

Principal News

Welcome to the 2024 school year! It is wonderful to back, and I am absolutely thrilled with our start to the year – attendance has been great, students are on task and learning in the classroom and playing beautifully together in the yard.

Preps

This year we welcome 17 Preps to our school, who have settled into our school routine with ease!

Just a reminder that our Prep students attend school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in February, and have a day off on Wednesdays.

On Wednesdays, Miss Lind will be working with each Prep student in a 1:1 setting for one hour to get to know them and understand their starting point for learning about reading, writing and mathematics.

New Students

This term we also welcomed new students across other classes; in the Grade 2/3 room we welcomed Arlo, Nate R. and Violet, in the Grade 3/4 class we welcome Blaze and Xander, and in the 5/6 class we welcomed Tahlia H., who is going by the nickname of TD, due to 2 other Tahlia's already in that class!

New Staff

This week we welcomed Specialist Teaching Staff: Mr Lachlan Bowden (Music), Tess Rooker (P.E), Lauren Gale (Science), and Sophie Callcott (MARC Library) who will all work on a Wednesday for our specialist rotations.

We also welcome Education Support Staff: Carole Bohn, Mikayla Lewis and Maddy Robertson who will be working across the whole school to provide additional support to our classrooms.



Toora Primary School Prep Students with their classroom teacher Miss Lind and Education Support staff member Mikayla Lewis

Attendance

Attendance will continue to be a priority for our school this year as the research shows that anything below 95% (missing more than 1 day a month) starts to impact on a child's learning. We fully understand that at times being away cannot be helped (and encourage you to keep your child at home if they are unwell), but we do request that days off for any other reason than illness are kept to a minimum. We also ask that students are punctual in the morning as even being ten minutes late can result in your child missing the vital instruction time at the beginning of a lesson. **If your child is away from school, please add an attendance note through Compass at your earliest convenience.** Details on how to do this is attached to this Newsletter. Please notify the Admin office if you are having difficulty logging in or navigating around the app, we are happy to assist you.

Parent Teacher 'Get to Know You' Conferences - Wednesday 21st February

Parent Teacher 'Get to Know You' Conferences will be held on Wednesday 21st February between 1:00pm and 4:40pm. Your child's education is a partnership between you, your child and our school, and these conferences are an important part of developing that partnership for 2024. These conferences are a great opportunity for you to have a chat to your child's teacher about how they have started, ask any questions about how the class will be run this year and share any information that may help the teacher work with your child. Please book a conference time through COMPASS.

Swimming

Swimming has started back up for **5/6 students** with swim trials in preparation for District Swimming. Lessons will begin for all students **Prep—Year 6 on Thursday 15h February** and will continue every Thursday through to Thursday 14h March. Swimming Lessons will be provided free of charge to all students however we do require **permission slips to be completed via COMPASS** and let Di in the School Admin office know if you hold a current family swimming membership.

CAMPS, SPORT & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families. Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. An application form is included in this newsletter.

SunSmart Hats

Our SunSmart policy requires everyone to wear a SunSmart hat (wide brim or legionnaires) during Terms 1 and 4. Can you please ensure that your child/ren has a SunSmart hat to wear when outside (this does not need to be a school hat).

School hats are back in stock! \$12.00 each, please inquire at office if you wish to purchase a hat.

Friday Lunch Orders from the Windmill Café

We are very grateful that the Windmill Cafe are offering our students lunch orders again in 2024. Lunch orders need to be **ordered online through Compass by 12 noon the day prior (Thursday).**

All items are \$5

Thursday Pie Warmer Lunch

Students are given the opportunity to have a hot lunch each Thursday.

Students are able to bring a pie/pastie/ sausage roll etc (*basically anything that can be wrapped in foil and reheated in the oven*) wrapped in foil with their name clearly written on the outside, staff place these in the staffroom oven ready for lunchtime.

SOMERS Camp - EOI

Every 2 years Toora PS (Gippsland Region) is offered a limited number of places for its Grade 5/6 students at the Department of Education and Training's Somers School Camp. This year our allotted time is **April 16th to April 25th 2024**. Cost of the 9 day camp is \$260. If you haven't already done so, and would like your child to be considered for this camp, please contact the Admin Office.

School Uniform Orders

Please find a Term 1 Uniform order form attached to this newsletter. Please return order forms by Friday 1st March.

