

# Tarwin Lower Primary Newsletter

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Tarwin Lower Primary School

Small School, Big Opportunities

13th August 2025

Newsletter No. 11

**Please Note – supervision is from 8.45-9.00am before school and 3.20-3.30pm after school.**

Dear Families,

On Monday 11 August we had politician Mary Aldred visit the school and present the school captains with a new Australian flag. The captains then did an amazing job of showing her around our school and highlighting all our wonderful programs and grounds.



The bookings for our **student led conferences** are now open for families to book in. Student-led conferences are important because they empower students to take ownership of their learning, foster stronger communication between students, parents, and teachers, and provide valuable insights into a student's individual learning journey. They encourage students to reflect on their progress, articulate their strengths and areas for improvement, and develop crucial communication and self-advocacy skills.

The students have been busily preparing their best work to showcase to families, and are very excited.

If you are unable to make to the conferences, please make contact with your child's classroom teacher to schedule another day and time.

School **sleepover** is now live on Compass. It is for students in Years 2-6 on Thursday 18 September. Students come to school as usual on this day and return home as usual.

They then return to school at 6.30pm, after they have had dinner. They will have a fun filled evening of activities and watching a movie. On Friday 19 September (the last day of school), they must be picked up by 8am to go home. There will be only the P/1 class operating on Friday.

The 3/4 and 5/6 **camp** is also now on Compass, to give families plenty of time to pay. If you would like to set up a payment plan, please contact the office. If you are having difficulty paying, please contact myself. We want all students to attend, and will offer support for this to happen.

Please ensure all medical information is up to date, including asthma and medication. If your child takes medication at home and will need to continue to do this at camp, please contact the office as a form signed by a doctor is required. All asthma plans need to be renewed before camp.


Don't forget **Book Week Dress Up** is next Friday, the 22nd August. Looking forward to seeing all the amazing costumes!

Warm Regards,

*Jennifer Cox*

Principal



 Follow our Facebook page for photos and the most up to date information of the learning happening at school.

Kindness

Cooperation

Resilience

Respect



# BOOK WEEK DRESS UP

*Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August*

## Respect

**2025– DATES TO REMEMBER**

<b>TERM 3</b>	
Tue 5th - Thu 14th August	Mini Book Fair
Friday 15 August	Reading Compass Comment
Sat 16th - Sat 23rd August	Book Week
Monday 18th August	Student Lead Conferences 2.00-4.40pm
Friday 22nd August	BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY
Friday 29 August	Writing Compass Comment
Tuesday 9th Sept	School Council
Thursday 11 Sept	District Athletics
Friday 12 Sept	Maths Compass Comment
Thursday 18 Sept	Yr 2-6 Sleepover
Friday 19 Sept	Last day of school— Yr P-1 students finish 2.20pm
<b>TERM 4</b>	
Mon 6 Sept	First day of Term 4
Friday 10 Sept	Topic Compass Comment
Friday 24 Sept	Writing Compass Comment
Monday 27—Friday 31 Sept	Melbourne Camp Year 5/6
Wed 29—Friday 31 Sept	Forest Lodge Camp Year 3/4
Sat 1 Nov	School's 100 Year Celebration
Mon 3 Nov	No Students—Curriculum Day
Tues 4 Nov	Melb Cup Public Holiday
Frid 7 Nov	Maths Compass Comment
Fri 14 Nov	Reading Compass Comment
Wed 17 - Thur 18 Nov	Life Ed Visit—Grade 5/6
Wed 10 Dec	Reports Home
Thurs 11 Dec	School Concert
Fri 12 Dec	School Excursion
Wed 17 Dec	Curriculum Day—teachers complete first aid and CPR training—no students
Thurs 18 Dec	Teachers Professional Practice Day—no students
Friday 19 Dec	Last Day of Term 4—finish 1.20pm





## Book Week Dress Up Day

Friday 22nd August is Book Week dress up day. Students are invited to come dressed as a favourite book character.

## Book Fair

Tomorrow is the last day of book fair. If you wish to still purchase books or merchandise, please do so by lunch time. Book fair will be packed up after lunch. We are considering running another book fair towards the end of the year. Might be a great opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts.

We ran a competition for book fair vouchers. The students were asked to pick which book each staff member chose from the fair.

Lilly was the overall winner, correctly picking 4 staff choices out of 8. She won a \$15.00 voucher

We then had 9 students who correctly picked 2 staff choices out of 8:

Lincoln, Adalyn, Ollie, Aria, Sam, Maddie, Ellis, Lara, Zander. They all won \$5.00 vouchers.



## Kitchen Garden

Last week we had a visit from 2 Bunnings staff members who brought in seedlings and helped our students plant out our kitchen garden beds. We look forward to an abundant harvest in the not too distant future.



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Department  
of Education

## 2025 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey:

### WE WANT OUR PARENTS / CAREGIVERS / GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open online from **Monday 18 August to Friday 19 September 2025**.

All families are invited to participate in the survey.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources are also available in additional languages to assist parents / caregivers / guardians who speak a language other than English at home. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school directly for survey guides in your language. The survey results will be communicated to parents / caregivers / guardians through the newsletter.

An email will be sent out with the link and password, when the survey opens.

Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like more information.

### Account Name:

**Tarwin Lower Primary School Council  
Operating Account**

**BSB: 063000**

**ACC: 14191631**





13th August 2025

## Fathers Day Gifts

School Council have decided to run a Father's Day Stall this year.

The format will be a bit different from what we are accustomed to.

Parents are invited to inform the school regarding the number of \$5.00 gifts they wish to purchase.

This means that you can purchase gifts for grandparents as well as fathers, or any other significant male person your child wishes to give a gift to.

All the gifts will be \$5.00.

**Please advise the office or Vanessa Fisher by this Friday if you would like to purchase gifts.**

Money can be paid when gifts arrive at school.



TARWIN LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

## CENTENARY PATHWAY

LEAVE YOUR MARK AT TLPS

*Families, friends and alumni are invited to be part of our paver project to mark 100 years of Tarwin Lower Primary School*

**Purchase a personalised paver at \$40 each via QR Code to be included.**

**Orders close: November 7<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Paver size 230 x 115 x 50mm

Max 16 characters per line

3 lines per paver.

Contact Tarwin Primary 56 635 263 or  
Vanessa 0434 552 776 for cash sales.



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## Schools in Category 3 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and the Category 4 List

### School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, we undertake a range of activities to ensure the safety of our school and to prepare for bushfires and grassfires.

An important part of this process is communicating to parents what will happen when certain fire danger ratings are issued to help ensure the safety of students and staff.

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a **Category 3** school.

Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in **South Gippsland** fire district.

Closure of the school due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating will be enacted when the Bureau of Meteorology forecast and related public safety messaging are confirmed. Due to uncertainties in the forecast, the timing of this confirmation may vary. Information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by text message and via Compass.

It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan

### What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website, by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements if our school is closed due to Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.

• If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days in their district. The safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day. On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- [VicEmergency](#) app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- [VicEmergency Hotline](#) (1800 226 226)
- [Website](#) <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- [Facebook](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- [Twitter](#) (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is the department's policy?

The Department of Education annually assesses the fire risk of all schools and early childhood services with the support of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 6). Schools and services that are Categories 0-3 are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR). Schools at some risk of bushfire and grassfire are published on the [Category 4 List](#).

The department's Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 List to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

The policy also requires that schools at the highest risk of bushfire (those in Categories 0, 1 and 2 of the Bushfire At-Risk Register) enact pre-emptive action plans based on the fire danger forecast for their Local Government Area (LGA).

#### Who issues fire danger forecasts?

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides public fire danger rating forecasts each day of the fire danger period using fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries.

The department uses these forecasts when supporting schools to enact their pre-emptive bushfire actions plans.



# Smile Squad program



All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

## About Smile Squad

Smile Squad is a Victorian Government program that provides free dental care to all Victorian government primary, secondary and specialist school students.

We will let you know when Smile Squad will be coming to Tarwin Lower Primary School to provide dental examinations. Although Smile Squad is not visiting your school just yet, you can access free dental for students by calling your local community dental clinic Bass Coast Health Dental Clinic on 03 5671 32 68 and asking for a Smile Squad appointment.

Visit the Smile Squad website at: [www.smilesquad.vic.gov.au](http://www.smilesquad.vic.gov.au) to learn more.

## Lunch orders Menu

**Lunch orders must be handed in on Wednesday mornings**

<b>\$5.00 lunch deal</b>	<b>\$7.00 lunch deal</b>
Chicken and lettuce sandwich	Pizza
Cheese sandwich	Pie
Ham and cheese sandwich	Sausage Roll
Boston Scroll	Ham and Salad Roll
	3 x Steamed Dim Sims
All \$5.00 orders come with a juice box	All \$7.00 orders come with a juice box <b>OR</b> Big M Chocolate or Strawberry





**Services  
Australia**



# Australian Government mobile service centres

## Serving regional Australia

Visit the mobile service centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

We can also help veterans and their families connect to the Department of Veterans' Affairs phone line and online services.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

### Friday, 22 August 2025

9 am to 4 pm

Near the shopping hub, Jupiter Boulevard

VENUS BAY

### Monday, 25 August 2025

9 am to 4 pm

Opposite the service station, River Drive

TARWIN LOWER



For more information, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice)