**2015 CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY**
- 20th: School Council Nomination forms need to be in
- 25th: Aquatic Education Program Gr.1—6
- 28th: Foster & District Show

**MARCH**
- 03rd: Kids Matter PD - Sara Janssen/David Tyler
- 09th: Labour Day Public Holiday
- 17th: CEP Funded Science Show at Toora PS
- 20th: Athletics Sports—Whole School SGSC oval
- 25th: Athletics Sports Back-up date
- 26th: Principals Network Mtg @ Inverloch
- 27th: Last Day End of Term 1

**APRIL**
- 13th: School resumes Term 2
- 25th: ANZAC Day public Holiday

**MAY**
- 15th: Toora Primary School Cross Country
- 12th: NAPLAN Testing commences Gr3 & Gr5
- 19th: School Photos
- 22nd: Principals Conference - Melbourne

**JUNE**
- 4th: Division Cross Country - Stony Creek
- 18th: Regional Cross Country - Lardner Park
- 26th: Last Day Term 2

**JULY**
- 13th: School resumes Term 3
- 16th: State Cross Country

**SEPTEMBER**
- 10th: Division Athletics Sports - Mary Mackillop
- 18th: Last Day Term 3

**OCTOBER**
- 5th: School resumes Term 4
- 13th: Regional Athletics - Newborough

**NOVEMBER**
- 30th: Aquatic Education Program commences P-6

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

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We would like to congratulate all candidates for conducting themselves in an outstanding manner throughout the selection process.

Our 2015 Leadership Team:

**School Captains**: Lexi Elmore and Kurtis Storr
**Junior School Council President**: Callum Ross
**Agnes House Captain**: Lachlan Lewis
**Franklin House Captain**: Riley Hewson
**Environmental Leader**: Position still to be filled.

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**PAINT THE TOWN PURPLE FOR SOUTH GIPPSLAND RELAY FOR LIFE**

TOMORROW (Friday 20th Feb) Toora Primary School will be supporting the South Gippsland Relay For Life by participating in the "Paint the Town Purple" fundraiser.

Students, staff and school community are asked to bring a gold coin donation and wear something purple - this could be a t-shirt, skirt, shorts, a dress, a scarf or even a purple hat.  
*If students do not own anything purple, they may wear something yellow instead.*

Our families attending School Assembly at 3:00pm are also encouraged to take part and wear purple.... a donation container will be available at assembly for donations.
School Leaders
On Monday I was thrilled to announce the students who were voted as the 2015 School Captains and House Captains as well as the Junior School Council President. It is certainly a fabulous line up of young people who have pledged their commitment to supporting the school and other students to meet our school goals and promote school values and behaviours. Tomorrow I am looking forward to continuing meeting with all of these leaders to discuss school wide expected behaviours and develop our team norms. We will also be setting a calendar of events and activities which they will be organising throughout the year. At an upcoming assembly we will be inviting a special guest to present these students with their special leadership badges. We will notify the school community when this special assembly will take place. Exciting times at Toora PS!

Parents and Friends Association PFA
On Wednesday it was lovely to see so many people at our Parents and Friends meeting. The PFA committee are organising fundraising events that raise a considerable amount of money each year that fund projects throughout the school. The PFA is currently working on catering for the Welshpool Horticultural Flower Show and arranging a stall for the Toora Pear Party. An upcoming project will be creating an outdoor BBQ space near the stadium. If anyone is particularly handy or has some spare bricks laying around at home please let us know as all assistance or donations will be greatly appreciated. At the moment meetings are being held weekly on a Wednesday morning at 9am, however once this busy period has concluded meetings will be held every few weeks. All new members are most welcome! Once again, thank you to our band of parents who helped cook pancakes at our Pancake Breakfast last Tuesday.

District Swimming
Congratulations and well done to Lexi, Riley, Ava, and Scarlet who travelled to Korumburra today to participate in the district swimming event. Miss Williams has reported that our students represented Toora PS in an outstanding manner displaying determination, respect and outstanding sportsmanship. Well Done Guys!

