

# Tarwin Lower Primary Newsletter

School Road, Tarwin Lower

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Tarwin Lower Primary School

Small School, Big Opportunities

8th February 2024

Newsletter No. 1

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

It's been a great start to the term with plenty of exciting things going on so far.

A big thank you to Vanessa our School Council President and anyone else that has been part of the fundraising and organising for the new playground. The students are really loving it and if you get the Sentinel this week you should find a small article and photo.

Mrs Wright, Sue and I had the privilege of taking the grade 1-6 students to Splash for swimming lessons this week. The instructors all commented on how well everyone behaved and were really impressed with the overall progress they made in one lesson with 3 students learning to float on their back unaided. A big thanks also goes out to John for driving the bus and helping when he can.

In the next 8 weeks we will have some tradespeople onsite undertaking work under the banner of Shelter in Place Compliance Works. What this means is they are essentially improving the facilities so if there was a fire to

go through the area, our buildings, and the main place to shelter is as safe as we can possibly make it. Unfortunately, this may mean the removal of a few trees that are within 10m of the main office as this is the main shelter building. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

On a personal note, I am always looking for new podcasts to listen to on the way to work and came across Hamish Blake's called How Other Dads Dad. I found it both entertaining and insightful and so if you are looking for something new to listen to, I highly recommend it as I have found it helpful when interacting with my two little ones.


<https://open.spotify.com/episode/5jRX7AJvoecrpdKLuHI5ZJ?si=ZJK-pFaaSguyt9molq8-Vg>

Thanks once again to everyone who has made me feel so welcome here as I am really enjoying the opportunity to work in this great little community.



Warm Regards,  
Ashton Webster  
Acting Principal



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

Kindness

Cooperation

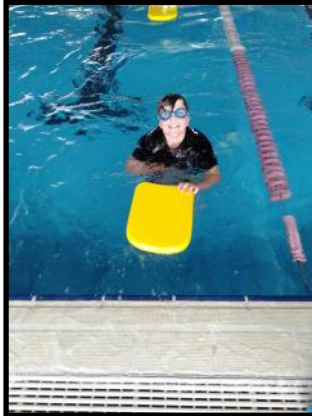
Resilience

Respect



## Swimming

Our swimming program has got off to a roaring start . As it was a warm day, swimming was the perfect way to cool off. See below for some photos of our students.



## Book Club

Book club brochures were distributed to students last week. Book club orders must be handed in or ordered on LOOP by this Friday.

## Uniforms

A uniform order is included in this newsletter. If you wish to place an order for uniform, please send your form to Lindy in the office or alternately pick up an order form at the desk. Orders close on Friday 16th February. Payment does not have to be made until the uniforms arrive.

\*\*Reminder that hats are compulsory for Term 1.

## Grade 6 Polo Shirts

Students in Grade 6 can order a special Grade 6 polo shirt. These are on the uniform order sheet at \$45.00 each.

## Prep Rest Days

Just a reminder that our prep students are not required at school on Wednesdays until after the Labour Day holiday. The first time preps attend on a Wednesday is Wednesday 13th March.

## School Photos

The school photos will be taken on Thursday 22nd February. The photographer uses a web based ordering system. This means that you don't have to pre-order the photos and you can view them online and then choose your package. All students will be photographed and families will be sent an email by the photographer. You will have a certain period to order your photos and he will deliver them to school. If you forget to order or want to make a further order at a later date, you can arrange to have the photos delivered to your address.

## Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF)

Please see the attached flyer regarding information on CSEF. If you need to fill in an application form, please see Lindy in the office.

If you have applied for CSEF at our school for currently enrolled students in previous years, you do not need to re-apply. Your application will be rolled over to this year.



### A word from our Chaplain

Welcome to the 2024 school year. I hope you managed to get some downtime over the holidays and that your children are ready and raring to go. I got to do some 'inside camping' at a hut near Agnes Falls, and it was good to do something out of the ordinary to relax a little and refill the tanks. (I am not a lover of 'outside camping' so I admit that your School Chaplain is a wimp when it comes to creepy crawlies)

I'm excited about getting to know our new students this year and welcoming back our old ones. Please note that if you have not yet signed the Well-being consent form, your child is presently unable to join the lunch time craft club or see me for pastoral support during school hours. This is a requirement of the Education Department. Ask me or Lindy for an application form and we would be happy to provide you with one. This only applies for new students.

