

Tooraweenah Public School

*'The School with the View'
Safe, Respectful Achievers*





2018 Tooraweenah Public School

With a proud history of serving the Tooraweenah community and surrounds with quality education since 1884

Tooraweenah Public School has a school environment and student/teacher ratio that is the envy of others.

It boasts extensive picturesque grounds with fixed equipment, cricket pitch, football oval and covered outdoor learning area.

The two classrooms are each resourced with a Smartboard, and computers for each student allowing for flexibility in delivering relevant and high quality intellectual learning.

A dedicated art room, which is also a Connected Classroom with Video Conferencing facilities, is utilised by all classes.

The well-resourced school Library includes extensive teacher resources.

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The Multi-purpose Room is used by the school for functions, visiting performances and music. This room is also utilised by Tooraweenah Preschool every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

**Ideal environment
for learning**

Are you looking for a school that...

- Have small class sizes and passionate, dynamic and dedicated teachers.
- Cares for their students like family
- Has a family feel for a smooth transition from pre-school to 'big school.'
- Offers highly experienced and accomplished teachers who take into account the individual needs of each child to ensure they achieve their personal best.
- Offers an Orientation to School Program for prospective Kindergarten students. From 2015 to 2018, we proudly offered an Extended Transition to School Program. This program consists of over 10 whole days of transition, one day per week, beginning in Term 2 or 3. During this time students are able to experience school routines in full and develop their confidence and skills in readiness for school.
- Encourages every student to take on leadership roles in middle and upper Primary. Year 4 students are elected as librarians and Years 5 & 6 students take on house captains, captain and vice captain responsibilities. There are also a number of environmental ministers from Years 3-6. Students attend the *GRIP Leadership* course to enhance their leadership skills.
- Presents a school concert, where all students learn to work as a team to present choreographed musical items. Every student is given a moment to shine. Students willingly take on acting roles and develop great confidence in doing so. Past performances include *The Wizard of Oz* in 2011, *The Pirates of the Curry Bean* in 2013, *The Lion King* in 2015, and the *Christmas Extravaganza* in 2017.
- Have extensive opportunities in sport including: netball, football, swimming, athletics, cross-country, gymnastics, tennis, learn to swim for all students Kindergarten to Year 6.
- Has a range of sporting opportunities with like schools. Tooraweenah Public School joins with other small schools in the area including Eumungerie, Geurie, Stuart Town, Wongarbon, Distance Education, Mumbil, and Eumungerie to compete in the Small School Swimming and Athletics Carnivals.
- Promotes community spirit and togetherness. Tooraweenah Public School plays an integral part in the ANZAC Day service at the Tooraweenah Memorial Hall. Students present an item at the service and march to the cenotaph where they respectfully lay commemorative wreaths. Remembrance Day is also observed.
- Produces a high quality of work. Students proudly display their work in the pavilion at the Tooraweenah Show
- Boasts an active and supportive P & C Association, which helps the school deliver innovative programs and opportunities for learning to the students.
- Is inclusive and supportive of students' needs and fosters an environment where students feel safe and successful.



"In 2018, all Year 1&2 students started the year above the expected reading level.."

Mrs Karen Smith
K/1/2 Teacher and
Principal (R)

Kindergarten



Sounds

Kindergarten students begin to learn their sounds and sight words from day one in Kindergarten. We are proud to offer lessons that have a balanced approach to teaching reading and writing through the Jolly Phonics Program which caters for all types of learners. Some children are visual learners, while some can be auditory (hearing) or kinesthetic (movement) learners. Using the Jolly Phonics program, the teacher introduces a new sound each day and students are involved in interactive lessons while moving, listening, looking and writing to practice each sound. After just two weeks at school students know over six sounds and are blending and segmenting them to make words.

This program has been highly successful over the last ten years, in teaching students the sounds they need to use quickly and efficiently. Long gone are the days of learning a sound per week, and only finishing the sounds in Term 4. Using Jolly Phonics, children have been taught the sounds by early Term 2, allowing them to use what they have learned.



Reading

Students practise reading every day and quickly develop skills and confidence in reading through targeted instruction on sight words and levelled readers. In 2018, all Year 1 and Year 2 students started the year above the expected reading level.



Special Programs - Kindergarten to Year 6

Explicit Direct Instruction - Fleming Model of Effective Teaching

One of the overarching goals in our School Plan is for improvement of teaching and learning supported by data driven decision making.

In 2018 we began implementing strategies from mentor, author and Deputy Principal of Haileybury College, John Fleming, who has taken schools with poor or average results to performing at an elite level. We are working collegially with Gilgandra Public School on this project.

The Fleming Model of Effective Teaching incorporates a series of warm-ups in class every day, which focus on the 30:40:30 rule. That is, 30% revision, 40% at their level and 30% 2 years beyond their level.

Warm-ups are explicitly taught in Reading, Writing and Maths.

