

**Weekly Newsletter No 2**  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019**



Dear Parents,

Many thanks to all the students and parents who were able to come to the opening of our Memorial Garden which marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Black Saturday bushfires. It was so great to see so many families from outside of the immediate Traralgon South community present at school and also at the 6pm service. The students who were able to sing did themselves and the school proud. After the 6pm service I was able to show some of the families who had lost loved ones in the fires our garden. They were truly moved by the gesture of our 11 trees. They cannot wait to come back and see the garden in full bloom and growth.

A reminder that on Monday we have our school photos. If your envelope has gone missing, we have some spares at the office. The school does not take any money, the envelopes go directly to the photographers. If you would like a sibling/family photo, there are separate envelopes in the office for these. To have a sibling photo, you must collect an envelope which is brought on photo day.

Our school open night and welcome BBQ is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Classrooms will be open from 5:30pm and we are encouraging families to pop in to all classrooms, not just your own. The BBQ will be ready from 6pm.

It is this time of year that we get ready for School Council elections. Attached to this newsletter is information for our School Council nomination process. School Council is an integral part of the running of the school and they oversee important factors such as the financial running of the school, set school policies, set programs for building and ground maintenance and ensure the school is reaching its targets set in both the 4 year Strategic Plan and the Annual Implementation Plan. Each year roughly half of the School Council is up for re-nomination or election. Nominations for School Council open today and must be received by Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm. You can self-nominate or have someone nominate you. Nomination forms are available from the office. If we receive more nominations than positions, then we must enter a ballot. The Department has very stringent rules and regulations around the formation of School Councils.

School Council meet at least 8 times per year which averages about 2 Monday night meetings per term. If you would like more information on nominating or the role of School Council please contact either myself or our current President Karen Pettifer. Our first meeting for the new Council will be on 25<sup>th</sup> March which will also double as our AGM.

Our first Parents and Friends meeting will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February straight after assembly. This will also be the AGM. For those new to the school and education, our Parents and Friends committee is one of the school's major fundraising groups. They do a wonderful job in organising a wide range of activities such as special lunch days, hot cross bun orders, chocolate drives, Mother's and Father's Day stalls and the list goes on. If you would like to know more please turn up or come and see me at any time.

With our Memorial Garden, we have a mountain of mulch which needs to be spread. If you have an hour or so free before or after drop off/pick up or on the weekend it would be most appreciated if you could spread just a little. We will organise a bigger effort over the coming weeks.

### **2019 Materials Charge**

The 2019 Materials Charge have been set by School Council and is \$150 per student. This payment goes towards student and class consumable materials. This payment is not voluntary and needs to be made asap, but before the end of February, unless an appropriate payment plan has been organised with me.

### **2019 Voluntary Contributions**

The 2019 Voluntary Contributions have been set by the School Council and will be \$10 **per student** which goes towards grounds maintenance, in particular mowing, \$20 Working Bee **per family** and \$30 IT payment **per family**.

### **Tissues**

A reminder to parents that tissues are no longer included in the Materials Charge, 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.

**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. If you have claimed this in the past you do not need to fill in another claim form.

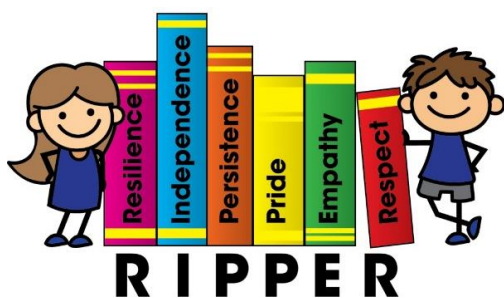
## CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

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 29/1/19.

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 or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

If you applied for the CSEF at this school previously, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances/additional student on the claim. Check with the school office if you are unsure.

### Student Awards - Week Ending 8th February 2019



Prep	Thomas Wilhelm	For respectful listening during instruction time.
2/3	Hunter Smythe	For showing independence and responsibility in his routines.
3/4	Jack Ralph	For showing independence in his approach to learning.
4/5	Matilda Peck	For showing pride in her school and empathy towards others.
6	Esther Miljons	For displaying independence in her learnings tasks.
P.E.	Sheldon Tassell	For showing resilience when completing the distance run in P.E.
Principal	Lulu Thomas	For showing empathy towards

### DATES TO REMEMBER

18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon	School Photos
19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Tue	School BBQ
25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mon	Parents & Friends Annual General Meeting after assembly - all welcome
		School Council Meeting - 7:00pm
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Tue	School Council Nominations Close - 4:00pm
28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Thu	2019 Materials Charge due in
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Fri	Clean Up Australia
4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mon	Circus Challenge Incursion - \$7.50 per student
5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Tue	School House Sports in Traralgon
7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Thu	Chris Collins - Author Visit Incursion - \$5.50 per student
11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Mon	Labour Day Public Holiday
19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Tue	District Sports in Traralgon

## SCHEDULE 4: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Traralgon South Primary School.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on 26/2/19.

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on 13/3/19.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019.  to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2021.	4
DET employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019.  to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2021.	1

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.



Adam Downes  
Principal