Scholastic Book Club Order forms

Going home with students today. All ordering must be completed through the Parent Loop (*instructions included in this newsletter*)

PRIVACY COLLECTION STATEMENT – Primary Schools

Information for parents and carers

During the ordinary course of your child's attendance at our school, school staff will collect your child's personal and health information when necessary to educate your child, or to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing or health in the school context. Such information will also be collected when required to fulfil a legal obligation, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law. If that information is not collected, the school may be unable to provide optimal education or support to your child, or fulfil those legal obligations.

For example, health information may be collected through the school nurse, primary welfare officer or wellbeing staff member. If your child is referred to a specific health service at school, such as a Student Support Services officer, the required consent will be obtained. Our school also collects information provided by parents and carers through the School Entrance Health Questionnaire (SEHQ) and the Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) Transition Form.

Our school may use online tools, such as apps and other software, to effectively collect and manage information about your child for teaching and learning purposes, parent communication and engagement; student administration; and school management purposes. When our school uses these online tools, we take steps to ensure that your child's information is secure. If you have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact us.

School staff will only share your child's personal or health information with other staff who need to know to enable the school to educate or support your child, or fulfil a legal obligation.

When our students transfer to another Victorian government school, personal and health information about that student will be transferred to that next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of our students and assists that next school to provide optimal education and support to students.

In some limited circumstances, information may be disclosed outside of the school (and outside of the Department of Education and Training). The school will seek your consent for such disclosures unless the disclosure is allowed or mandated by law.

Our school values the privacy of every person. When collecting and managing personal and health information, all school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law. For more information about privacy including about how to access personal and health information held by the school about you or your child, see our school's privacy policy:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx>

Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes principals, teachers, Student Support Service officers, youth workers, social workers, nurses and any other allied health practitioners and all other staff at our school. This includes employees, agents and service providers (contractors) of the Department, whether paid or unpaid.

An important reminder regarding safety in our school

All late arrivals and early pick up of students must be logged through the iPad at the front office.

This is to ensure that, in the case of an emergency, all staff are aware of student numbers onsite.

BUS COMMUNICATIONS

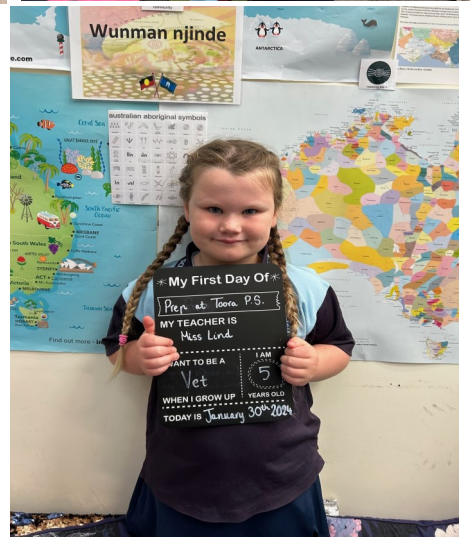
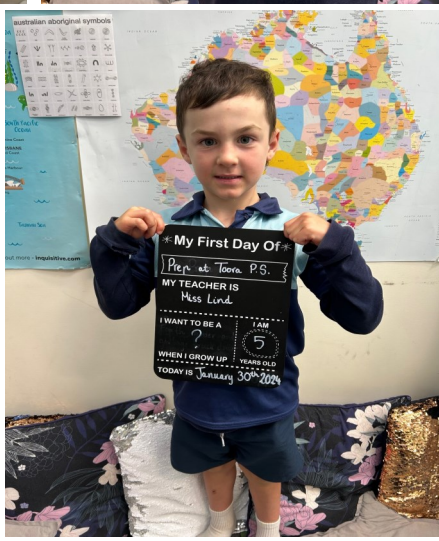
1. It is school practice to follow the last notification by parents / carers regarding bus travel and not rely on verbal messages relayed by students.
If a misunderstanding occurs or there is confusion, we endeavour to contact parents.
2. Parents/Carers of bus travellers who are not going home on the bus on any given afternoon **MUST** notify the office prior to the end of the day. A phone call or note to school is required.
3. If the arrangements are permanent, eg: Cricket training for the whole of Term 4, please request a 'Change of Arrangement' form from the office. At conclusion of your child's participation it is your responsibility to contact the office and the arrangements revert back.

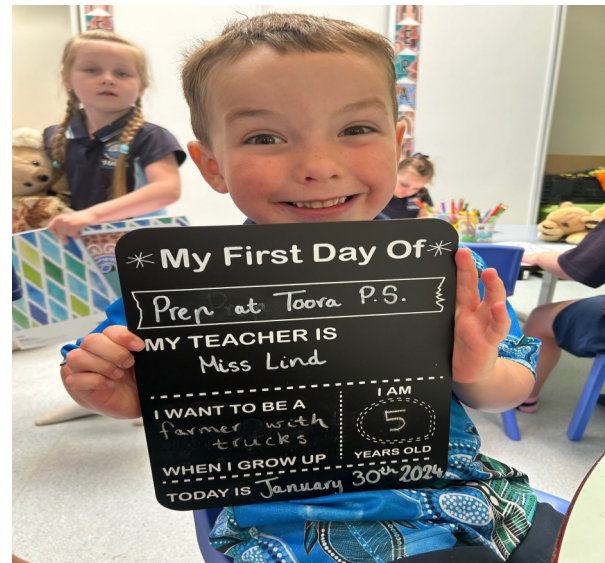
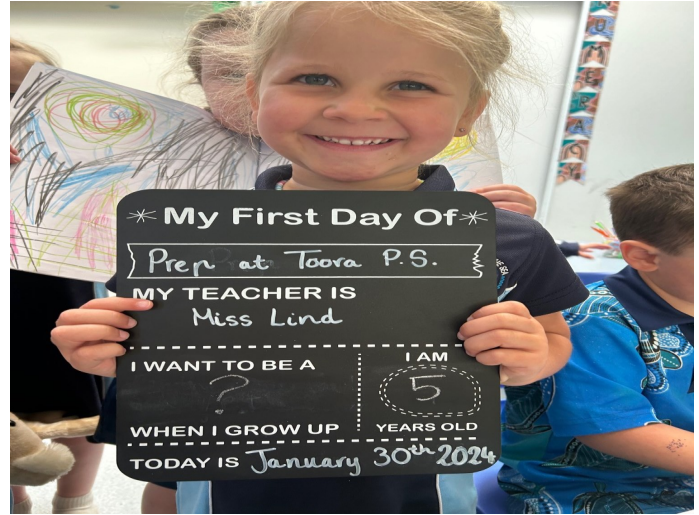
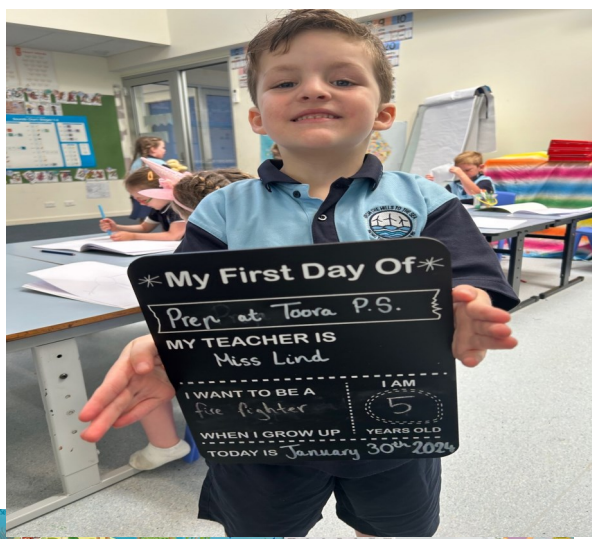


Prep Classroom News

What an amazing start to the year we have had! It has been so wonderful seeing the Preps settling into school so well, growing in confidence every day! They have had so much fun learning, playing and getting to know the other students in the school. Here you can see all of the Prep students on their very first day of school.

- Miss Lind





Prep Classroom News



Year 1 Classroom News - Miss Tuckett

Grade 1 Classroom News

It has been great to have the Grade 1's back at school and eager for another school year. They have begun working on their writing portfolios where each week they complete a new piece of writing and craft activity where they practice their letter formation and fine motor skills. In maths, they have been practicing their number identification and exploring the hands-on materials they have handy for their mathematics learning.

NEXT WEEK'S LEARNING

SoundWaves - Our focus sound of the week will be 'b, bb' as in 'balloon and ribbon'
Reading - we will continue to have a focus on high frequency words and reading strategies
Handwriting - we will be focusing on letter formation of the tall letters 'b, d, f, h, k, l, t'.
Mathematics - we will be revising friends of 10 and exploring place value

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are available, please feel free to join us for morning reading from 9:00-9:15 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Swimming starts next Thursday.

