

Tarwin Lower Primary Newsletter

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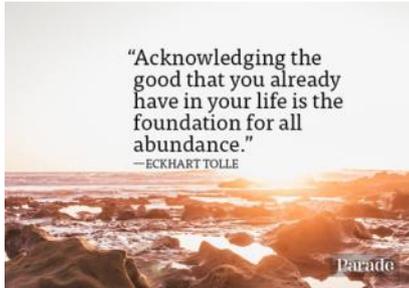


Tarwin Lower Primary School

Small School, Big Opportunities

20th October 2021

Newsletter No. 16



Dear Families,

This year, this month and this week has felt like we are up, down, in, out, on, off and everything in between! I

thought this week

we would remind ourselves that everything has a silver lining, even if sometimes it is hard to find.

For over a year familiar routines have been tossed out the window and unpredictability has set in (including no power!). Despite all the changes, if we look at the situation with a positive lens, we can see that the lesson learnt for us all, including the students, is one of adaptability.

Adaptability is the ability to be creative and flexible in the face of new situations. It has also been defined as, “the capacity to cope with and capitalise on change, and the ability to recover when unforeseen events alter life plans.”

Life has always thrown us unexpected curve balls and there has always been unforeseen changes. The pandemic may have given us more curve balls than we are used to, however the lesson of adaptability is a lesson we can all use for the rest of our lives.

Some people are more adaptable by nature, and have taken the changes in their stride, while others are struggling. But adaptability is a skill that can be learnt, even when it is forced upon you!

By taking small bites out of big problems and understanding what we can and can't control is known as “positive uncertainty.” If we accept that we'll get through this and accept that the world is uncertain and being comfortable with that uncertainty, it can give us the confidence to be flexible.

Practicing gratitude can also help cultivate adaptability. Find the smallest thing you're thankful for or look for something that's going right. Gratitude only serves to lift us up; it gives us a place from which to build. Role model this thinking and thankfulness to your children, and soon enough they will be reminding you to be grateful for the small things which make us all happy, such as love, safety, and togetherness.

Remember, we are already practicing adaptability. If a year ago someone said, ‘We're going to shut down your world and you're going to have to stay in the same house with the same people for an indefinite period of time,’ we would have balked and laughed.” Instead, everyone has done that and learnt to be okay with it.

The lessons our children have been getting from lockdowns have been beneficial to their adaptability. They have missed milestones such as birthdays and family gatherings, and they are learning to be disappointed and still be okay. The ability to accept change rather than shutting down in the face of it is a skill that will serve our children for a lifetime.

From an article by [The Washington Post](#)

Warm Regards,

Jennifer Cox

Principal





Remember your hat!

Our school SunSmart policy specifies that students wear a broad brimmed hat in terms 1

& 4.

Please ensure your child has the correct hat and it is labelled.

We have some hats at school if you need to purchase one, they are \$9.00 each.

Students who do not have a hat will be asked to play on the big deck or in the rotunda.



Bus Stop Changes

If your child is a regular bus user, and you wish them to get off the bus in the afternoon at a

stop that it not their usual one, you will be required to **send in a note or make a call to the office.**



We have had students telling the bus driver that they need to get off at a different stop (e.g. the park). He has no way of verifying this and there is always the risk of the child being left somewhere they are not meant to be.

So, if there is no note, or no phone call the students will only be allowed to leave the bus at their designated stops.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Forest Lodge Camp - Grades 3 & 4

This is just a heads up to parents of students in Grades 3 & 4 that we have an upcoming camp to Forest Lodge on 1st - 3rd December. This camp will be shared with students in Grades 3 & 4 from Welshpool and Toora schools. Due to the changing nature of Covid-19 restrictions, we are still a little unsure as to whether this camp will be going ahead. At present students from different schools are not allowed to mix at camps. We are hopeful that this will change as we get closer to the date.

We will keep you informed.

Final costings are still to be worked out, but charges to parents will be somewhere around \$230.00 per student. Families with CSEF money in their account can use this for the camp.

Working and volunteering in schools

The Victorian Chief Health Officer has determined vaccination will be a requirement for staff who work in schools. This includes principals, teachers, support staff, contractors and volunteers.

If you haven't booked your COVID-19 vaccination appointment yet – do not wait.

All staff who work in schools will be required to have a first dose COVID-19 vaccine by **18 October 2021** or have a **booking within the week after**. This includes;

- any person who is employed by an education operator to work in an education facility (including teachers, early childhood educators and educational support staff);
- person contracted to work at an education facility and who will or may be in close proximity to children, students or staff, whether or not engaged by the education operator including casual relief teachers, Breakfast Club suppliers, IT personnel, NDIS providers and auditors (but does not include delivery personnel);
- staff of the Department of Education and Training who attend an education facility (such as allied health personnel or Authorised Officers);
- staff of any other entity who attends an education facility;
- **volunteers that attend an education facility and that work in close proximity to children, students or staff (including parent helpers);** and
- students on placements at an education facility.



Bread Tags

Remember to continue to collect your bread tags this year.



School Bank Details

ACC NAME:	Tarwin Lower Primary School
BSB:	633108
ACC:	151500626

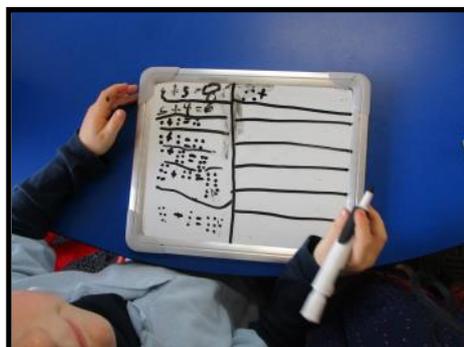
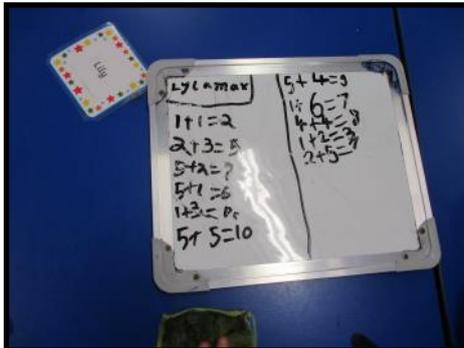


DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 21st October	Prep - Gr2 & Gr4 - Gr6 @ school. Remote Learning Gr3
Friday 22nd October	ALL STUDENTS BACK AT SCHOOL 
Monday 1st November	Curriculum Day - No students at School
Tuesday 2nd November	MELBOURNE CUP DAY HOLIDAY
Friday 12th November	Prep Transition Day #1 11.30am - 1.00pm
Friday 19th November	Prep Transition Day #2 11.30am - 1.00pm
Friday 26th November	Prep Transition Day #3 11.30am - 1.00pm
Tuesday 30th November	Curriculum Day - No students at School
Wednesday 1st - Thursday 3rd December	Forest Lodge Camp Grades 3 & 4
Friday 3rd December	Prep Transition Day #4 11.30am - 1.00pm
Tuesday 7th December	Orientation Day - Gr 6 to Secondary/Preps 9.00am - 11.00am
Wednesday 8th December	End of Year Excursion - Fun day @ Toora Pool
Friday 18th December	Last Day of Term 4 - Happy Holidays!!



Maths fun



Kindness

Cooperation

Resilience

Respect



18/10/21

Dear Families,

As you know, students will soon begin a [Staged return to onsite learning to school](#) as announced under [the Roadmap](#).

To support this, the Victorian Chief Health Officer has announced new rules around mask wearing to keep everyone at school safe.

We know that returning to school will look a little different this time and it's important that we support you and your children with effective ways to keep everyone safe and well.

One of the most important and effective things we can do to help keep students in the classroom is to wear masks to help minimise COVID-19 transmission risk.

When worn properly, masks can play an important role in reducing the transmission risks of Covid-19 that could happen from common activities in school.

Students in Grade 3 and above

- ◆ Face masks will also be required for all school students in Grade 3 and above indoors including at Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) programs, unless a lawful exception applies. Face masks can be removed while outdoors at school for primary students.
- ◆ Students in Grades 3 to 6 are required to wear face masks from 18 October 2021. All other students who are required to wear a face mask must continue to do so from the first day they return to onsite learning.
- ◆ Face masks will be strongly recommended for Prep to Year 2 students.
- ◆ For composite classes of Grade 2 and 3 students, Grade 2 students will be strongly encouraged to wear masks like their Grade 3 peers.
- ◆ For students with a disability, parents and carers should speak to the child's doctor or regular health professional about the best methods to encourage mask wearing. Students and parents can also contact the [Disability Liaison Officer program](#) for more information.

- ◆ Students with a medical condition or disability that make wearing a face covering unsuitable are not required to wear a mask.
- ◆ Face masks are required for students in Year 3 to Year 6 unless an exception applies. Exceptions include students with a physical or mental disability where their disability means it would not be suitable. Parent/carers of a student/s who meet the criteria for an exception must provide their approval in writing for their child/ren to not wear a mask to the school.
- ◆ Face masks will be always required for secondary students both indoors and outdoors at school unless a lawful exception applies.

We will try to maximise outdoor learning where possible and offer more recreation and breaks wherever practicable to further support students.

We can work together to support students by having conversations around the importance of masks in preventing COVID -19 transmission and remind them that it's only for a few days a week.

We have seen through remote learning that friendships are important. We can work together to remind students that wearing masks means they can see their friends and be at school together more often. We also protect our friends and keep them safe.

We encourage you to discuss wearing masks with your children to keep kids in the classroom and minimise COVID-19 transmission risk. The Raising Children Network has resources that can help you with [having conversations with your children about wearing masks](#).

These new changes to wearing masks will come into effect when students return to staged onsite learning from 18 October 2021 in regional and metropolitan schools.

Thank you for your ongoing support in the implementation of these important steps that enable us to return to onsite learning. We look forward to welcoming your children back into the classroom.

Jen Cox
Principal



Department of Education and Training

Re: Face masks in schools

Dear Parent/carer

With Victoria's vaccination rates now rising rapidly, and fast approaching published thresholds for the easing of restrictions, the Victorian government has launched its [Roadmap to deliver the National Plan](#).

The Roadmap will see Victorian students return to school in a staggered fashion, with all Year Levels returning to onsite learning during the week of Monday 11 October 2021 in regional Victoria, and Monday 18 October 2021 in metropolitan Melbourne.

To reduce the risk of students catching and spreading COVID-19 and to keep as many schools open when students return, a range of measures have been put in place.

These include:

- vaccination of young people 12 -19 years olds
- vaccination of teachers and school staff
- ventilation of indoor spaces
- cleaning
- regular use of hand sanitiser
- increased use of outdoor spaces and
- wearing of masks for all teachers and children from Grade 3 and up.

Victoria's Chief Health Officer has mandated that all students in Grade 3 and up must wear a mask while they are indoors at school.

As with all such requirements, these decisions are not made lightly, and are made on the basis of the best available evidence and in the interests of keeping Victoria as safe as possible.

When worn properly, masks can play an important role in reducing the transmission risks of COVID-19 that could happen from common activities in school.

We know COVID-19 can be transmitted amongst children, and between children and adults. When teachers, staff, and students consistently and correctly wear a mask, they help protect themselves and others from COVID-19.

In many countries overseas where children wear masks indoors at school there is less COVID-19 infection among those children who wore masks compared to schools where they do not. It is important that schools and the school community adhere to all the COVIDsafe measures, not just the introduction of masks.

The Victorian Chief Health Officer has stated that the mandated wearing of masks will continue to be reviewed and will not be forever. As soon as it is safe to do so, the requirement will be lifted.

All Victorian students are required to follow the directions of the Chief Health Officer. Your support in ensuring your child complies with these legal directions is appreciated.

Sincerely

David Howes
Deputy Secretary
Schools and Regional Services

VICTORIA'S ROADMAP
DELIVERING THE NATIONAL PLAN

National Plan: Phase A

80%

Victorians can get outside to catch-up with friends and do some of the outdoor activities we've gone without.

- Recreation:**
- You can play basketball, golf, tennis, cricket and other outdoor recreation activities together - with the same limits as picnics. Accessing facility must be contactless.
 - Personal training resumes for up to five fully vaccinated people outside.

National Plan: Phase A

School Reopens

Our next step is reopening schools - planned for October 5th.

- Students can return to sit the GAT if required on October 5th.
- From 6 October, on-site learning for VCE Units 3/4, and final year VCAL & IB students.
- From 18 October, prep students return three days a week, years 1 & 2 students return two days a week.

National Plan: Phase B

70%

From 11.59pm 21 October 2021

At 70% fully vaccinated lockdown will end in Melbourne.

- Social and Recreational:**
- Reasons to leave home and curfew no longer in place.
 - 10 people including dependents can visit your home per day
 - 15 people can gather outdoors, community sport training returns for minimum required to hold training.
 - Pubs and clubs can open to 20 fully vaccinated people indoors and 50 outdoors. Entertainment venues can open to 50 fully vaccinated people outdoors.
 - Funerals and weddings allowed for 20 fully vaccinated indoors, 50 fully vaccinated outdoors
- Education:**
- All school students return on-site at least part time.
- Hairstressing and personal care:**
- Open for up to 5 fully vaccinated people.

National Plan: Phase C

80% (16+yrs)

Indicative date: 5 November 2021

At 80% fully vaccinated, regional Victoria and Metro Melbourne come together under the same rules.

