



TOORAWEEAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

2.12.2015



School News Week 9 Term 4

Welcome to the official start of summer, as of yesterday. Summer has unofficially been with us for a few months already. I hope all went well with harvest and your returns were bountiful.

Reports

Semester Two reports will be going home next week, probably on Tuesday.

Structure for 2016

Staffing allocations and funding for 2016 have been received, projected costs analysed and budgetary decisions made. The role of the Teaching Principal has changed dramatically during the past two years with the role and that of office staff becoming increasingly administration and accountability weighted. At Tooraweenah P.S. the anticipated enrolment is 23 and has resulted in a significant reduction in funding compared to 2014 and 2015. The Tooraweenah school community has enjoyed above establishment of 3 classes for many years. Due to reduced enrolments 3 classes are no longer a reality. Structural changes have been made in the best interests of the students.

- In 2016 there will be 2 classes, but 3 teaching staff, just like in past years, until we can no longer financially sustain it.
- There will be a K-2 class of 11 students taken by Mrs Smith, 4 days a week and by Mrs Zell on Fridays.
- The second class will be a 3-6 class of 12 students taken by Miss Kenny, 5 days per week or by Mrs Jenkin should she choose to return from maternity leave.
- The school community still has all the benefits of small class sizes. Engagement and participation in all school activities is still the focus. Indeed, inclusivity and a wide range of educational, social and cultural experiences on offer are aspects of school life we do very well at Tooraweenah, more so than other schools. We can't be involved in everything and decisions will be made next year about our continued involvement in certain activities.
- a) My role will be administration, taking classes for History, Geography, Science, Mrs Smith's and Miss Kenny's release of 2 hours each per week. I will have the 3-6 class one afternoon per week to allow Miss Kenny or Mrs Jenkin, Support Teacher time to work with students that need extra remediation, assistance or extension. This structure will also allow the Teaching Principal to remove certain administration roles from the class teachers so they can concentrate on the teaching and learning of the students.

I must attend mandatory Western Plains and other principal's meetings on at least 10 days throughout the year. This does not include other days when summonsed to professional learning sessions by the department. The new structure will allow reduced disruption for increased continuity with students.

b) The infrastructure at Tooraweenah is old and there would not have been a two week period in the past two years when some aspect of school physical resources has not failed or required attention. A disproportionate amount of my time and energy is expended resolving problems.

* During the past two years responsibility for many things has been transferred to the school and thus the Principal.

- We currently have a School Administration Manager (Mrs Imrie and Mrs Horwood), 7 days per fortnight. By careful financial planning it is intended to increase this to 8 or 9 days per fortnight. The work performed by office staff is not diminished by the number of students.
- Certain costs have been reduced by a rationalisation, by staff, of technological subscriptions such as Squirk and Jetsetter.
- We will not be involved in Musica Viva next year. It cost over \$1600 for travel and entry costs this year.
- The school's involvement in the Baradine Public Speaking is in doubt as the Baradine Progress Association has withdrawn from the program due to lack of personnel and costs to and from Baradine or Gwabegar don't warrant our inclusion.
- There will be no official Extended Transition program for pre-schoolers to Kindergarten as the numbers of children are just not there and the preschool is applying for funding for a second day each week. Informal arrangements have been made to include a prospective 2017 enrolment in the Kindergarten class next year for a day a week.

PRESCHOOL

There are moves afoot, Australia wide, to review the viability of preschools that operate one day per week with the possibility of closure/deregistration. "Experts" say that children entering school should ideally have 15 hours a week at preschool in the year preceding enrolment, 12 hours(2 days) a week at a minimum. They obviously have limited understanding of life in rural and remote Australia. I urge any Tooraweenah and district parent of preschool age children to get behind Anna Peart and her committee as they put forward application to have Tooraweenah Preschool operate as a two day a week entity. I fully support the application and can modify our school schedule to accommodate them two days per week on consecutive days (Wednesday and Thursday would be ideal) so they would not be packing up each Wednesday afternoon only to have to set up again on Thursday mornings.

Year 6 Farewell

There are about 40 acceptances for the Year 6 Farewell next Tuesday night in the Multi-Purpose Room. The event will be catered for by Danni-Lee's catering. The evening commences at 7pm and dress is neat casual. If you can no longer make it, please let me know by early Friday morning as I have to submit final numbers to the caterers.

Presentation Night

Presentation Night is on next Thursday evening at the Tooraweenah Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30 pm sharp. All children, parents and members of the extended school community should be there and seated by 7.15 pm

On Thursday children may come to school out of uniform so that they are dressed in clean, neat and tidy, full school uniform. There is traditionally tea, coffee and supper after the event and I would ask that parents contribute something to share.

