

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

You may be eligible to receive conveyance allowance for transporting your child to and from school. To be eligible to receive conveyance allowance, a student must:

- Be school age
- Reside more than 4.8km by the shortest route from the nearest school attended or bus stop,
- Be enrolled at the nearest government primary or secondary school, or at the nearest appropriate registered non-government school.

If you believe you are eligible to receive conveyance allowance, please contact the school to complete an application.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term One, or;
- on the first day of Term Two;
 - a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Application forms should be completed and lodged with schools by Friday 24th February 2017 for the first round of payments but forms will be accepted up until the last week of term 2.

The allowance will be 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 will be \$125 for primary school students. Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef.

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Extreme Fire Danger Days

I received an email from our Regional Director approving our pre-emptive closure on Extreme Fire Danger Rating (FDR) days. You may remember last year I mentioned about this in a newsletter. As a school on the 'upper cohort' of the Bushfire At Risk Register (BARR) we are automatically closed on Code RED days and School Council made the decision last year to apply for the closure on Extreme FDR days. There will be more information to follow in the coming days about how we will keep the community notified of pre-emptive closures on these extreme FDR days.

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to 2017! I hope you all had a wonderful break and enjoyed some valuable family time. I had a great two week holiday in Tasmania as I ate my own body weight in those delicious Tassie curry scallop pies!

It was also a busy time here at school as we went through the process of employing a teacher for the 2/3 grade. I am pleased to announce that we welcome Mrs Johanna Harding to TSPS. Mrs Harding comes to us from Newborough East Primary School where she has been teaching for a number of years. It will be great to have her on our team as we launch into our new strategic plan and improve our use of data to inform our teaching; something that Mrs Harding has led at her previous school. Welcome Mrs Harding!

We also see the familiar face of Mrs Dinelli back at school. She is working 3 days a week and will have a major role outside the classroom, helping to implement our changes in classroom expectations, use of data for teaching, tracking school wide data and lifting student achievement. Welcome back Mrs Dinelli!

Yesterday I had a conversation with VicRoads about the roundabout works on the Hyland Highway. They have informed me that the intersection will be under control of traffic lights for approximately 4 weeks. For our families travelling from Traralgon, this may add up to 15 minutes to your time depending on the operation of the lights. It may also impact on our school bus route if the buses are caught at the intersection. They have assured me that will be working with the sub-contractors to lessen the impact but there may be some negative impact for our families.

The first major initiative we are working on this year is the development of a school values and vision statement. These will help govern everything we do here at TSPS and will provide structure for students, teachers and families. The values will be something that helps everyone understand what we as a school community expect and what we aspire to. Our vision statement will form the centre of our learning and guide everything we do. The aim for this is transparency for our community so students and families know what we are trying to

achieve and how we will go about it. In the coming weeks, we will be asking for input into the development of these from all aspects of our school community.

Here's to a year of change and growth, but more importantly, improvement in every aspect!

Tissues

A reminder to parents that tissues are no longer included in the Materials Charges, as per the Department of Education and Training policy. However, we do ask that parents supply a box of tissues to their child's classroom please.

Hats

Students are reminded that they are required to wear School Council approved hats whilst playing outside during term 1 and 4 as per our school policy. Students who are not wearing a hat will be required to play under the appropriate shaded areas of the school ground. Please remind your child to bring their hat to school each day.

2017 Materials Charges

The 2017 Materials Charges have been set by School Council and will be \$137 per student. This payment goes towards student and class consumable materials. This payment is not voluntary and needs to be made before the end of February unless an appropriate payment plan has been organised with me.

2017 Voluntary Contributions

The 2017 Voluntary Contribution has been set by the School Council and will be \$30 per student towards ICT related equipment, \$10 per student which goes towards grounds maintenance, in particular mowing plus the \$30 per family working bee payment.

Adam Downes - Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER		
28 th Feb	Tue	2017 Materials Charges Due
13 th Mar	Mon	Labour Day Public Holiday
14 th Mar	Tue	School Photos
16 th Mar	Thu	District Sports in Traralgon