- Social & Recreational:**
- Up to 10 people (including dependents) are permitted at your home.
 - Up to 150 fully vaccinated people can dine indoors, and up to 30 can gather in public outside.
 - Indoor community sport open for minimum number required.
 - Masks are only required inside.
 - Pubs, restaurants and cafes can open for seated service only, up-to 150 fully vaccinated people inside and 500 outdoors.
- Work:**
- Work from home if you can, but you can go to work if fully vaccinated.
- Hairstressing, beauty, personal care:**
- Open for fully vaccinated people.
- Retail:**
- All retail open.
- Education:**
- Early childhood education and care is open.
 - All students return to school with additional safety measures in-place.
 - On-site adult education returns for fully vaccinated Victorians.
- Religious Ceremonies:**
- Weddings, funerals, and religious services return for 150 fully vaccinated people indoors, and 500 outdoors.

National Plan: Phase D

80% (12+yrs)

Indicative date: 19 November 2021

Once 80% of Victorians aged 12 and over are fully vaccinated restrictions will align with the National Plan to transition Australia's National COVID-19 Response, agreed to by National Cabinet.

- Social:**
- By 25 Dec, 30 visitors to the home.

METRO MELBOURNE

80%

Regional Victoria is out of lockdown, and at 80% first dose some further easing can go ahead.

- Beauty Services:**
- Masks may be removed for the duration of the service.

School Reopens

Schools continue to be open in Regional Victoria for on-site learning for VCE Units 3/4, final year VCAL & IB students, Prep and Year 1 and 2 students.

- Further advice on the return to onsite learning for remaining year levels will be provided by 30 September

70%

From 11.59pm 21 October 2021

More social and recreation activities open up for fully vaccinated Victorians.

- Social & Recreational:**
- 10 people including dependents can visit your home per day
 - 20 people can gather outdoors, including dependents
 - Community sport returns indoors for minimum number required.
 - Pubs, clubs and entertainment venues are open indoors to 30 fully vaccinated people.
- Education:**
- All school students return onsite fulltime
- Religious Ceremonies:**
- Funerals and weddings are allowed for 30 fully vaccinated people indoors and 100 fully vaccinated outdoors.

REGIONAL VICTORIA

The settings above are indicative only and are subject to change. They are indications based on the presently available public health evidence (including epidemiological evidence). All future directions will be made on the basis of public health evidence (including epidemiological evidence) as it exists at the time the directions are made. Based on the evidence at that point in time, the Chief Health Officer (or other authorised officer) must consider the directions to be reasonably necessary to protect public health, give proper consideration to human rights under the Charter for Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006 (VIC), and make decisions that are compatible with human rights under the Charter.



We are local residents concerned about energy stress on households in our community.

Did you know you can get government help to reduce your home energy use and your energy bills, and help the environment?

Are you a concession card holder, live near Wonthaggi or Venus Bay, and find it hard to pay energy bills?

COSY HOMES

WE WANT TO HELP YOU:

- Apply for a \$250 power saving bonus
- Check you are on the best deal with your energy company
- Get a free energy audit on your house and identify how to make it more cosy
- Our trained volunteers can make changes recommended by the audit - sealing draughts on doors, windows and fans
- Check if you are eligible for funding for heating and cooling upgrades

Apply for a \$250 energy bonus - offer ends January 2022

Saturday 13th November
10-1 at Venus Bay Community Centre,
27 Canterbury Rd.
Venus Bay 3956

Saturday 27th November
10-1 at Mitchell House,
6 Murray St.
Wonthaggi 3995

NEXT STEPS...

Book in for our open day so we can sign you up and assess your needs. Email or call the number below.

Organised by the Energy Innovation Co-op

More info: Jessica 0438 174 029
cosyhomes2122@gmail.com



The "Cosy Homes" project is supported by the Victorian Government through the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2021-2022

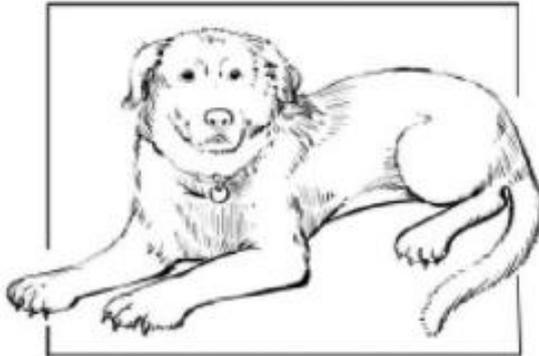
Printed by Jordan Crugnale MP, State Member for Bass



Pet Safety

Keep Your Kids Safe

Safety tips for Children and pets



Always supervise your child around dogs and other animals.

It is a good idea to wait until your child is at least 5 years old before you get a pet.

You can help prevent injuries:

- Choose your pet carefully.
- Supervise your child around pets.
- Teach your child how to act around animals.

Did you know?

- Dog bites are usually caused by an animal the child knows. Nearly half of the dog bites seen in emergency departments happened with the family pet in the child's own home.
- Most dog bites happen on the face and arms.
- Pets can be jealous. Watch your pet closely if you have a new baby in the house. Try to give your pet as much love and attention as you did before the baby came.

Safety check

- ✓ Always supervise children around dogs and other animals. Children under 5 will not always understand or remember instructions. Keeping them safe is still an adult's job!
- ✓ Do not leave your baby or young child alone with a pet.
- ✓ Keep your pet's food and toys away from your child.
- ✓ Train your dog to obey commands from all members of your family.

For more information, turn over this page



www.safekidscanada.ca



www.cw.bc.ca



Canadian Institute of Child Health

www.cich.ca

Keep Your Kids Safe is a series of fact sheets about children under 5. These are produced by Safe Kids Canada, Safe Start, and the Canadian Institute of Child Health, based on materials by Safe Start. For more information, call 1 888 SAFETIPS or visit www.safekidscanada.ca. Fact sheets may be photocopied, but only in their original format. Produced 2001.



Pet Safety

Keep Your Kids Safe

Safety tips for Children and pets

How to choose a pet

Dogs

Choose a dog that is calm and patient. You can spay or neuter a dog to make it less aggressive. Dogs trained to be aggressive or to work as guard dogs may be dangerous to children. Do not choose a dog like this as your family pet.

Cats

Choose a cat that is calm and likes to be petted. Cats that seem nervous, unfriendly, or unpredictable do not make good pets for children.

Small animals

Small animals such as hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils, and rabbits can make good household pets. However, they are not good for families with very young children. Small animals can be easily hurt if dropped or squeezed. They may bite if they are startled or hurt.

Fish

Fish can be fun for children to watch. Place a fish tank where children cannot climb up, fall in, or pull the tank over on themselves.

Reptiles

Reptiles such as snakes, lizards, and salamanders are not good pets for children. Turtles are not safe either. Turtles can pass along salmonella bacteria to your child.

Keep your pet from causing injuries

Take your dog to obedience classes. Everyone in your family should go to the classes. Teach the dog to obey commands from everyone in your family.

Cats do not smother babies by lying on them (this is an old myth). But cats *can* scratch. Keep your cat's claws trimmed short. Teach your child to stroke a cat softly from head to tail. Never try to roll a cat over to rub its stomach.

Teach your child how to act around animals:

- Walk slowly near animals. Never run up to an animal or away from it.
- Never disturb an animal that is eating, sleeping, or chewing on something.
- Always ask the owner before touching any pet.
- Pet an animal safely. Start with your arm straight down at your side. Then, lift your arm up slowly and let the pet sniff your hand. Next, gently touch the side and then the top of the pet's head. Never place your hand on top of a pet's head right away. That can be dangerous.
- Stop if you are approached by an animal. Speak softly to it and back away slowly.
- Never tease or stare at an animal.
- Never grab an animal by the feet, ears, or tail.
- Never touch or pick up a wild or stray animal.
- Stay away from all baby animals.
- Learn what an angry animal looks like. Stay away from angry animals.
- Never try to break up an animal fight.

For more information, call Safe Kids Canada at 1 888 SAFE TIPS or visit www.safekidscanada.ca



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Fax. 5663 5474
tarwin.lower.ps@education.vic.gov.au



"Small School, Big Opportunities"
Kindness, Cooperation, Resilience, Respect

TARWIN LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL TRANSITION DATES FOR PREPS BEGINNING IN 2022



1.	Friday 12 th November 2021	11.30am – 1.30pm
2.	Friday 19 th November 2021	11.30am – 1.30pm
3.	Friday 26 th November 2021	11.30am – 1.30pm
4.	Friday 3 rd December 2021	11.30am – 1.30pm
5.	Tuesday 7 th December 2021	09.00am – 11.00am



School tours are very welcome.
Please call 5663 5263 to arrange a visit.



South Gippsland
Shire Council

SOUTH GIPPSLAND Kindergarten Central Enrolment



CENTRAL ENROLMENT NOW OPEN

To enrol your child in three-year-old or four-year-old kindergarten for next year, you will need to REGISTER NOW. Kindergarten enrolment is centralised through South Gippsland Shire Council. Simply complete a single enrolment form and nominate your kindergarten preferences. Enrolments must be lodged by 30 June to receive a first round offer.

You can enrol at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/centralenrolment
For more information, please phone 5662 9200 or text your contact details to 0447 965 850 and we will call you back.