We will have a student teacher, Louise, in our class for the next three weeks.



Year 2/3 Classroom News

WOW 2024 what a start to the year!

The grade 2/3 room has come back with a BANG! We have completed a lot of collaborative tasks to build friendships in both literacy and numeracy while completing these tasks the students are showing the schools high five values very nicely.

Having new whiteboard tables in our classroom has made the students very excited to play a range of different maths games.

Its been so nice to see the students getting along and straight into their learning.

Looking forward to seeing the students continue to thrive this year.

- Miss Crawford



Lunch Box Corner

Rhubarb

I'm sure like me, that many of you have an abundance of rhubarb in the garden currently. Cooked rhubarb with some added sweetness is delicious with yoghurt, muesli or ice cream or simply eaten on its own. Stewing apples with the rhubarb is also a great option and is perfect for a pie filling.

To stew rhubarb:

Discard the leaves as these are poisonous. Wash the stems and cut into 3-4cm chunks. Place in a saucepan. Add a good splash of orange juice. You could also add some finely grated rind if you wish. For sweetness, add a few heaped tablespoons of honey or brown sugar. Mix through the rhubarb.

Heat the rhubarb on the stove top and bring to a gentle simmer. Give it a stir and then turn off the heat. Not only is it delicious, rhubarb is a good source of vitamin C, vitamin K, potassium and manganese. Enjoy!



Year 3/4 Classroom News

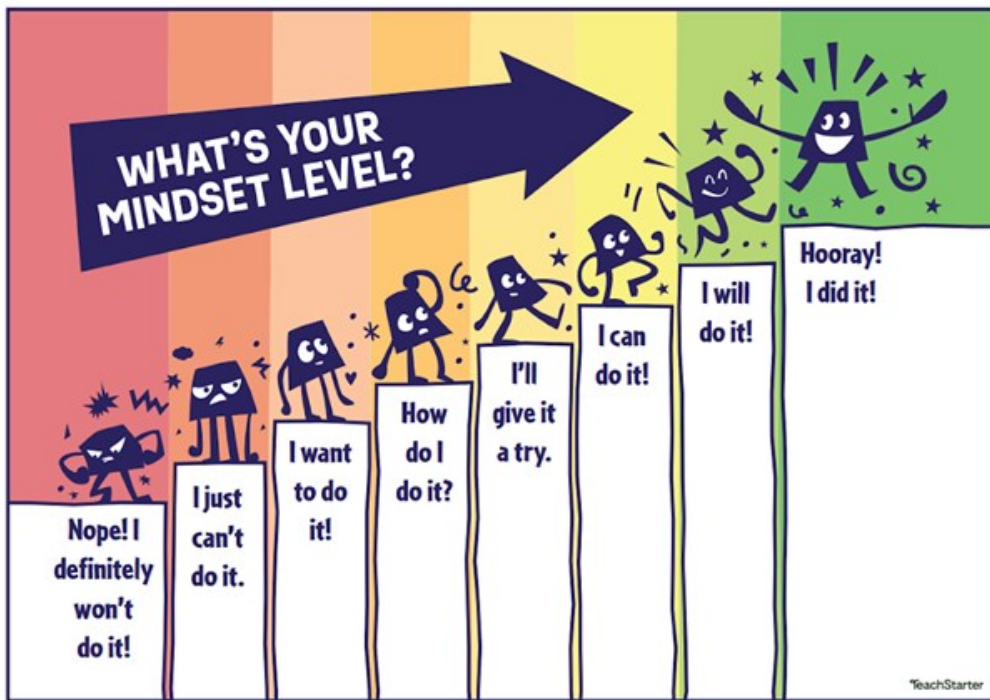
What a wonderful start to the year we have made in the 3/4 class! All class members have started the year with a bang, bringing an enthusiastic and friendly attitude with them to class, always keen to share their interests and learning with each other. During our first two weeks at school we have been settling into routines, focussing on Growth Mindset and working with our different learning buddies and work groups.

In Reading we have been practising our Independent Reading routines and using reading logs at school to record our progress, Buddy Reading a range of fiction and non fiction texts, Reading Groups and spelling tasks. We have also started our novel study on the book *Nim's Island*, which links with this semester's Mappen inquiry unit "Our Island Home".