I'm wondering whether you could help me by supplying some basic items for the craft club this year. I need egg cartons, medium sized jars and cardboard tubing, from wrapping paper, aluminium foil, baking paper and glad wrap. Unfortunately we cannot receive empty toilet rolls due to health and safety regulations.

It is my privilege and joy to be part of this school community and I want to support you and family in whatever way is needed, ie. By offering a listening ear, providing food parcels during the leaner times, referring onto other support services and of course, meeting with our students and walking with them through the challenges they may face, both within and outside of school. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can help you with any of the above. I will be working every Thursday and every second Wednesday this year.

Looking forward to greeting you at the school gate. 2024 will no doubt be another busy year for us all but fortunately we don't have to live it all at once, but rather focus on living one day at a time.

Sue

### Parent Payments

Thank you to the parents who have already paid Curriculum Contributions for this school year. The 2024 Parent Payment Policy has been published on

Compass and can also be found on our school website: [www.tarwinlowerps.vic.edu.au](http://www.tarwinlowerps.vic.edu.au).

Please note that payments can be made via the following ways:

- On Compass
- Cash
- Direct debit into the school account (see details on following page)
- Credit Card payment at the office via Compass

### Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

These conferences will occur on Monday 19th February. Bookings will be available next week on Compass. If you have difficulty booking on Compass, please call the office.



A big congratulations to our Reading Trophy winners for 2023. Unfortunately a breakdown of the engraving machine meant that the trophies could not be handed out at the concert last year. These 2 students read at home for at least 300 nights over 2023. What an achievement!

**2024- DATES TO REMEMBER**

Wednesday 7th February	Swimming No 1
Wednesday 7th February	Prep rest day
Wednesday 14th February	Swimming No 2
Wednesday 14th February	Prep rest day
Monday 19th February	Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
Tuesday 20th February	School Council
Wednesday 21st February	Swimming No 3
Wednesday 21st February	Prep rest day
Thursday 22nd February	School Photos
Wednesday 28th February	Swimming No 4
Wednesday 28th February	Prep rest day
Monday 4th -Friday 8th March	Dental Van
Wednesday 6th March	Swimming No 5
Wednesday 6th March	Prep rest day
Monday 11th March	Labour Day Holiday
Wednesday 13th March	First Wednesday attendance for Prep students
Wednesday 13th - Wednesday 27th March	Naplan Testing
Tuesday 19th March	School Council
Thursday 28th March	Foodbank Food Fight !!
Thursday 28th March	Last Day of Term 1
Monday 15th March	First Day of Term 2

## Happy Birthday

We hope you had a great time on your special day.

- **Aaryan**
- **Aeysha**
- **Lindy**
- **Sienna**
- **Ms Carbone**
- **Mrs Wright**

**Account Name:**

**Tarwin Lower Primary School Council  
Operating Account**

**BSB: 063000**

**ACC: 14191631**

A very warm welcome to our new Junior Grade teacher Kim Wright. Kim has a lot of experience and has already become part of our team. Under her guidance, the new preps and our Grade 1's have had a wonderful start to the year.





# THE EDUCATION STATE

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$150 for primary school students
- \$250 for secondary school students

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.





## Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice.

Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy](#), describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn. We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use Google Workspace for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school. For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents. This information is also available in ten community languages:

- \* Amharic
- \* Arabic
- \* Dari
- \* Gujarati
- \* Mandarin
- \* Somali
- \* Sudanese
- \* Turkish
- \* Urdu
- \* Vietnamese

## Wonthaggi District Girl Guides



*Girls aged 6 years and over are invited to include their name on a waiting list for Wonthaggi District Girl Guides.*

*Send your name and contact details to the list through Email :*

*[cheryl.bertrand@guidesvic.org.au](mailto:cheryl.bertrand@guidesvic.org.au)*

*Wonthaggi Girl Guides meet during school terms at -*

*the Wonthaggi Scout hall, cnr. Wentworth road and Parkes street Tuesdays from 4.30pm to 6pm.*

