



Dear Parents,

Welcome back for what is shaping up to be a very busy term 2! I hope everyone had a good break and you were able to enjoy some time doing what you love.

Over the next two weeks teachers will be having their planning days to focus on the learning for the term ahead. Teachers will work in their teams to plan and set targets for student learning after looking at both the curriculum and assessments already completed by the students. The importance of looking at the pre-assessments is that teachers set a curriculum or target on what the students have already shown they can do. Our Victorian Curriculum is set like a continuum of learning and students should be progressing along that curriculum depending on their current skills and understanding. School has changed a lot over time; just because a student is in Grade 4, does not mean they are just taught the Grade 4 curriculum. The assessments we give students show teachers what the students know already, so we plan accordingly at their level of understanding, that might be below, at or above the expected level. Teachers then track progress throughout the term by giving daily/weekly tasks that build on teaching so students reach a higher level of achievement, and teachers can measure their impact on learning.

Our Parent/Teacher interviews have been set for Wednesday the 8th May beginning at 1pm. We decided to run the interviews at this time after listening to feedback from parents, especially through the Parent Opinion Survey, as there has been more learning take place than in the first 6 weeks of school. Having interviews at this time allows a greater discussion about learning and student progress than it would after only 6 weeks. Please make sure you book your time in with your teacher. If you feel that 10 minutes will not be enough, please talk to your child's teacher to arrange a separate mutually exclusive time on a separate day.

At our staff meeting last night we discussed the results from a survey we had the students do in the last week of term 1. There were some great results in there that we celebrated as a school, and then there was some data that gave us some good discussion points and aspects to work on. One of these was the perception that students did not believe that students in their class were well behaved. As a staff we spoke about possible ways around this, discussed our policies and then how we can change the perception of students. It's important here to recognise and listen to the student voice about what makes them believe students are not well behaved in the classroom. There will be some work done in classes about this and some deeper digging to hear the student voice and make some positive changes.

We discussed what we as staff could do straight away, and then how parents at home may be able to help as well. This is not to say that we dismiss what the students are saying and are not going to focus on those students who are stopping work from being completed, but having a small mindset shift may make some difference. We are going to concentrate on all the great things that happen throughout the day. I know sometimes I focus on the negative and that changes my mindset, especially when I think about the jobs I didn't get to, not the jobs that I did get to. One of the ways we will do this at school is to focus on the positive behaviours and celebrate those more often. One of the ways you may be able to help at home is to ask 'What did you learn today?' or 'What was the best thing about school today?' This small change in language can often bring about large mindset shifts rather than focusing on the negative.

A reminder that tomorrow there is no school as it is ANZAC day; a day to remember those who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations and the contribution and suffering of all those who have served. Byron Smythe, one of our School Captains, will be laying a wreath at the Traralgon cenotaph on behalf of the school community.

Adam Downes - Principal

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

The Mother's Day Stall will be held on Friday 10th May. If you would like to donate any items for the stall, these can be sent along to the office. We will also need helpers the day before and on the day. If you would like to volunteer, please let Kate Miljons know or leave your name at the office.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

We have once again registered to be part of the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. With every \$10 spent at Woolworths, one sticker is collected. These can be placed on the Earn & Learn sticker sheets and dropped into the collection box which will be in the school foyer. The program commences 1st May.

DATES TO REMEMBER		
24 th Apr	Wed	Years 3 & 4 camp payment due in - \$275 per student
1 st May - 3 rd May	Wed - Fri	Camp Coonawarra - Years 3 & 4
2 nd May	Thu	Book Club Orders Due In
3 rd May	Fri	Interviews Bookings Close 3:30pm
8 th May	Wed	Parent/Teacher Interviews
10 th May	Fri	Mother's Day Stall

GIVE A DAMN. GIVE A CAN.

Each year the Rotary Club of Traralgon Central conducts a canned food appeal. Last year the club collected nearly 9000 tins of food for needy families. This lasts the food bank just 5 months. But it does mean Vinnies can meet the needs of the Traralgon community for the full 12 months.

The most significant part of this collection is that conducted by the Traralgon and District schools. If you are able to support this appeal, cans of food and other non-perishable items can be sent along to the school from 13th May up until 24th May.



THE EASY WAY TO BOOK

SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday 8th May. Bookings must be finalised before 3:30pm on Friday 3rd May, when bookings for this event will close.

For parents who do not have internet access please contact the school office. Interviews are strictly 10 minutes and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

BOOKINGS CLOSE FRIDAY 3rd MAY AT 3:30PM

Now you can book school interviews online. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"



Enter your details



Select the teachers you wish to see



Select the appointment times that suit your family best



When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately –

Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly

You may change your bookings any time prior to the closing date of 3rd May at 3:30pm, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking.