

RECORDER GROUP PERFORMANCE

The recorder group will be performing a short Christmas song at next Tuesday's end of year assembly. We hope to see you there!

~ Yvonne Game ~

DATES TO REMEMBER

14/12/16	Wed	End of Year Concert – 7:00pm start JSC Christmas Raffle will be drawn
16/12/16	Fri	Whole School Excursion - \$7.50 per student
20/12/16	Tue	Last Day Term 4 – Early Dismissal at 1:30pm
30/01/17	Mon	First day Term 1 – Student Free Day
31/01/17	Tue	First day for students

YOU CAN DO IT

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS For Week Ending 9th December 2016



P/1	Olivia McInnes	For trying hard at keeping her desk tidy and organised.
1/2	Conroy Robinson	For being kind to all his peers.
3	Clancie Gollan	For putting in her best efforts and displaying a positive attitude to learning tasks.
4/5	Julia Bates	For showing initiative and a most positive attitude.
5/6	Kate Hagley	For always putting in 100% and having a fantastic attitude.

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Wednesday 14th December 2016

End of Year Concert

The 2016 End of Year Concert will be held tonight, Wednesday 14th December on the school oval, with students asked to be at school by 6:45pm for a 7:00pm start.

Please bring a chair/rug to sit on. Students are required to sit in the designated student area. We ask that toddlers remain with their parents during the concert.

The Junior School Council Christmas Raffle will also be drawn during the evening so make sure you have your tickets in!

We look forward to seeing you tonight.

Dear Parents,

Last week we held our Grade 6 graduation to farewell students who are leaving us for secondary college in 2017. It was a great night that celebrated the changes these students have had since beginning primary school. Congratulations to our award winners; Teagan Schoolderman for the Arts award, Ruby Bates for the Academic award and Hailee Henry who was awarded the Wes Pump Memorial Award. As I said on the night, it was hard to select the winners for these awards as any of our graduating students would have been worthy recipients. We wish all graduating students the very best in the next phase of their educational journey.

We received some exciting news over the last week from some of our past students who have picked up awards at their respective secondary colleges. Abbey Lambert was awarded Dux of Year 7, the College Principal Encouragement Award and a high achievement award and Georgie Lambert was also awarded a High achievement award for Traralgon College. Charlie Rhode, Emma Hagley and Zara Pettifer were awarded numerous honours awards each for their year at Trafalgar High with Zara also being awarded Dux of 7H, which is the form involved in the accelerated program. Congratulations to these students and all those who have completed their first year of secondary college.

Over the past few weeks I have been mentioning some elements of change that will happen from the beginning of 2017. At Monday night's staff meeting staff endorsed a new writing checklist system to begin in 2017. In all there are 16 incremental checklists, which explicitly state what children need to improve their writing. This will raise work expectations, as we will not accept any work standard below the checklist the student is presently on and will also assist from year to year as we begin to build a better transition process and data sharing.

Each teacher will also adopt a model of teaching practice that has 4 main components;

1. **Assess** what each of our students knows already
2. Target **Teach** to meet each student's learning needs
3. Rigorously **Track** the progress of all our students
4. **Adapt** our teaching practices to improve next time around

This system of targeted teaching has shown through research to be effective in lifting student outcomes by ensuring we do not teach students what they already know. It will also allow greater feedback to be given to students and parents about where the current level of practice is for each and every student.

As a staff, and with a group of parents on Monday, we have also begun our work in setting school-wide values. Early next year we will be asking all of our parent community and students to have input into this. The aim is to have clear values in place before the end of the first semester.

As also mentioned, staff have also begun working on clear and explicit expectations for every grade in the school. These expectations include setting appropriate working noise levels in the classroom, staying in seats while working, establishing positive classroom environments, maintaining consistent homework expectations for staff and students, students following instructions, expecting high levels of student work output and lifting the quality of student work. It is a very exciting time for TSPS. I am really looking forward to leading this work and working with staff, parents and students to further improve the work we do here.

Tonight we have our Christmas concert beginning at 7:00pm on the oval. Students are requested to be here at 6:45pm. It is a great celebration to finish the year with students and families. As a school event I remind all families of the responsibilities we have with it being an official school event and to act accordingly and responsibly at all times.

Parents are reminded that we finish officially next Tuesday 20th December at 1:30pm following a short assembly beginning at 1:15. Our 2017 school year for students begins on Tuesday 31st January, with teachers attending school on the Monday but no students. Our new preps will also begin on Tuesday but then have the Wednesday off.

Lastly, after a very busy year with our school review, I would like to thank all staff, parents and students for your contributions to our wonderful school community over the year. We have again run a massive amount of activities throughout the year including camps and excursions, classroom help, swimming programs, special lunch time meals, sports days, morning teas, community dinners, graduations and working bees to name but a few. The help and continued support with these have enabled our school community grow and continue to prosper.

Wishing you all a very safe and happy holiday. Enjoy the time with your families.

Adam Downes – Principal

2017 GRADE 6 UNIFORM

Over the past couple of months we have been working with a local company to design a variety of uniform choices for next year's Grade 6 students. We were hoping to have a range for students to try on before the end of this term however, due to our supplier having some issues locating sample sizes, we possibly won't have delivery of these samples until the first week of term 1 next year.

Available for purchase will be a tracksuit jacket (similar to the one worn by the current Grade 6 students), a closed front fleecy hoodie (no zip) and a polo shirt. At this stage we are still waiting on final prices as we are exploring a number of different options for including the students' names in the design. We will pass on more information as we receive it.

~ Jeneen Fowler ~