

Dear Parents,

Apologies for not sending out newsletters over the past few weeks. Camps and a few other issues arose which they often tend to do!

Schools are very dynamic places and there is always something that changes last minute to keep us on our toes. This happened last week as we thought we had our grade structures planned and in place for 2018. Come Thursday, we find out we have 20 preps enrolling for 2018 which is fantastic, however this caused a ripple effect through our structures. Monday was spent re-doing grades and thinking of all the combinations possible.

There is a lot to consider when working on grade structures and placing students in them. These range from, but are not excluded to, and not in order of preference; academics, sociability, emotional considerations, cohorts of students, behaviour, families/siblings, numbers of students in grades and the list continues.

As such we will be running with the following grade structures and teachers in 2018.

Prep- Mrs Jo Morrison
Grade 1/2- Mrs Paula Landy
Grade 2/3- Mrs Stacey Dinelli and Mrs Ashleigh Philips
Grade 3/4/5- Miss Ruth Bone
Grade 5/6 Mrs Lisa Knowles

For next year we welcome back Mrs Phillips from family leave who will co-teach with Mrs Dinelli. We also welcome Mrs Lisa Knowles who joins staff after working with Mappen for past few years, after some time as a teacher in both the Catholic and state school systems. Mrs Harding is returning to Newborough East Primary School and Mrs Fowler is taking up a position at Morwell Central. Both Mrs Harding and Mrs Fowler have been tremendous assets for Traralgon South PS whilst they have been here and we wish them all the very best. More will be written in the next week or two regarding Mrs Harding and Mrs Fowler.

You will notice in our structures we have a grade that moves over 3 levels. Whilst academically this poses no problems as research shows any year level there could be up to 6 years in abilities, there are all of the other considerations I have mentioned above. All of the structures we have put

in place over the past few years will make this work, I am confident of that. I will remind parents however that at the beginning of the term I asked for considerations for placing students in grades. As always, I am available for any questions regarding this grade structure.

I have been working lately with Glenn Tarrant from Regional office regarding the school's placement on the Bushfire at Risk Register. Attached to this newsletter is the school's procedures for the upcoming bushfire season. It should be noted that in the action section the first step is *Families enact their bushfire survival plan*. This means that if part of your plan is to vacate the area, this is what you do and school is the last consideration. Families plans should override anything the school is doing. Over the remainder of the year we will continue to discuss with students the school's emergency management and evacuation plans. Our 'Shelter in Place' structure is the multipurpose room and this is where we will vacate to should a fire be in our vicinity. Again, if you have any questions regarding this place make sure you come and see me.

Today we surveyed all of our students in Years 3 to 6 about their confidence levels in seeing a teacher on duty as well as several other important items. This stems from conversations held with some students over the last few weeks and the reluctance of students to see a teacher. This data will be shared with the students and an action developed for 2018. There will be a chance for those students who were away today to complete the survey at a later time. We will also investigate ways for those in Prep and Years 1 and 2 to add their voice as well. Listening to the concerns of students is an important aspect of school. We value the input of our students and how they can help us work together to build an even better schooling experience.

Adam Downes - Principal

LIBRARY BOOKS

Could you please start looking for, and returning, school library books asap. We will start chasing up unreturned books next week. Students will be rewarded with a Zooper Dooper in the next few days, once they have no library books borrowed against their name.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

One book of 10 raffle tickets each have been sent home with the eldest in the family today. Prizes will be drawn at our end of year concert.

**YOU CAN DO IT
STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS
For Week Ending 1st December 2017**



P/1	Cody Tapai	For working hard to improve the presentation of his book work.
1/2	Mia Jones	For her great work at Maths problem solving.
2/3	Lachlan Pass	For showing independence to achieve his writing goal.
4	Declan Lazaris	For using class resources to help him work independently.

DATES TO REMEMBER

12 th Dec	Tue	Orientation Day
14 th Dec	Thu	Christmas Themed Dress Up Day
15 th Dec	Fri	Whole School Excursion
18 th Dec	Mon	Year 6 Graduation
20 th Dec	Wed	End of Year Concert - Students arrive 6:45pm for a 7:00pm start
22 nd Dec	Fri	End of 2017 School Year - 1:30pm dismissal
29 th Jan	Mon	First day for staff 2018
30 th Jan	Tue	First day for students 2018

HELP NEEDED - WANT TO EARN SOME EXTRA CASH IN 2018?

If you feel you could offer a hand in the morning/afternoon to enable me to work, it would make a world of difference! We are based in Morwell and I'm obviously happy to drop off and collect my 2 children (in Years 3 and 4 next year), provide breakfast etc. Even an hour or so in the morning and/or the afternoon, perhaps run them in to after school care in Traralgon would help. If you would like to discuss further please phone me - Danielle Tilley - on 0456 111 556. I'm prepared to pay \$20 cash per day (neg.).



Christmas Themed Dress Up Day Thursday 14th December

On Thursday 14th December, we will be having a Christmas themed dress up day. We are encouraging all students to dress up in their finest Christmas gear, or at the very least in red and green. We ask that students bring along an item for the Christmas hamper/prizes. Donations will be collected from each classroom **on the day**.

Note: School uniform is to be worn by those students not wearing Christmas themed clothes and remember to follow these rules:



- ★ No singlet tops
- ★ Shoes must be enclosed style
- ★ School hats must be worn outside



*We look forward to your continued support
of this popular raffle!*





Traralgon South Primary School

School Procedures for the Bushfire Season

This plan informs families and the local community of what will happen under different 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"> <i>Families enact their bushfire survival plan</i> SCHOOL CLOSED Out of hours care cancelled No staff onsite 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents contacted directly, up to 3 days prior, confirmed the day before Decision will not change Local CFA notified
Extreme / Severe, with fire in local area (Callignee, Churchill, Loy Yang)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Families enact their bushfire survival plan</i> Request approval for closure from Regional Director SCHOOL CLOSED Out of hours care cancelled No staff onsite 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents contacted directly as soon as possible. Decision will not change Local CFA notified

<p>Extreme / Severe, with no fires in local area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Families enact their bushfire survival plan</i> • School remains open • Monitor Vic Emergency website/ ABC radio/ keep in contact with Regional Emergency Management • Follow advice of Emergency services • Out of hours care cancelled <p><i>Nte: If considered necessary, approval will be sought for school closure as above</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents notified of any changes to situation • Parents need to make sure we can contact them easily or let us know who the best contact is for that day.
<p>Extreme/Severe/High Danger</p> <p>If fire starts spontaneously during the day and may possibly impact the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor Vic Emergency website/ ABC radio/ keep in contact with Regional Emergency Management • 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 classroom building. <p><i>Please note: If parents arrive during this time they will be strongly advised to stay with us.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents notified of any changes to situation <i>if possible</i> • Parents need to make sure we can contact them easily or let us know who the best contact is for that day.