In Writing we have enjoyed personalising our new Writer's Notebooks and learning how to use them to record our ideas and doing regular 'Quick Writes' using prompts or chosen topics and writing as much as we can in just 3 minutes.

In Maths we have been looking at Number and Place Value and working with our Maths Partners and work groups. Students have especially enjoyed working to improve their personal best scores for skip counting with a time limit and using their knowledge place value to play the game 100 or Bust.

- Miss Ardley



Year 5/6 Classroom News



The senior students have gotten off to a flying start!

Our temporary space in the project area is humming along nicely and looking and feeling like a classroom.

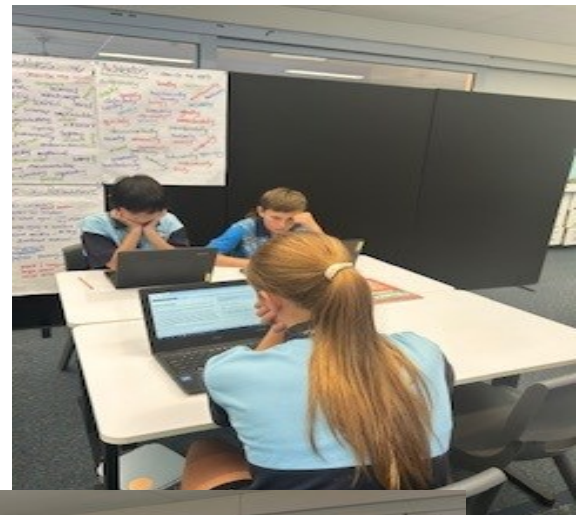
Students have launched into place value in mathematics and with it, a focus on building number fluency. Students have taken home times table charts (those that didn't have them) to practise. I would really appreciate your support in this area as this knowledge underpins so much of what we do in maths.



The writing genres 'persuasive' and 'narrative' have been compared and contrasted and in week one students put created advertisements to convincingly sell a particular product. We have some true sales people in the class!! Additionally, students have focused on quality sentence structure incorporating noun, verb, adjective and adverb components into their sentences.

I wish to extend a warm welcome to all new members and families of the senior class. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss your child's learning and/ or wellbeing.

It's going to be a great year!
- Mrs Fullagar



The Resilience Project

The Resilience Project is committed to teaching positive mental health strategies to prevent mental ill-health and build young people's capacity to deal with adversity.

Teachers and students will engage in weekly lessons and activities around the key principles of *Gratitude*, *Empathy*, *Mindfulness (GEM)*, and *Emotional Literacy* to build resilience.

Check out their website for more information: [The Resilience Project
www.theresilienceproject.com.au](http://www.theresilienceproject.com.au)

And check out TRP@HOME; a place filled with inspiration and activities for the whole family, to help improve your wellbeing and build resilience. [TRP@HOME](#)

Welcome to The Resilience Project

PARENTS & CARERS

This year, we are excited to bring The Resilience Project (TRP) into our school community!

WHY?

Current research tells us...

Why mental health matters



One in four Australian adolescents will experience mental health problems this year

Nearly two thirds of them will not seek help.



One in seven primary school students are also likely to experience mental health problems this year.

Source: National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Australia's Youth: Mental Illness

EVIDENCE-BASED

The Resilience Project's School Partnership Program has been independently evaluated by both The [University of Adelaide](#) and The [University of Melbourne](#). Click the links or scan the QR code to find out more about the impact the program has on **emotional wellbeing** and **behavioral changes**.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Resilience Project is committed to **teaching positive mental health strategies** to prevent mental ill-health and **build young people's capacity to deal with adversity**.

We will be implementing their evidence-based **Teaching and Learning Program** throughout our classrooms, staffroom and school community.

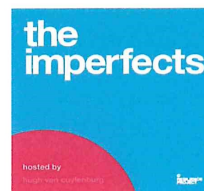
Teachers and students will engage in weekly lessons and activities around the key principles of **Gratitude**, **Empathy**, **Mindfulness (GEM)** and **Emotional Literacy** to build resilience.

WHAT CAN BE DONE AT HOME?



To learn more about The Resilience Project and get involved from home, you can start exploring the ideas, activities and resources which bring **Gratitude**, **Empathy** and **Mindfulness (GEM)** to life on [TRP@HOME](#).