I DO

- Teacher defines skill to be taught
- Teacher explains specific learning objectives at the start of each lesson.
- Teacher demonstrates skill
- Teacher clearly explains skill step by step
- Revision and reinforcement of skill

WE DO

- Practice skills as whole group
- Practice skills in smaller groups
- Activities that reinforce concepts and understanding of skill
- Teacher guides and scaffolds

YOU DO

- Individual activities
- Extension of activities
- Teacher monitors and provides individual feedback

Givens

There are six 'givens' (expectations/ assumptions) in the Fleming Model classroom:

- 1) *Positive Relationships*
- 2) *High Expectations*
- 3) *Presentation*
- 4) *Correction*
- 5) *Display*
- 6) *Setting the Tone* (upholding classroom order and rules/ requirements)

Four Pillars

The Model is underpinned by four elements:

- 1) *Teacher accountable learning*
- 2) *Explicit instruction*
- 3) *Moving student knowledge from short to long term memory*
- 4) *Effective relationships between teachers and students*

Imperatives for Engagement

The Model defines three critical components that must be established in order for students to feel engaged and motivated:

- 1) *Student trusts and respects teacher*
- 2) *Student is able to work at their level*
- 3) *Students have friends at school*





Excited swimmers at the Small Schools' Swimming Carnival 2018



Tooraweenah Public School students K-6 performing at Grandparent's Day 2018



Tallis Brown and Daisy Wkyes receiving awards for the Inter-school Public Speaking Competition



Staff 2018. Ashley Starr (Teachers Aide), Karen Smith (Principal Relieving), Nadine Dent (Teacher), Maureen Altmann (SAM) Absent: Gwenderlyn Horwood (SAM), Dennis White (GA), Petria Cameron (Library)



Easter Hat Parade 2018



Meeting the inspirational Dick Smith, 2018.



Canberra & Snowy Mountains excursion 2018



Tooraweenah Public School and Preschool -Easter Hat Parade 2018

Students excel in Drama, Performance and Music

Drama

The students of Tooraweenah Public School K-6 present a major concert performance every two years.

These concerts have been highlights of the year and provided students with opportunities to engage in drama, dance and singing. Every student had a role, with the senior students excelling in their ability to learn and deliver the lines in the play or musical.

Each and every student is to be congratulated by the school community on presenting a quality production full of humour and entertainment.

Grandparent's Day

An enthusiastic crowd of grandparents, grandfriends and families looked on at our Grandparent's Day concert. Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 entertained with songs like *Mamma Mia*, *Blame it on the Boogie* and *Proud Mary*. Everyone stayed for a morning tea generously provided by the school and parents.

Moorambilla Voices

Students auditioned and were accepted to the Moorambilla Voices Program. Michelle Leonard's MOORAMBILLA VOICES program, in its thirteenth year in 2018, provides a rare and valuable opportunity to connect with music making of the highest calibre in collaboration with some of Australia's finest composers, musicians, choreographers and regional artists. This is a real achievement and brings the joy of actively making and creating music to so many children in a region too often isolated from quality cultural experiences.





Sporting Opportunities



Peachey/ Richardson Shield - Rugby League

Our keen rugby league players join with those from other small schools to participate in the Peachey/Richardson Shield as the *Small Schools Barbarians*.



Netball Gala Days

Students from Tooraweenah Public School join with Quambone Central School and Marra Creek Public School to become the *Small Schools Sparklers*.



Sporting Schools

Tooraweenah Public School is proud to partner with Sporting Schools to offer students experience and opportunity to try different sports through the program. Sports include rugby, tennis, swimming and golf.



Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country

In addition to holding our own sports carnivals for Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country, our students also have the opportunity to represent our school at the Small Schools carnivals. From here they qualify to represent the Small Schools at the Dubbo District PSSA carnivals. Success at this carnival progresses them to Western Area and then to State Carnivals.

Cultural Opportunities



Dubbo Regional Theatre and Cultural Centre (DRTCC)

Students from Tooraweenah Public School have the opportunity to see performances at the DRTCC. In the past five years these have included "Wombat Stew," "Peter Rabbit," "Possum Magic," "The Gruffalo," "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," "Snugglepote and Cuddlepie," "Mr Stink," "Room on the Broom," "Alice in Wonderland" and "George's Marvellous Medicine." Viewing performances such as these broadens students' experiences. In each instance, the viewing of the performance is the culmination of a literature study on the picture book or novel.



Waste To Art

Every two years the Gilgandra Shire Council partners with NetWaste to educate students and the wider community about the importance of reducing waste. Tooraweenah Public School has been proud to participate in this competition for a number of years.

Excursions

Every year the Years 3-6 students attend an excursion, allowing students opportunities to experience curriculum content in real life, which is integral to deep learning. Every second year students attend a major excursion of 3-4 days. These major excursions are cyclic and include Canberra and Sydney. In the years in between, excursions have included Sport & Recreation Camps, Technology Camp, Zoo Snooze, Emu Farm, Warrumbungle National Park and Red Hill Environmental Education Centre in Gulgong. All excursions are linked to curriculum activities.