Swim School

This was a great success yet again and funding will be sought in 2016 from Sporting Schools so that this valuable program continues. When you live on the world's largest island continent (not island-that's Greenland), you have to be able to swim!

Sporting Schools

Speaking of sport, application for funding for Netball and Rugby League for Term 2 next year has been submitted and I see no reason why this will not be approved. This will allow some coaching, travel costs to Coonamble for the gala day and the cost of a set of netball uniforms to be used by our girls and their small school colleagues to form the Small Schools Sparkles.

Elections

Elections for School Captain and other portfolios have been completed. I am reversing my decision regarding the Vice Captain's position and there **will be** a Vice Captain in place in 2016 to assist the Captain with his roles and responsibilities and to be the stand-in captain during periods of absence. Each student in Years 4, 5 and 6 has specific roles and responsibilities to make sure S.S. Tooraweenah steams ahead.

Christmas Lights

Retailers get earlier each year with their commercial build up to the festive season. I can remember seeing advertisements at the start of October. I helped an elderly neighbor put up Christmas decorations and she has decided that the years seem to fly by so quickly that she is no longer going to take them down, just leave them up all year!! The school's front fence has been adorned with Christmas lights compliments of the students especially Sam Duff, Ethan Smith, Isabella Worner and the queen of untangling, Grace Peart.

Safety

For night meetings, the upcoming Year 6 Farewell at school and for Betty Grosser who arrives in the dark each winter's morning, we have installed a large sensor light that illuminates the car park and pathway between the Multi-Purpose Room and the toilet block. At the front entrance a solar floodlight has been installed that comes on at dark.

"Small Schools, Big Futures"

Regards

Col Hare,

Teaching Principal

Dates To Remember –

Term 4 – 06.10.15 – 16.12.15

04.12.15 -	Canteen
08.12.15 -	Year 6 Farewell dinner multipurpose room 7pm
09.12.15	Pre-school Christmas Party
10.12.15 -	Presentation Night
11.12.15 -	Final canteen 2015
16.12.15 -	Students' final day – K-6 Party!!

Mrs Moss – Music News

Mrs Moss would like expressions of interest from those interested in having music lessons with her in 2016. Please call Mary on 6825 4344 or mobile 0428 254 344. As always numbers will determine whether or not lessons continue in Tooraweenah next year.

Canteen Roster

04.12.15	Worker:	Cath. Peart
	Home Cooking:	Cath., Denae Skinner
11.12.15	Worker:	Mel Peart
(Last Canteen Day)	Home Cooking:	Mel, Ashley Starr & Steve Watt

Canteen News: Please note that for the remaining two canteen days there will be **no** **Chicken Bites** available to purchase. This Friday there will be available for purchase **Drumsticks** (ice cream) for **\$2.00** each and **Rainbow Paddle Pops** for **\$1.50**.

Happy Faces enjoying Swim School



Blake walking on air!!!



Maddie taking the plunge...



Heidi about to make a splash!!!



Mikayla about to sit on water...



1.
*Miss Kenny leading
the way during
Swim School....*



2.
*Brock taking a flying
leap!!!*



3.
*Kayne going just one
better....*



Sport and Recreation's Swim and Survive lessons

Australian summers usually involve plenty of fun in and around the water, but no parent should forget how important it is to make sure children stay safe.

Sport and Recreation's Swim and Survive classes for preschoolers and school-aged children help youngsters learn important ways to be safe and enjoy our pools, rivers, beaches and lakes.

The intensive nine-day programs provide wonderful results, and are great fun as well. Plus, family discounts make our program affordable for all the children in the family.

Sport and Recreation runs Swim and Survive classes in pools throughout regional NSW.

Our instructors are nationally qualified and screened for their suitability to work with children.

Prices for nine lessons are \$69 for school-aged children and \$49 for preschoolers (prices exclude pool entry fee).

For more information or to make a booking, visit
sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive
or phone 13 13 02





*The staff and students of
Tooraweenah Public School
would like to invite
parents
and community members*

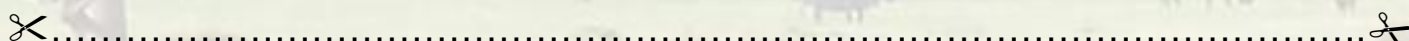
to our school

Presentation Night

on Thursday 10 December 2015

at the Tooraweenah Memorial Hall

7.15pm for 7.30pm



DVD Order Form

2015 Tooraweenah Public School Bi-Annual Concert DVD

"The Lion King"

Cost: \$10/DVD



I.....

Wish to order.....copies of the 2015 concert DVD

Enclosed.....Chq/Cash

Please return order form and payment to the school.