



PRINCIPAL REPORT – WEEK 2 TERM 1 2020

This is our first newsletter for 2020 and the beginning of what I am sure will be an amazing year at Traralgon South Primary School. I trust you all had a lovely break over the Christmas and New Year period and are now back into the routine of work, school, sport and other commitments that quickly fill our weeks. My summer holidays didn't quite go to plan, as due to the recent fires, I was unable to take my family to our annual holiday to Mallacoota. So, at short notice we went to Port Welshpool instead and it was here I was still able to go fishing, read lots of books, sleep in and eat way too much. It was nice to slow down and spend some time with my family before getting back to work.

I'd like to begin by providing a special welcome to our new families. We had 18 Prep students start with us last week (15 of them are boys!), and 9 families from this cohort are new to our school. I look forward to working with you over the coming years and supporting your child in their educational journey. I trust the wider school community will also make you feel welcome.

Whilst on the topic of welcomes, both Mr Rilen and Mrs Phillips are new members of our teaching staff. Mr Rilen has joined us from South Street Primary School in Moe and Mrs Phillips has returned from family leave. Together, they will be teaching our Year 3/4 class and it has been great to see how well they have settled in.

Upon returning to school, Miss Bone requested a reduction of her work hours to 4 days/week, which I have granted. Beginning this week, Mr Rilen will be teaching this Year 2/3 class every Friday, and Miss Bone is now looking forward to spending more time catching up with her friends!

There are several documents attached to this newsletter that I would also like to draw your attention to. Given our physical location, the Department of Education and Training (DET) place our school on the Bushfire At Risk Register (BARR), and we are in 'Category 3' Specifically what this means for our school is detailed in the attached School Procedures for the Bushfire Season document. The second item relates to our Parents & Friends Committee, and a summary for how this will look in 2020. I encourage as many people to be involved as possible, doing so with the knowledge that your level of contribution is dictated solely by your availability and enthusiasm at any point in time. I understand how busy people are and our school appreciates any support we can get. Thirdly, I will be taking on the role of 'Chief Grill Master' from 7:30am on Tuesday 11 February while we host our Welcome to 2020 Breakfast. It would be lovely to see as many people attend as possible.

Take care,

Joel Blythman

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. If you have claimed this in the past you do not need to fill in another claim form. Applications close 28th February.

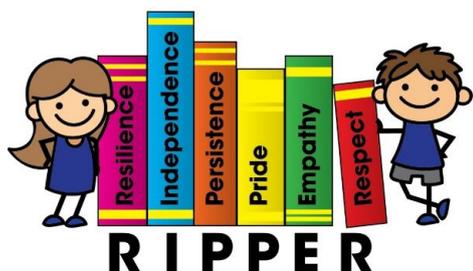
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. Card must have been current on 29/1/20.

The allowance is 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 primary school student is \$125. Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form.

If you applied for the CSEF at this school previously, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances/additional student on the claim. An information sheet has been sent home today and/or check with the school office if you are unsure.

RIPPER Student Awards - Week Ending 31st January 2020



Prep/1	Henry Riseley	For showing great independence in following instructions.
1/2	Kyah Dalrymple	For a positive attitude towards trying and improving all tasks.
3/4	Immi McAllister	For displaying a positive and enthusiastic attitude in the classroom.
5/6	Ford Gore	For showing initiative and independence in the classroom.
School Captain Award	Tayla Leviston	For showing persistence and resilience in all her school work.

DATES TO REMEMBER

11 th Feb	Tue	Welcome to 2020 Breakfast - 7:30am
12 th Feb	Wed	Book Club Due In
28 th Feb	Fri	Materials Charges Due - \$160 per student Clean Up Australia Day Conveyance Allowance Applications for Claims Close
9 th Mar	Mon	Labour Day Public Holiday
11 th Mar	Wed	School House Sports in Traralgon - Whole School
17 th Mar	Tue	District Sports in Traralgon - Years 3 to 6 only
24 th Mar	Tue	School Photos



PARENT PAYMENTS 2020

Within the comprehensive curriculum offered at Traralgon South Primary School, students consume items, activities and services which support the standard program. These items, activities and services are essential to support student learning of the standard curriculum and are deemed compulsory. Traralgon South Primary School charges an Essential Student Learning Items levy for these items, activities and services.

We make every effort to keep the cost of materials and services low whilst maintaining a high level of education for our students. We do appreciate that some families experience difficulties in meeting payment requests and a range of support options are available to assist with this. Please make an appointment to discuss these options if required.

STUDENT NAME:		2020 YEAR LEVEL:	
ESSENTIAL STUDENT LEARNING ITEMS			LEVY
<p>These are items or services that are essential for your child's education. The Department of Education and Training (DET) states that parents/guardians are expected to buy or supply these items. Traralgon South Primary School purchases in bulk, assuring discount prices are paid by families. There are also items that can only be purchased through the school.</p>	<p>This levy contributes to the cost of student requisites including stationery, bulk consumable materials used in the classroom, Mathletics, Online literacy programs, Art materials, MAPPEN, printing and photocopying. This also includes activities associated with instruction that all students are expected to attend, such as incursions, excursions, school sports and travel.</p>	\$160.00	
OPTIONAL ITEMS			
<p>These are provided on a user-pays basis so that if parents choose to access them for students, they are required to pay. These costs to parents are expected to be paid throughout the year and may include, but are not limited to, charges for activities and programs provided by outside specialists such as Life Education, swimming, art performances, music, school photographs, and some camps and excursions.</p>	School Photos	To be advised	
	Years 3 & 4 Camp	\$270 (Approx.)	
	P-6 Swimming Program	To be advised	
	Years 5 & 6 Camp	\$280 (Approx.)	
	Other Sport and Excursion Costs	To be advised	
VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS (per family)			Tick if paying
<p>These are presented each year to parents to target a school-based project.</p> <p>Please note these are suggested amounts per family, but parents are able to contribute whatever amount they would like. Voluntary contributions can be made at any time of the year.</p>	Grounds Maintenance		\$20
	<p>The funding for the maintenance and upkeep of our school grounds is not fully provided by the DET, so contributions to this levy goes towards ensuring our grounds are maintained to a high standard.</p>		
	Information Technology (IT)		\$30
	Working Bee		\$20
	<p>This voluntary contribution is intended to be a substitute for attendance at working bees throughout the year, supporting the maintenance of our school environment.</p>		

Timeline of Known Charges:

Term 1	28 February	Parent Payments 2020 due:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essential Student Learning Items• Voluntary Grounds Maintenance• Voluntary Information Technology• Voluntary Working Bee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$160 per child\$20 per family\$30 per family\$20 per family
	March	School Photos	Costs depend on order
Term 2	April	Year 3/4 Camp	\$270 (Approx.)
Term 3	September	Prep-6 Swimming Program	To be advised
Term 4	November	Year 5/6 Camp	\$280 (Approx.)

Please note that during the year there may be additional costs related to particular themes classes are involved in.

Payment Options:

For your convenience, there are several options to make parent payments. These are:

- In person, at the General Office, using cash or cheque.
- Electronic transfer (direct deposit). Please include a description of the related item you are making a payment for in the reference field. For example, 'Student name: 2020 School Fees', and complete and return the 'Direct Deposit Notification' slip below.

Account Name: Traralgon South Primary School

BSB: 313 140

Account Number: 12002290

Please note: If your family is experiencing circumstances which make it difficult to meet Parent Payments, please contact the school to discuss your options in a confidential manner.

DIRECT DEPOSIT NOTIFICATION

If you are paying for invoices and/or payments via electronic transfer (direct deposit), please complete the details below and return this to the General Office at your earliest convenience.

Name: _____

Date of Direct Deposit: _____

Amount: _____

Description of Payment(s): _____

Signature: _____



Traralgon South Primary School

School Procedures for the 2019-2020 Bushfire Season

The following is to inform families and the local community of our planned response to Fire Danger Ratings and local conditions during the bushfire season, in order to keep our students and staff safe.

