

NEWSLETTER



Tarwin Lower Primary School

20th of March 2026

Issue #4

PRINCIPAL NEWS

School Review

The School Review takes place every four years in Victorian government schools, and is an important opportunity to reflect on our progress, celebrate our achievements and help shape our future direction.

On Monday, the review panel spent time in classrooms seeing learning in action, speaking with students and staff, and gathering insights through a series of focus groups. These conversations help the panel build a rich understanding of our school; what we are doing well and where we can continue to grow.

There were many thoughtful discussions throughout the day, with students and staff sharing their experiences, ideas and perspectives. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the learning, trusting relationships and strong collaborative culture that make our school community so special.

There was also input from parents/carers from across all year levels, as well as conversations with our behind-the-scenes heroes; our Education Support staff. Their perspectives are an essential part of understanding the full picture of school life.

Using this information and school data, the afternoon was an intensive day of collaborative work to develop the priorities for our next 4-Year School Strategic Plan. This plan will guide the direction of the school over the coming years, with a particular focus on extending students in Writing and Numeracy and ensuring learners continue to be reflective, active participants in their learning.

At the heart of this work is our shared commitment to student wellbeing and our school values – *kindness, cooperation, resilience and respect*. Which is reflected in our positive endorsement in the student Attitudes to School Survey, the Staff Survey and the Parent Survey. Which shows that our students enjoy coming to school and feel valued, all our results are above similar schools.

A sincere thank you to our review panel and colleagues supporting this process – I am grateful for the time, expertise and thoughtful engagement each of them brings to this important work.

I look forward to sharing more with our community as the process continues.

Jen Cox

TOP NEWS

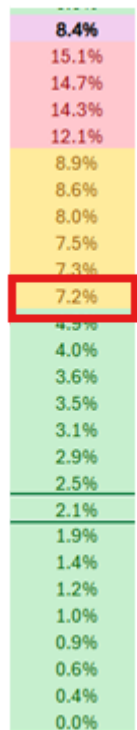
* Waratah Athletics for Years 3-6 at Foster Secondary College. Please give consent in Compass

* Mitch Tambo Incursion at the end of the term. Please give consent on Compass and pay (CSEF is available for some families)

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 20th March	Waratah Athletics- Years 3-6
Friday 20th March	Harmony Day - P/1/2 students come to school in a splash of orange
Friday 20th March	Maths Student Compass Comment
Tuesday 24th March	Possible Industrial Action - see newsletter comment
Friday 27th March	Glasses for Kids Years P-2
Tuesday 31st March	Mitch Tambo Incursion \$15ps
Wednesday 1st April	District Athletics Years 3-6 for selected students
Thursday 2nd April	Last day of Term 1- 2.20pm finish
Monday 20th April	First day of Term 2
Monday 20th April	Prep Enrolments 2027 open online
Thursday 23rd April	First Parents' Club Meeting @2.45pm
Saturday 25th April	ANZAC Day

Absences



Absences are a network priority. School absences are monitored by the department, and parent choice absences are also being monitored.

It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure that your child is attending school every day, unless there is a valid reason that has been discussed with the principal.

Our unexplained absences are highlighted with the red square. The schools above ours are all large primary schools or secondary schools.

Please check Compass for unexplained absences and give a reason. Letters will again be sent home in a fortnight.

- Vice President - Chrissy Knox

Waratah Athletics

Tomorrow our Year 3-6 students will be participating in the Waratah Athletics Carnival at Foster Secondary College. This is always a fantastic day of competition, teamwork and school spirit.

Please remember to bring a drink bottle, lunch and snacks, a wide brimmed hat, and wear their school shirt and school shorts. Appropriate footwear for running and jumping is also required. Attached to this newsletter is the Athletics Program

Those students who are taking the small school bus to Athletics, the bus will be leaving at 8.50am. After John has dropped off school students.

There are ribbons for 1st, 2nd, 3rd in each event. In some events there will be several heats, all the times are collated and the fastest times are awarded the ribbons. We wish all of our students the very best as they prepare for this exciting event!

School Council

Congratulations to the following people undertaking the below roles for School Council

- President - Sabrina Hohmann

Harmony Day

On Friday 20th March, the Prep, 1, 2 students will be involved with Harmony Day activities. Harmony Day is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. We ask students come to school in a splash of orange – such as a wrist band, headband,



Strike Action

The Australian Education Union (AEU) has indicated that it intends a full-day stop work on Tuesday 24 March 2026. At this stage we do not know the exact impact on our school's operations.

Our school is currently working through our operating arrangements for that day and will receive the information about staff that will be away by 5:00pm on Friday 20 March. We will ensure we communicate to you any change of operating arrangements by 2:00pm on Monday 23 March 2026.

Thank you for your understanding.

Parents Club

Thank you to the 6 parents that signed the request to establish a parents club, and other parents that expressed an interest.

Our first meeting will be on **Thursday 23rd April @2.45pm**. This meeting will outline school operational expectations, roles and responsibilities and discuss how best the school and parents' club can work together.

The parents club must elect at least three office bearers (President, Treasurer, Secretary) to form and operate the parents' club. A Constitution must be prepared (there is a template) and this is then sent to the minister for approval.

Last day of Term 1

Please remember that the last day of Term 1 is **Thursday 2 April**, as the following day is Good Friday. Students finish at 2.20 on this day. Students who catch the bus will be dropped off earlier at their stop.

Colour Run

The Colour Run was a huge success! We raised \$1817 for the school, and all the children (and parents!) had great fun! A big thank you to: John Harris for the water for the slip and slide, Crackers and TFNC for the ice, Clayton for the hay bales, Riff and Calvin for running the BBQ and Chrissy and Vanessa for all the work they put in, getting the day organised and setting up a terrific obstacle course! Thank you to all the families that came along and helped out on the day. Finally, a big well done to Phoenix as our student who raised the most money!



MIDDLE TARWIN HALL

TRIVIA NIGHT

- Saturday 4th April
- 7.00pm at the hall
- \$10.00 per head
- Tables of 8, enter your own table or join one on the night
- BYO Drinks, nibbles, supper
- Call or Text Kylie to book your table 0488 634 232

WARATAH SPORTS ASSOCIATION ATHLETICS PROGRAM 2026

Dear Families,

The Year 3-6 students have been busy preparing for the upcoming Waratah Sports held at the Foster Secondary College oval on March 20th. This is the first stage of athletics qualification and students will be competing against students from Fish Creek, Tarwin Lower and Meeniyan Primary Schools.

8:15 Staff and helper's setup

(Please let your Principal know if you are free to help set up to allow coordination)

9:15 assemble students

9:25 first events start

Distance: 800 or 1500m (children elect to participate)

	9:25	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	12:45	1:15	1:45	2:15
	800m	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	1500m
12 yrs Boys		Discus	200m run	High Jump	100m sprint/Hurdles*	Long Jump	L	Triple Jump	Break	Shot Put	
12 yrs Girls		Long Jump	Triple Jump	Break	Shot Put	Discus	U	200m run	High Jump	100m sprint/Hurdles*	
11 yrs Boys		Break	Shot Put	Discus	200m	High Jump	N	100m sprint/Hurdles*	Long Jump	Triple Jump	
11 yrs Girls		Triple Jump	Break	Shot Put	Discus	200m	C	High Jump	80m sprint/Hurdles*	Long Jump	
10 yrs Boys		High Jump	80m sprint/Hurdles*	Long Jump	Triple Jump	Break	H	Shot Put	Discus	200m	
10 yrs Girls		80m sprint/Hurdles*	Long Jump	Triple Jump	Break	Shot Put		Discus	200m run	High Jump	
9 yrs Boys		Shot Put	Discus	200m	High Jump	80m sprint/Hurdles*		Long Jump	Triple Jump	Break	
9 yrs Girls		200m run	High Jump	80m sprint/Hurdles*	Long Jump	Triple Jump		Break	Shot Put	Discus	

2:30 Presentation

2:35 Day concludes