

Dear Parents,

What I love most about starting a new school year is catching up with students and families about their holiday break. It's amazing to see the smiles on the students' faces as they re-count what they did and how thrilled they are (well most of them) to be returning to school to continue their learning. I'm very excited about what the year has in store and look forward to working with you all.

### ***Class Letters***

All teachers will be sending out a class letter in the next week or two, outlining the program for the term, and will also include information regarding rules, consequences and rewards. Teachers will also include their email address should you prefer to contact them in this way. As was the case previously, teachers will be available to meet with parents to discuss their child's progress by appointment. Teachers are also available for a quick catch up from 8:40am – 8:50am and after school from 3:35pm.

### ***Parents and Students***

A friendly reminder to start off the school year about interactions between parents and students. It is important to recognise and understand that parents within the school should not discipline students who are not their own. We ask that if you see something that is happening which is breaking the school rules, you seek a staff member immediately to deal with the situation.

### ***Black Saturday***

As the anniversary of this disaster approaches, instead of having a memorial service at assembly, individual grades will conduct their own age-appropriate lessons in remembrance of this terrible tragedy. This we feel will be more important and meet the students' needs greater than a service at assembly.

### ***Late Arrivals***

Parents are reminded to fill out and sign the late arrivals book at the front office when their children are late to school. This year, we aim to minimise the number of students who are late to school as it has a large impact on their wellbeing and can lead to socialisation issues. There was a significant number of students arriving to school late each day last year and I ask that parents strive to address this. We have a high incidence of late arrivals compared to other schools, with even a couple of minutes late having a negative effect on student learning and social development at school. It is

good practice to arrive at 8:50am when the bag bell goes to ensure students are ready for learning once the next bell rings at 9:00am.

### ***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.

### ***2016 Materials Charges***

The 2016 Materials Charges have been set by School Council and will be \$130 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.

### ***2016 Voluntary Contributions***

The 2016 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**

### **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 29th February 2016 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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef). For more information about the CSEF visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef).

### **PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING**

It's time to elect a new Parents and Friends Committee for 2016. The AGM will be held on Monday 15th February after assembly in the staff room and we would love to have all positions filled. All new and current parents are encouraged to come along and be part of our vibrant group. Meet new people, make new friends and contribute to the additional resources provided to our children at TSPS. Funds raised from 2015 are going towards 8 new iPads to be purchased in the coming weeks. Meetings are held monthly on Monday mornings throughout the year. See you on the 15th February.

*~ Nerylee Morris – P&F President ~*

**Weekly Newsletter No 1**  
**Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016**



## **MAPPEN Information Session TONIGHT**

This year the school is using MAPPEN which is an on-line developmental curriculum designed for teachers to use.

**TONIGHT** we have our information session on the use of MAPPEN in the school, running from 6:30-7:30pm in the 5/6 room. During this session we will be looking at what the resource means for teachers, students and the school.

Children are welcome to attend as well if you are unable to find minders, but please bring something to keep them occupied. We can also put a movie on in one of the other classrooms to keep them entertained.

Looking forward to seeing as many parents as possible.

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[traralgonstps.wikispaces.com](http://traralgonstps.wikispaces.com)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon	Parents & Friends – Annual General Meeting after assembly
29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon	Student Essential Items Charges Due
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Wed	House Sports
14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mon	Labour Day – Public Holiday
16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Wed	District Sports
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Wed	School Photos
24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Thu	End of Term 1 – Early Dismissal 1:30pm

### FREE HOT SHOTS TENNIS CLINIC

There will be a free Hot Shots tennis clinic on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February 10:00am – 11:15am on the clay courts, (blue courts), Traralgon Tennis Club, Cnr Franklin/Davidson Streets, Traralgon. Everyone is welcome from 4 years old to 10 years old. The 4 – 6 year olds should arrive at 9:50am and 7 – 10 year olds will play 10:30 – 11:15am. Bring your own or rackets supplied. Have a go, play where the champs play. You'll have heaps of fun. Or just come along and have a look! Call Graham Charlton to register or for further information on 0417 532 35. Will be great to see you there!

### TRARALGON OLYMPIANS JUNIOR SOCCER

#### **"Have A Go & Bring A Friend" Night For all Boys & Girls**

When :- Tuesday 9th February, 2016

Time :- 4.45pm - 5.45pm : 5 to 11 year olds (turning 5 this year)  
5.00pm - 6.00 pm 12 years and over

Where:- Traralgon Olympians Soccer Club - Harold Preston Reserve  
Franklin St Entry opposite Traralgon Tennis Courts

What :- Training session and small sided games will run for approximately 1 hour then free sausage sizzle for players and family.

Registration info available on night or contact Emy 0403 317736 or email [traralgon.olympians.jnrs@gmail.com](mailto:traralgon.olympians.jnrs@gmail.com)

#### **Want your kids to enjoy fun and fitness at Gippsland's largest family-friendly soccer club?**

New to the game or strapping on the boots again? Traralgon City Soccer Club is excited to announce that we're kicking off training and introductory lessons on Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb for a season start in March. Teams available for boys and girls of any age!

Under 7 and Under 9 train Thurs 4.30 – 5.30pm

Under 11s and 12s train Tues and Thurs 4.30 – 5.30pm

Under 14 and Under 16 train Tues and Thurs 5.30 – 6.30pm

Located on Davidson Street Traralgon. Please call our Junior Coordinator Amanda on 0407 500 388 with any enquiries.

