We are very pleased to welcome everyone to the school year. We have eight new Prep students who successfully started their school life today. Thank you for making their transition into school easier by being supportive of the school. They looked fantastic (as all our students did) in their school uniforms. We would also like to thank and acknowledge the excellent work that Les Osborne and Ari Bos did over the break to ensure that our gardens and grounds remain productive, functional and attractive. Also, thank you to Shirley who did a great job with the holiday clean. Our chooks are now safely returned to their school hen-house after holidaying over the break; thanks Deb and Dinah for caring for our hens over this extended time.

First term is extremely short this year and we have many important things we need to achieve. With this in mind, Parent/Teacher interviews will be held next week so that you can discuss detailed information about your child’s progress and program with your child’s classroom teacher. Please return the attached form to book your appointment by Monday so that the timetable can be sent home Tuesday.

Damon Piercy will commence his program on the 11th Feb (see attached flyer). Damon is keen to meet members of our school community before-hand so will be attending our WELCOME TO TOORA P.S. PANCAKE BREAKFAST Tuesday – please come along and make him feel welcome.

Toora Primary School PFA (Parents and Friends Association) invite you to a

**WELCOME TO TOORA PS PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**Tuesday 5th February**

8:15am – 9:00am

**Menu:** Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Cereal, Toast. If anyone can help with set-up, cooking and clean up please contact Kathryn Brown ph:56862730

Unfortunately, two of our three classes have not yet received their classroom supplies that were ordered together at the end of term 4. Therefore, Communication Books will not be issued in the 3/4 and 5/6 classes until next week. Communication will need to be through the office or through notes until the Communication Books are in operation. We apologise for any inconvenience but the delay in delivery is beyond our control.

**2013 CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY**

*Prep students absent WEDNESDAY’s*

4th  Interview time preference sheet due in
5th  Welcome to Toora Healthy Breakfast
6th  Swimming Program Grade 1-6 Session 1
7th  Parent /Teacher Interviews 1:00-4:45pm
12th Welcome to School / Healthy Breakfast
20th Swimming Program Grade 1-6 Session 2
27th Swimming Program Grade 1-6 Session 3
28th Last day to lodge EMA application

**March**

*Preps attend school every day*

11th Labour Day PUBLIC holiday
14th Whole School Athletics Sports at Foster
15th Back-up day for Athletics Sports
20th Great Southern Portrait Art Workshop
27th Great Southern Portrait Art Workshop

**2013 Term Dates**

Term1: 31 Jan - 28 Mar  
Term2: 15 Apr - 28 Jun  
Term3: 15 Jul - 20 Sept  
Term4: 7 Oct - 20 Dec

**School Office Hours**

8.30am—4.00pm  (Wednesdays unattended)

**Absences** - Phone the office or write in your Child’s communication book

**WEDNESDAY LUNCH ORDERS**

Unfortunately Toora Supermarket is unable to offer a Lunch Order service in 2013.

Until arrangements can be made for a lunch ordering alternative — there will be no lunch orders. Anyone with Lunch ordering ideas please bring them along to our “Welcome Breakfast” for discussion.

**VIEW OUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE**

Our newsletter can be viewed online at our website at any time. Check it out in colour!

www.tooraps.vic.edu.au

Facebook page: TooraPrimarySchool
EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

Process for 2013:
The allowance will be paid in two instalments. To be eligible the claimant must:

- be a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen, and
- hold a current Centrelink Pensioner Concession or Health Care Benefit Card, or a Veterans Affairs (TPI) Pensioner Card, or be a foster parent as at the first day of term 1 (28 January 2013) for the first instalment, and the first day of term 3 (15th July 2013) for the second instalment, and
- submit their application to the school by the due date – 28th February 2013

No late claims will be accepted.

As the EMA is provided to assist low-income families any applications based on Centrelink payments that are not income tested (eg Carer Allowance, formerly Child Disability Allowance, Mobility Allowance and Remote Area Allowance) are not eligible unless the claimant, in their own name, complies with the second dot point above.

To claim the EMA, parents are asked to complete the attached EMA form and return to the school office no later than 28th February.

SECONDHAND SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS
The school is looking for any second-hand uniform items that we can pass onto families or use as replacement uniform in the case of accidents at school. If you have any items in good condition that you would like to donate please leave at the school office.

SCHOOL HATS
Toora Primary School is a SunSmart school. Brimmed hats are an essential part of our school uniform for first and fourth terms. All children must wear a brimmed hat outside or will be directed to the shaded table area for the duration of lunch and recess. Hats are available from the office at $8 each.

REMINDER:
- All visitors to the school MUST sign in at the office before entering the classroom area.
- Bus travellers must have a note handed to either the office or Bus Duty teacher or a note in the communication book if they are not travelling home on the bus.
- Bus Students are Supervised from 8:15am until 3:50pm. All other students are supervised between 8:40am - 3:30pm.

Welcome to Michael, Shai, Myunah, Sunday, Zayne, Tyler, Thomas and Tyler - our 2013 Preps
Swimming and Water Safety through
Physical Education 2013

Mrs Alison Wogan-Browne is the teacher in charge of the Physical Education Program.

In the following weeks, the Physical Education lesson will be held at the Toora Swimming Pool where students will focus on:

- Stroke Technique
- Water Confidence and Experience
- Water Safety

Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 6th</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Grade 1/2 – 12:15pm – 1:00pm</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>3/4 – 2:00pm – 2:45pm</th>
<th>Session 3</th>
<th>5/6 – 2:45pm – 3:30pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20th</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 – 12:15pm – 1:00pm</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>3/4 – 2:00pm – 2:45pm</td>
<td>Session 3</td>
<td>5/6 – 2:45pm – 3:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 – 12:15pm – 1:00pm</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>3/4 – 2:00pm – 2:45pm</td>
<td>Session 3</td>
<td>5/6 – 2:45pm – 3:30pm</td>
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Please Note: Students will have a two week aquatic program at the end of the year. This short three day program, which is part of the physical education curriculum, will continue to extend and develop your child’s stroke technique, water safety, confidence and knowledge. We are very lucky to be able to have this additional swimming experience. During this time senior students will compete in swimming trials to compete at the District swimming Sports. Those students whom are selected to compete at the District Swimming Sports on the 19th of February will have additional swimming sessions.

Attention:
As a whole school procedure and school rule NO parent will be phoned if their child forgets their swim gear, instead your child will remain at school and complete water safety and swimming educational activities.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We do have some items of School Uniform in stock. Please call in to the office or contact Di Walker if you wish to purchase any items of School Uniform.

TOORA PRIMARY SCHOOL
UNIFORM CODE

- Uniform colours of dark blue, light blue and white.
- Blue and white check dresses permitted. Block colours for shirts, shorts and pants.
- No other colours in trim.
- Toora Primary School logo permitted. No offensive logos or larger than 5 sq cms.
- For safety reasons thongs, open toe sandals and backless shoes are not permitted.
- Long pants are to be of a safe length.
- During Terms 1 and 4 students must wear either broad brimmed or legionnaires hat.
- Our Sun Safe policy does not allow the wearing of singlet tops or similar dress tops.
- Students not complying with the uniform code will be directed to change into a stock of uniforms held at school.
- School uniform is required for ALL STUDENTS.

Please label ALL clothing; especially during the swimming program.
Parent / Teacher Interviews & Getting to Know You Interviews

Thursday 7th February 2013

As an important part of our “Reporting to Parents” policy at Toora Primary School we conduct formally timetabled meetings during the year.

Parent / Teacher Interviews for all Grades will be held on **Thursday 7th February from 1:00pm to 4:45pm.** You will have the opportunity to discuss your child’s December 2012 report with your child’s teacher, as well as discuss your child’s learning goals for this year. You may wish to bring your child’s December 2012 report with you to the meeting.

Please note that on Thursday 7th February there will be classes for all students. Students will be involved in whole-school activities at the Toora hall with Barb Purvis and Education Support Staff during the afternoon.

Please complete and return the appointment timetable below by **Monday 4th February 2013** so that times may be allocated to each family as conveniently as possible.

Please indicate below if an alternate time is required, your child’s classroom teacher will schedule a time via the Communication book.

Parents should be aware that a maximum of **15 minutes** has been allocated for each interview.

\[\text{If you wish to make an alternate interview time please indicate below:}\]

Parent / Teacher Interviews - Thursday 7th February 2013

The most convenient time for our family to attend Parent / Teacher interview would be:

*(Please indicate your preferred time block in order 1 - 4)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday 7th February</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm to 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>2:00 pm to 3:30 pm</td>
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<td>3:45 pm to 4:45 pm</td>
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<td>I need to make an alternate interview time on a different day</td>
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<th>Friday 8th February (P12 only)</th>
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<td>9:00 am to 10:30 am</td>
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Family Name:...........................................

Child’s Name:...........................................Grade:..........Teacher: .................

Child’s Name:...........................................Grade:..........Teacher: .................

Child’s Name:...........................................Grade:..........Teacher: .................

Child’s Name:...........................................Grade:..........Teacher: .................

*Early returns will be given first preferences. You will be notified of your meeting time by letter by Tuesday 5th February 2013*
TOORA PRIMARY SCHOOL—SCHOOL UNIFORM

NAME: ____________________________________

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I enclose CHQ/CASH to the total of: $___________
(Cheques payable to ‘Toora Primary School’, money to accompany the order)

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED ORDERS TO TOORA PRIMARY SCHOOL BY MONDAY 11th February 2013