*Cheryl Bertrand -District leader, Wonthaggi Girl Guides*

*Leongatha Girl Guides meet during school terms at :-*

*Leongatha Girl Guide Hall, 10 A'beckett street, Leongatha*

*For girls in grades 4 to 6 : Wednesdays : 5.30-7.00 pm*

*For girls in secondary school: Wednesday: 6pm to 7.30pm*

*Contact Chris Oliver at email :*

*[chris.oliver@guidesvic.org.au](mailto:chris.oliver@guidesvic.org.au)*

*Wonthaggi Girl Guides meet during school terms at -*

*the Wonthaggi Scout hall, cnr. Wentworth road and Parkes street for*

*girls from 6 years old : Tuesdays from 4.30pm to 6pm.*

*Email : [cheryl.bertrand@guidesvic.org.au](mailto:cheryl.bertrand@guidesvic.org.au)*



# Newsletter article: Schools on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and Schools at Risk of Grassfire (Category 4)

## School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at risk of grassfire (Category 4) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire or grassfire risk.**



Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and Compass. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- All bus routes that travel through the Code Red area will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan. We have had trees removed around the office, which is our Shelter in Place, and all gutters have been cleared over the holidays.

### What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking Compass and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children’s services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- ~~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



# Know Your Daily Fire Danger Rating



## Stay aware of the fire danger rating and know what to do.

Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire could be if one started. The higher the rating the more dangerous the conditions. Fire Danger Ratings feature in weather forecasts during the fire season.

Everyday you should:

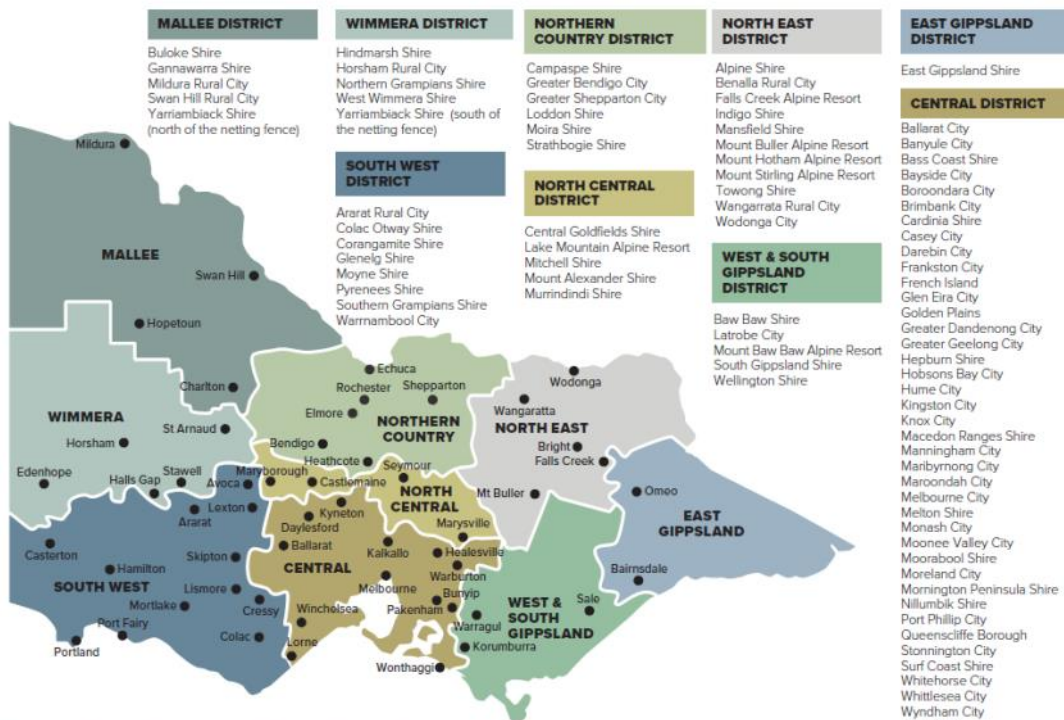
- » Monitor conditions and official sources for warnings.
- » If a fire starts near you, take action immediately to protect your life.
- » Do not wait for a warning.
- » Adhere to local regulations governing fire activity.
- » Ensure any industrial and agricultural activities adhere to relevant guidelines.