FORECAST FIRE DANGER RATING (Local Bushfire Conditions)	ACTION	COMMUNICATION
Code Red	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCHOOL CLOSED/RELOCATED (decision made by the Department of Education and Training). • Out of hours care cancelled (if applicable). • No staff onsite. <p><i>Families enact their bushfire survival plan.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents contacted directly, up to 3 days prior, and confirmed the day before. • Decision will not change. • Local CFA notified.
Extreme/Severe (Fire in local area – for example: Callignee, Churchill, Loy Yang)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal to request approval for school closure/relocation from Department of Education and Training. • Out of hours care cancelled (if applicable). • No staff onsite. <p><i>Families enact their bushfire survival plan.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents contacted directly as soon as possible. • Decision will not change. • Local CFA notified.

FORECAST FIRE DANGER RATING (Local Bushfire Conditions)	ACTION	COMMUNICATION
<p>Extreme/Severe</p> <p>(No fires in local area)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School remains open. • School to monitor Vic Emergency website/ABC radio and keep in contact with Regional Emergency Management staff from the Department of Education and Training. • Follow advice of emergency services. • Out of hours care cancelled (if applicable). • Note: If considered necessary, approval will be sought for school closure/relocation as above. <p><i>Families enact their bushfire survival plan.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents notified of any changes to situation. • Parents to ensure they can be easily contacted, or alternatively, inform the school who the best contact is for that day.
<p>Extreme/Severe/Very High</p> <p>(Fire starts spontaneously during the day and may impact the school)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School to monitor Vic Emergency website/ABC radio and keep in contact with Regional Emergency Management staff from the Department of Education and Training. • Contact emergency services. • Follow advice of Emergency Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If time allows and if safe to do so, evacuate with emergency services escort - Shelter in place in Multi-Purpose Room. <p><i>Please note: If parents arrive during this time, they will be strongly advised to stay on school grounds..</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents notified of any changes to situation, if possible. • Parents to ensure they can be easily contacted, or alternatively, inform the school who the best contact is for that day.

TRARALGON SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL WELCOME TO 2020 BREAKFAST

Hi everyone! I'd like to invite you to a welcome breakfast for an informal catch up with your child's teacher while I cook you a free bacon and egg sandwich. I'm pretty handy on the barbecue and would love it if you could make it!



TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY

**Breakfast will be served from
7:30am, before classroom
visits from 8:15am - 8:45am**



Prior to Parent/Teacher interviews on Thursday 16 April (save the date!), this event is a chance to introduce yourself to your child's classroom teacher, provide an opportunity to get to know one another a little more and visit the classroom to see some of the learning that has seen us have a bright start to the year. Stay for as long or as little as you'd like!



PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Dear Parents,

The support from the parent community for our children at Traralgon South Primary School is significant. One element of this support comes from our Parents & Friends Committee, a group of volunteers who coordinate various fundraising events and return the profits raised to our school.

We are calling for interested parent volunteers to form our Parents & Friends Committee for 2020. This does not need to be a significant commitment of time, with your level of contribution dictated solely by your availability and motivation at that point in time.

There will be no positions of responsibility (President, Vice-President, for example), but rather a 'mini-group' from within the larger Parents & Friends Committee electing to coordinate, organise and run a specific fundraising event. For example, if our Parents & Friends Committee consisted of 25 members, a group of 10 might volunteer their time to collectively coordinate the Mother's Day Stall.

Working in partnership with myself, our School Council and our Junior School Council, I am confident 2020 will see positive outcomes in this space. Importantly, improvements will be made available to our school beyond the limited level of Government funding, ultimately benefitting our children.

If you are interested, please provide your contact details below and return to the General Office by Wednesday 12 February 2020. Soon afterwards, and depending on the availability of members, we will meet to plan our goals and targets for the year, inclusive of scheduling various fundraising events.

Sincerely,

Joel Blythman

Principal



TRARALGON SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL – 2020 PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Please complete and return to the General Office by Wednesday 12 February 2020

(if you are reading a digital copy of this, please provide your details to the school via email, phone or in person)

NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

I AM REGULARLY AVAILABLE TO MEET ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS/TIMES: