



TOOLANGI PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

“Every Child by Name and Need”

Principal: Mrs Sally Herbert
Junior School: Miss Sophie Fothergil

As we enter week 6 of Term 1 we are acutely aware that time is flying by. It has been wonderful to fully engage with our learning and be at school every day with minimal interruptions. A very different story to what we were experiencing last year.

We hope that everyone remains well and healthy and continues to be at school every day.

ATTENDANCE Matters:

It is essential that our students are here every day and on time to ensure that every learning opportunity is maximised.

Our timetable is structured to maximise Literacy and Maths learning in our morning teaching sessions and if students are late to school it is often difficult for them to catch up. If your child is absent please let us know by phone or email or alternatively you can log their absence using the Compass App.

If your child is ill we understand the need to keep them at home and will endeavour to catch up their learning when they return to school.



Parent Helpers

We are so fortunate in our school to have an amazing parent group that regularly assists with school camps, excursions and extracurricular activities. In a small school with a small number of teachers this assistance is essential. The role of our parent helpers is to provide transport, parental support and encouragement for our children at these events. Parent helpers are not responsible for supervision, student safety or to lead activities. These roles are the responsibility of the teachers attending. Please direct any special requirements relating to your child to the teacher in charge of the excursion.

Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday March 2nd we attended the small schools swimming carnival at Healesville outdoor pool. What a great day we had! Great weather, great events and great fun!

Our children entered many events, including kayaking, rafting, relays and cork scramble. The events were varied and catered for our proficient swimmers through to our beginner swimmers. The water was cold but the children demonstrated persistence and enthusiasm. For our new Prep children this was their very first excursion and they managed beautifully. An exciting ride down the hill and back on the bus and lots of fun activities in the pool.

Thank you to Andrew our PE teacher for his expert organisation as always and also to our parent helpers, Sherrin, Annie and Alex for your incredible support on the day.

Parent Information Session

An invitation is extended to our parent community to attend a Parent Information Session to learn about the teaching of Literacy at TPS. In this session we will be covering the following topics relating to how students learn to read and write.

- CAFE reading (Senior class)
- Phonological Awareness - implementation of Soundwaves
- Strategies to assist parents with reading at home
- Word recognition - M100 word program
- Overview of our assessment processes
- Explanation of student learning goals

A notice to parents will be sent out next week with a reply slip for attendance at this session. The information session is designed as an informal opportunity for a chat about the way Literacy is taught and how you can further support your child with reading and writing at home. We would love you to attend.

The session will be on Monday 28th March from 3.45 - 4.30pm.

Student Support Group Meetings (SSG)

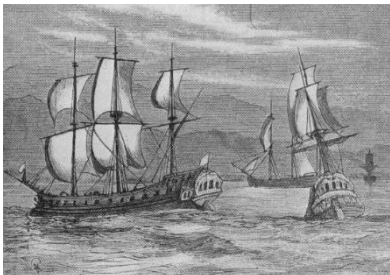
During the year we will be having student support group meetings with all our families each term. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss your child's Individual Education Plan (IEP), track learning goals and discuss any wellbeing matters that are required. Sophie and I will be in contact with you during the next few days to book in a time for this SSG. These meetings will be for approximately 10 - 15 minutes each.

We will be conducting these meetings between 4 - 5 pm on the following days.

- Wednesday 16th March
- Monday 21st March
- Wednesday 23rd March

Senior Class Report

In our Mappen Unit the senior class is busy learning about the lives of the First Australian before European settlers arrived in Australia and the causes for the journey of the First Fleet. We are practising thinking and acting like historians as we investigate artefacts and research into the lives of convicts who were transported to Australia during the 1700s.



Junior Class Report

In the Junior class grade 1 and 2 students have been learning about place value and focusing on understanding all the letter combinations that make the ck sound, such as c, k, ck, qu and x. Preps are learning more letters every week and we are very excited to see the prep students complete their first full week of school next week, when they begin attending Wednesdays commencing March 14th 2022.

OSHC

As the cooler winds of Autumn tickle our noses, the OSHC program is bubbling with creativity. We have been working together building friendships, making new connections, creating spectacular story characters, and imagining tales from far and wide. In our quieter moments, we have been exploring the myriad of possibilities when creating

portraits, landscapes and buildings using loose parts and magnetic boards.

O.S.H.C operates Wednesday and Thursday afternoons between 3:30- 6pm. We also open our doors for Breakfast Club on Tuesday mornings from 8:30am.

For further details regarding our program and fees, please contact Annie Hopper (O.S.H.C Co-Ordinator) on 5962 9255.



Save the Date!

We are having an afternoon tea to farewell Tess!

You are invited to come along and share a cuppa and some stories with Tess on Thursday 24th March from 3.30 - 4.30 pm. This event will be held in the Forest room and our families are all welcome. We hope to see as many of you as possible to share in this afternoon tea!



Upcoming dates to remember:

- Monday 14th March – Labour Day
- Friday 29th April – Curriculum/Pupil free day
- Thursday 5th May – Harvest Festival
- May 9th – 16th - Naplan

Kayaking at Lilydale Lake

On Wednesday the 23rd of February 2022 the grade fours and fives went kayaking. Jude, Ezi, Harvie, Poppy, Saya, and me went. Harvie, Ezi, Jude, and I went in my mum's car and Poppy and Saya went in Amanda's car. We went to Lilydale Lake.

When we started I was scared because I thought there were water snakes but soon I wasn't scared any more. Our teacher was called Abbey and the other was called John. We played a game where we had to jump off our kayak when Abbey says, "Jump!" The first one back on the kayak won. My kayak flipped over about five times. We also threw two sponges at each other and a ball. We also did something where everybody got on one kayak and stayed on it for a while.

After we had donuts and apples and we went back to school.



Rafe

Kayaking at Lilydale

Today, the grade 4s and 5s went kayaking at Lilydale Lake.

I went in Sherrin's car which sounded like a pod racer.

We arrived at 11:30, and it started at 12:00. I was so terrified I nearly tipped. I had to be towed, because I was so scared that I started sobbing. Eventually, I got the hang of it and I didn't have to be towed. I loved jumping out and swimming in the lake. I did injure myself a bit though. There was this really fun game, where you had to throw a sponge at each other. At the end, I had to play a game where I chose a partner (mine was Saya). We swapped our kayaks with each other. We all hopped on one big kayak but it sank. I called it the Titanic 3.

Finally we got dressed and headed to the car park. We celebrated with donuts and apples. On the way to school, I had a second donut. It was **the best school day ever?!!**

Jude

Paddle Power!

On the 23rd of February 2022 I went to Lilydale Lake for a kayaking excursion with the year 4-5s. Me and the boys went in Sherrin's car and the girls went in Amanda's car.

When I got there everybody got changed into their swimming gear. Once the instructors Abbie and John were ready I went and got my kayak. The first activity was to paddle around the instructors with our hands. It was hard for me because everyone kept hitting me with their kayak. In the next activity our group played a game where we had to jump out of the kayak and get back on, then stand up on our kayak and wave our hands to let everybody know that we had finished. I found this difficult because my kayak had no plug in the tip and it filled with water and made it rock. My favourite activity was where we had a sponge and a ball and we were playing tag with them. I was only tagged once by the ball and sponge.

Once the session was over we paddled back to shore and got to play in the shallows for a few minutes. Then everybody packed up and thanked the instructors John and Abbie. Everybody got changed into their school uniform and went back to the cars. Sherrin was waiting for us and I got two donuts and an apple.

Harvie

Paddle power!

On the 23rd of February 2022 I went kayaking at Lilydale Lake. I went with the 4-5's, which were Saya, Ezi, Harvie, Rafe, Jude and me. Me and Saya went in Amanda's car.

When I got there I changed into Saya's bathers because I forgot mine, then we got into our PFDs and got our paddles and kayaks.

The first thing I did was paddle with my hands past Abby and John (the instructors). I was super excited to be kayaking again! Before I started I forgot to give Amanda my ventolin and also to take off my shoes and swap my hat so I went to go and do it. By the time I came back I got stuck with the other school. Finally I got past them and joined the Toolangi group.

Rafe and Jude didn't really know how to kayak so John went back to get them, it took a while and Ezi asked if we could jump into the water and we could! The water was actually quite warm! When Rafe and Jude came back we had to hop back onto our kayaks. It was a little hard. When we got close to the middle of the water we played a game called jump, where Abby said jump and we had to jump off our kayaks and then the first one to hop back onto the kayak wins! I didn't win even once. We also played a game where we all threw a ball and sponge at each other, it was fun! When we were sadly paddling back because it was almost time to leave I pretended that I was a lifeguard and I stood up on my kayak. By that time Rafe and Jude were very confident about kayaking and were okay to jump into the water.

After Amanda and Sherrin forced us to get out of the water I took off my gear and then me and Saya went into the changing rooms. By the time we got out the boys were there eating donuts and apples, we got some too! I loved kayaking so much and I want to do it again!

Poppy McLeish.