To check your district's daily Fire Danger Rating, visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au), download the VicEmergency App or call **1800 226 226**.

	What does it mean?	What should I do?
<b>CATASTROPHIC</b>	If a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost. » These are the most dangerous conditions for a fire.	<b>For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.</b> » Your life may depend on the decisions you make, even before there is a fire. » For your survival, do not be in bushfire risk areas. » Stay safe by going to a safer location early in the morning or the night before. » Homes cannot withstand fires in these conditions. You may not be able to leave and help may not be available.
<b>EXTREME</b>	Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous. » These are dangerous fire conditions. » Expect hot, dry and windy conditions.	<b>Take action now to protect your life and property</b> » Check your bushfire plan and that your property is fire ready » If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts. » Reconsider travel through bushfire risk areas. » Leaving bushfire risk areas early in the day is your safest option.
<b>HIGH</b>	Fires can be dangerous.	<b>Be ready to act.</b> » There's a heightened risk. Be alert for fires in your area. » Decide what you will do if a fire starts. » If a fire starts, your life and property may be at risk. The safest option is to avoid bushfire risk areas.
<b>MODERATE</b>	Most fires can be controlled.	<b>Plan and prepare.</b> » Stay up to date and be ready to act if there is a fire.

Monitor conditions and official sources for warnings by going to [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au), [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) or call the VicEmergency Hotline on **1800 226 226**

# Know Your Total Fire Ban District



**TOTAL FIRE BANS**

Total Fire Bans are declared by CFA on days when fires are likely to spread rapidly and be difficult to control.

On days of Total Fire Ban there are legal restrictions in force to reduce the likelihood of fires starting.

Victoria is divided into nine Total Fire Ban districts. Total Fire Bans are declared by district and you must know which district you live in. A list of municipalities that are located in each of the districts is shown in the coloured boxes.

For more information on Total Fire Bans and fire restrictions please call the VicEmergency Hotline on **1800 226 226** or via National Relay Service on **1800 555 677** or visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au)

For more information please visit the CFA website at [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au) or phone the VicEmergency Hotline on **1800 226 226** or via National Relay Service on **1800 555 677**





8th February 2024

# BLUE WOLF P H O T O G R A P H Y

**We are at..**

## **Tarwin Lower Primary School**



# **Thursday 22nd February 2024**

**You will be notified when the photos are ready to view and purchase via our private online galleries!**





# TARWIN LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDER SHEET

**DUE DATE FOR ORDERS  
Friday 16th February**

Samples of uniforms are available in the office.  
Payment in full must be received before uniforms can be taken

**FAMILY NAME:**

**CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:**

ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	TOTAL QTY	TOTAL COST
		4	6	8	10	12	14	16			
Polo Shirt - Short Sleeve with logo	\$ 23.00										
Top - Windcheater with logo	\$ 19.00										
Top - Microfibre Sports Jacket with logo	\$ 35.00										
Top - Polar Fleece Jacket with logo	\$ 28.00										
Dress - Blue Checked	\$ 20.00										
Shorts - Microfibre	\$ 14.00										
Shorts - Mesh	\$ 12.00										
Shorts - Cargo	\$ 19.00										
Skort	\$ 19.00										
Pants - Cargo	\$ 22.00										
Track Pants - Straight Leg	\$ 18.00										
Track Pants - Cuffed Leg	\$ 18.00										
Track Pants - Straight Leg Double Knee	\$ 20.00										
Track Pants - Cuffed Leg Double Knee	\$ 20.00										
Hat - Cargo (Slouch) S / M / L	\$ 10.00										
<b>TOTAL</b>											<b>\$</b>

		SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE	SIZE		
		12	14	16	Sml	Med	Lge				
Grade 6 Polo Shirts	\$45.00										
<b>TOTAL</b>											<b>\$</b>

OFFICE USE:	TAKEN	PAID	CASH	D/D	C/C	C21 ent	C21 rcpt	

Updated 23/03/2023