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On my first day of school I woke up. I felt a bit happy, a bit tired, and a little bit nervous. We had breakfast and brushed our teeth. My family was happy. I felt excited to start school and to see my friends. When I got to school I put my bag up and went for a play. I could hear fun and excitement. I could hear Preps playing.

When the bell went we went inside to the project space. We had some inside play and then we sat on the mat and started learning. I enjoyed my first day because I had things with me I liked to have. I am looking forward to this year because there are lots of fun and new things!

Prep/One/Two Students



Our Sunsmart Policy states that students are to wear Navy wide brimmed hats during Terms 1 & 4. Hats can be purchased from the School administration office at \$8 each.

We find ALOT of unnamed hats, jumpers, drink bottles, lunchboxes etc without names. Please make sure that your hats are named. Named items are easily returned to your child. Any unnamed items are placed in lost property and donated to the local op shop at the end of each term.

BE ON TIME

The first morning bell goes at 9:00am – children line up and get ready for class. It is extremely important that your child is at school on time. When children come in late they miss the important instructions and tuning in at the start of the day.



PRINCIPALS NEWS

Another week in paradise has elapsed and stuff is happening.

Firstly, I should start by saying that for the majority of time since we started back, that the students have behaved very well and have shown a high level of adaptability to the changes in the timetable. In the last newsletter I mentioned that the senior class would be split for English so that the 3-4s would have Mr Whittle teaching them and I would have the older group. Since then, however, we have decided that a team-teaching approach works better so for most English and Maths classes we'll both be teaching and working with individuals or groups as required.

This term in English we are trialling two online programs called Lexia Core5 and Reading plus. Lexia is a phonics based program that can adapt to student ability levels. It can also flag to teachers where specific concepts need to be taught outside of the program in order for the student to acquire the skills needed to get past difficult tasks. Reading Plus is also an adaptive program that strengthens reading comprehension and develops a wider vocabulary. On top of this, we will also be running an intensive spelling program called The Sound Way (Not Sound Waves). We recently tested all of the senior students to determine their respective "Spelling Age" or rather, where students should be in regard to spelling for their respective ages. This course has 52 lessons, one per day and covers phonics, spelling and handwriting. Hopefully we'll be starting this tomorrow for all the students who are not yet at, or above, their spelling age. Mr Whittle will run that program while the remaining group will follow a regular English program with me. The swimming program started yesterday and by all accounts was a success.

The school has acquired some life-jackets in various sizes to accommodate the open-water type aspects of water safety, which is probably more relevant for coastal dwellers than it was for us mountain folk, but important nonetheless.

Also this week we started with the oral literacy program that involves Fed Uni. Unfortunately I was out of the school when it occurred but all feedback has been positive. Finally, last week we were contacted by the two local newspapers for an article and some photos, so keep your eyes peeled for stuff about Toora Primary and don't forget to paste it in your scrap books. One more thing.... For technology we are making bottle rockets in the senior class, for which each student will need an empty soft drink bottle. Either 1.25 litre or a 2ltr bottle will be fine. They won't need it until Wednesday week, as we're starting with making the rocket parachutes first. The new timetable has me working with the junior class occasionally so eventually we'll be making things in there as well. I will also introduce them to the Lexia program. That was the week that was.

Roll on Autumn.

Mr T.

SWIMMING

It was great to see so many smiling confident faces in the pool yesterday. Swimming and water play over the holidays has improved the skills of our students.

A big thank you to our volunteers Emma, Hope, Nigel and Kerry, who have made the commitment to assist with the groups for Semester 1 Swimming sessions.

REMINDER:

- All visitors to the school MUST sign in at the office before entering the classroom area.
- Bus travellers must have a note handed to either the office or Bus Duty teacher or a note in the communication book if they are not travelling home on the bus.
- Bus Students are Supervised from 8:15am until 3:50pm. All other students are supervised between 8:45am - 3:30pm.

VIEW OUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE

Our newsletter can be viewed online on our website at any time as well as via a link on our FaceBook page.



www.tooraps.vic.edu.au



'LIKE' us on Facebook:
[TooraPrimarySchool](#)