



Principal: Mrs Sally Herbert
 Junior School: Miss Sophie Fothergill
 Senior school and Tutor: Amanda Hull

Welcome back to term 2. Can you believe it is already May and we are fast approaching the shortest day of the year? I hope you all enjoyed a lovely break over the holidays and managed to spend some quality family time together. I was lucky enough to spend 10 days up in Queensland where our youngest son was competing for Country Victoria in the U18 National Basketball Championships. They had an amazing tournament and came away with silver, a huge achievement from a team probably not expected to medal. It wasn't all slam dunks and indoor stadiums though, my husband and I also managed to do some exploring of Brisbane and both the Gold and Sunshine Coasts in the beautiful warm, sunny weather while we had the chance.

From all reports, Sally is enjoying her well earned long service leave in the beautiful Flinders Ranges and we look forward to hearing tales of her travels when she returns to school next week. Sophie and I have been entertained by stories of the children's holiday adventures. It is great to see them back; well rested and ready to learn.

We also send hearty congratulations to Rachel, Paul and the girls on the safe arrival of their new daughter and little sister Clara. We warmly welcome her into our little Toolangi PS community.

It almost felt like a bit of a false start to the term with ANZAC Day falling on our second day back. We were fortunate to have three returned servicemen from the Healesville RSL come to school to perform a small ANZAC service for the children. Although we don't want to dwell on the tragedy of war, it is important that we commemorate and recognise the service men, women and even animals who have served our country; to keep telling their stories and acknowledging the impact they have made on the lives we are all privileged to live today.



**For enquiries regarding Toolangi Primary School
 please contact us on
 PH: 5962 9255 or email
 toolangi.ps@education.vic.gov.au**

Senior School News

The students began the term by completing and sharing a short information text about some of the symbolic traditions of ANZAC Day, including: The Last Post, the Reveille and the minute silence; the medals; The Ode and commemorative poems; ANZAC biscuits; and Simpson and his Donkey, which helped to promote a greater understanding of the ANZAC Day service and traditions.

Our focus in maths over the coming weeks is 2- and 3-dimensional shape and all things 'times tables'. Recalling multiplication facts becomes a really important skill to have as children approach secondary education and our senior students are becoming increasingly aware of this and so we will be looking at all sorts of strategies that can be used to help make remembering these number facts easier. In the inquiry unit, we are looking at history through the lens of change. The children had fun pairing up to explore the school grounds in search of a "glossary of terms" we will be using throughout the unit.

Junior School News

The junior students have become scientists this term to help them discover more about the new school inquiry theme which is Change. Last week we made ANZAC biscuits and watched what change happened to butter when we added bicarb soda. This week we made predictions about what would happen if we mixed flour, salt, oil and water all together. Believe it or not it made a lovely playdough. We then moulded our playdough around a bottle. We added bicarb soda, food dye and dish soap to the bottle. Then very slowly we added vinegar to see the change the vinegar would make.





Kitchen Garden with Julia

This week the junior class collected seeds from our giant pumpkin. This was the winner at our recent harvest festival and will hopefully provide some great contenders for next year's competition.



Our senior class are studying ecosystems, looking particularly at Murrnong/yam daisies, a staple native food eaten in this area until the mid 1840's. Children will be sharing what they learn with other small schools at the Kids Teaching Kids initiative in term three.

MARC News

In MARC lessons junior students have been focusing on the skill of visualising as they read and have begun a study on author Freya Blackwood. Senior students are using what they learned last term about graphic novels to write their own stories. There are some creative storylines and detailed illustrations in development from this group of budding authors!!

PE News

Whilst I have been in the driving seat during Sally's absence, we are very fortunate to have Alex confidently step into the PE teaching role. Over the holidays, we had the court markings repainted and although this was a little problematic due to the weather conditions, the lines are certainly standing out more vibrantly.

We welcomed Anthony to school this week who is conducting Tennis over the next four weeks through Sporting in Schools funding. Anthony is an awesome coach and mentor who has an abundance of experience in coaching children and making tennis fun.

Next week the seniors will head off to Morrison Reserve in Mt Evelyn for the district athletics carnival and the juniors will enjoy the Photo Trail at Maroondah Dam, which also includes a fun tabloid sports activity. The AFL are sending out a representative on Friday afternoon to run a clinic which all the children are really looking forward to.



Dates to remember:

9th May - Athletics, Senior Class

12th May - Photo Trail, Junior Class

Lastly

Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful Mums, Grandmothers and other significant women in our children's lives. We hope you all have a lovely day on Sunday.