The Imperfects podcast, led by Hugh van Cuylenburg, Ryan Shelton and Josh van Cuylenburg, is all about how perfectly imperfect we all are. Hugh, Josh and Ryan chat to a variety of interesting people who bravely share their struggles and imperfections, and we all learn some valuable take-aways we can apply to our own imperfect lives.



POP ME
ON YOUR
FRIDGE



February 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5	6	7	8 Pie Warmer Lunch	9 Café Lunch Orders Assembly 3:00pm
12 Student Teacher Louise in Yr1 Class- room for 3 weeks 3/6 Students Swimming 10-11am	13 Breakfast Club 8:40- 9:00am	14 No Prep Students MARC Library Parent Club Mtg 2:30pm at the school	15 Pie Warmer Lunch Whole School P-6 Swimming	16 Café Lunch Orders Assembly 3:00pm
19 SCHOOL COUNCIL MTG 5:30PM	20 Breakfast Club 8:40- 9:00am	21 No Prep Students MARC Library Parent Teacher "get to know you" Interviews 1-4:30pm Book through COMPASS	22 Pie Warmer Lunch Whole School P-6 Swimming	23 District Swimming Café Lunch Orders Assembly 3:00pm
26 Questacon Incursion 10-11:00	27 Breakfast Club - Pancakes	28 No Prep Students MARC Library	29 Pie Warmer Lunch Whole School P-6 Swimming	Mar 1 Café Lunch Orders Assembly 3:00pm
Mar 4	Mar 5 Breakfast Club 8:40- 9:00am	Mar 6 Preps come to school every day!	Mar 7 Whole School P-6 Swimming	Mar 8 School Photos  Café Lunch Orders Assembly 3:00pm

FUTURE DATES:

March 11th - LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

March 22nd - PUPIL FREE DAY - Whole School Staff at 7 Steps Literacy/Writing PD in Melbourne

March 28th - Last Term 1

April 15th - Term 2 commences

Our School VALUES are:
Be Safe, Be Fair, Think, Learn & Care

Book Club LOOP

The **EASIEST** way for parents to order and pay for Book Club!



Important Information for Families

From Issue 2 onwards, **ALL** book club orders are to be placed online via the **LOOP** parent payment platform. **We will not be able to accept any cash payments.**

We understand that this may be an initial inconvenience to some families. We hope that by providing this step by step guideline and offering one on one support in the library, families will embrace this change and continue to support Book Club.

How to Order Using LOOP

1/ Log on to the Book Club Loop

via the Scholastic Book Club website :

www.scholastic.com.au



2/ Sign in or register an account



YOUR DETAILS (PARENT)

First Name* Email Address*

Last Name / Initial* Remember: This email address will become your username

Password* Phone Number

Password Confirm* Notify me via email of Scholastic offers and promotions

NB: Password must include at least 1 number Note: If you have already registered please login to update your profile and your children's details

CHILD DETAILS

Child's Name Tip: Enter first 3 letters in 'School Name' input to find schools

Last Name

SELECT SCHOOL AND CLASS

State*

SEARCH BY

Type the Suburb, Postcode or Name of your School. If your School does not appear try removing the Postcode or Suburb as the address may be varied. If it is still not showing then please check the spelling. Only the first three letters are required to initiate a search.

Suburb or PostCode

Year Level

Select your child's class

Can't find your child's class?

AND/OR

School Name

You can register one or more children under the same parent account to make ordering even easier.

CHILD'S DETAILS (Optional, can be completed in your profile after registration)

Stored Child's Details	School	Class		
Mary Bloggs	Albion Park Public School	3/4G - Galea	<input type="button" value="EDIT"/>	<input type="button" value="DELETE"/>

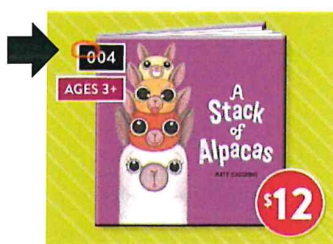
PLEASE NOTE: Your child's details will never be shared with 3rd parties OR used for marketing purposes - this is for distribution purposes only.

3/ Click on the Order tab



You can also download the Scholastic Book Club LOOP app from the App Store or Google Play

4/ Enter the product number from the Book Club Catalogue



The default setting is for 1 item in the quantity column. You can change the quantity by highlighting the number 1 and typing the number you require.

Book#	QTY	Title (click to see detail)	Price	Amount
004	1	A Stack of Alpacas	\$12.00	\$12.00

5/ Check your order summary and proceed to payment page

STEP 1 OF 2: ORDER REVIEW

Description	Total Orders	Value
004 A Stack of Alpacas	1	\$12.00

PROMOTION ★
FREE ITEM - Collect Them!

SCHOOL REWARDS ★
On submission this order earns your School \$2.50 in Scholastic Rewards. Scholastic Rewards are then available for the School to purchase educational resources and books from Scholastic.

PURCHASES
Total Orders \$12.00
You Saved \$5.99

FREE JOURNAL - Welcome to a new school year and thank you for placing your first order for 2019! To celebrate a new school year, your FREE All About Me activity journal valued at \$6.99 can be added to your order by selecting add.

Select bonus book [CLICK HERE](#)

STEP 2 OF 2: PAYMENT

Please note that LOOP orders are linked back to your school, collated and submitted to Scholastic by the Book Club Organiser generally after all student orders have been received in, then delivered to the school address. Your child's teacher will then distribute the books with the rest of the class orders.

IMPORTANT: You do NOT need to send your child's order form or receipt number to the school.

DELIVERY ADDRESS

School: Albion Park Public School
Address Line 1: Cnr Torngana & Hamilton Roads
Suburb: ALBION PARK
State/Postcode: NSW 2527

If your order is not placed by the cut off date, you will have the option to have your order delivered to your home for approx. \$4.99 postage.

YOUR DETAILS
Name: Joe Bloggs
Email:
Phone:

TOTAL DUE: \$12.00
PROCEED WITH PAYMENT USE VOUCHERS

Westpac Visa Mastercard
Payment is required via credit card using the Westpac secure payment service.

Parents who are registered for LOOP receive exclusive sneak peeks, downloads and offers throughout the school year—don't miss out!



All orders are attached to the school account until ready to be submitted to Scholastic by the School Book Club Organiser. You will receive an email alert when your order has been submitted. This is usually the same day as the order cut off date. Orders take approx. 1-2 weeks to be delivered to school and then will be sent home via your child's classroom.



There is a 'gift' option that you can select when placing your order. Gift Orders will come separately to the class orders and will be taken to the office ready for you to collect.

If you do not have access to the internet at home or require any other assistance to lodge your order, please do not hesitate to approach Mrs Bailey in the Library.

Friends of Toora Heritage Pear Orchard Inc. Present...

TOORA PEAR PARTY

Sunday, 25 February, 2024

At the Toora Heritage Pear Orchard

18A Mill St Toora

10am to 3pm

gold coin entry

Pick your own bag of pears \$6, bags provided

Live music

Market stalls including plants, coffee, devonshire teas, local produce, Gurneys Cider, Lions BBQ and more

Children's games and activities

Grafting demonstrations by Neil Barraclough with Avocados and Citrus, please book prior by phoning 0490352600

Art exhibition at Rare Earth Studio Gallery in Stanley St and other local attractions

Check our Facebook page

"Toora Heritage Pear Orchard"

Community Bank
Toora & Foster

 **Bendigo Bank**



Toora Primary School Uniform Order Term 1 2024

Name: _____ Contact No: _____

ITEM	SIZE							Price	Total
	4	6	8	10	12	14	16		
NAIDOC Polo Shirt								\$45.00	\$
Two-tone Polo (dark navy/sky)								\$24.50	\$
5310HD Hoodie (dark navy)								\$26.00	\$
533SH Shorts (dark navy) NO LOGO								\$12.50	\$
5766SP Sport Shorts (dark navy/sky) NO LOGO								\$13.50	\$
3764SB Polo Dress (dark navy/sky)								\$28.50	\$
3762SP Skorts (dark navy/sky) NO LOGO								\$17.50	\$
J086BP School Bag (dark navy)	(one size only):							\$34.50	\$
T4331B Bucket Hat (dark navy/sky)	(one size only):							\$12.00	\$



Payment details: New details

Commonwealth Bank - Toora Primary School Council Account,
 BSB: 063-093, Account: 10002664

Reference: Please use Your Family name ie: SMITH uniform

TOTAL COST:	\$
LESS DEPOSIT (min 10%):	\$
TOTAL OWING:	\$

*Please return by
 Friday 1st March.*