Department of Education Parent Payment Policy
You may have read in the press that the Victorian Auditor-General has released a report on school costs for parents. In response to the report’s findings, the Minister for Education has asked the Department of Education and Training to review its parent payment policy. As a result of any changes to the Department’s policy, we will work with our school council to update our own policy. We don’t expect any changes until later in 2015 and we will let you know well in advance. The Department’s parent payment policy is what we use to guide us in deciding what we will ask you to pay each year. We review our own parent payment policy, in conjunction with our School Council, on a yearly basis and notify you of any changes through our newsletter. Our aim is to ensure our policy meets parents’ expectations, while also ensuring that all of our students are able to participate in the programs we offer. Our policy sets out what we ask you to pay for to support your child’s learning, such as books and stationery, and what we ask for optional extracurricular activities. Our policy also sets out what we ask parents to make voluntary contributions to, and where these funds will be directed (for example, to assist with new building and grounds works, or purchasing library and sports equipment.) As always, if you have any queries, or would like to discuss how the school can support you in financial matters, please call Di Walker or David Tyler.

School Council Nomination Forms - A reminder that nominations for School Council close as 4:00pm tomorrow (Friday 20th February 2015). Nomination forms went out last Friday with the Newsletter Supplement, additional forms can be picked up from the Admin office.

CAPTAINS CORNER
Hello, I would like to introduce myself. I am Kurtis. I am one of the School Captains recently elected to lead the school for 2015. I would like to tell you about how the first three weeks at Toora Primary School have been. There has been two new students; Jasper and Cooper and their father Mr Tyler. Due to Mrs Purvis retiring, Mr Tyler has taken up the position of Principal. They have recently moved from Neerim South primary school. Each fortnight in the newsletter there will be a “Captains Corner” where you will be able to read a report from myself and Lexi – your School Captains. I’d like to remind you all about our “Dress in Purple” day tomorrow. Please do not forget your donation for Relay For Life and come dressed in purple.
- Kurtis Storr , School Captain. (Lexi is representing Toora at the Swimming Sports today)
**CLASSROOM NEWS**

The **Prep/One** classroom has been a busy place over the last fortnight as students have been preparing art and craft for the Foster show, working on the sounds (a) and (t) and learning about numbers, in particular those from 1-20. We have also had some very interesting show and tell animals including a guinea pig, a yabby, a caterpillar, a puppy, a pony and two kittens! Swimming lessons are continuing to be a hit for the Grade Ones while the Preps have a rest day on Wednesdays. Deb and I have seen great improvement with both Grade One swimming groups moving into the big pool and gaining confidence in the water.

- **Miss Rachel Williams**

**Grade 5/6** have been busy brushing up on their times tables and basic number facts. We have investigated properties of 2D shapes and have created some art work with these shapes. We are working hard to become independent learners who can open our books; start work and keep focussed without any reminders. Many students are showing real improvement in this area.

- **Mrs Sara Janssen**

During the beginning of Term one the **Grade 2/3/4’s** have been investigating place value in Math classes. We learned about odds and evens, the values of different numbers within larger numbers, extended notation and ordering numbers. We are even practising reading numbers in the millions!

- **Mrs Louise Gilbertson**

**MARC LIBRARY**

The Mobile Area Resource Centre (MARC van) is a small mobile library. It visits several schools throughout South Gippsland on a weekly rotation. The MARC van is filled with picture story books, fictional novels, non-fiction books as well as teacher resources for students and teachers to borrow.

Our **MARC Library Teacher** is **Mrs Cath Gilbert**, who takes each classroom for a Library session on Thursday mornings 9:00 - 1:00pm. MARC lessons allow students to share a book, discuss different aspects, think critically and explore issues in greater detail with an activity that integrates into other key learning areas.
TERM 1 SUN SMART HATS
It is school policy that sun smart hats be worn outside by all students (and staff) during terms 1 and 4. Students are being given this week to get things sorted out but from next Monday 9th February this will be strictly enforced. Any student who does not have a hat will be required to sit on the bench seats in the shade. This consequence is to help remind students to bring their hats to school and to reinforce the importance of being SunSmart.

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 8:45am - 3:30pm.

PARENT SUPPORTED MATERIALS AND SERVICES CHARGE
This funding is extremely important to the school as it forms a part of our overall school operating budget and is used and relied on for:
- Cultural Performances
- Classroom materials including student stationery (eg: paper, pens, pencils, books).

School Council has set the 2015 Parent Supported Materials and Services Charge (formerly known as school fees) at $150 per child. The Parent supported materials and services charge is due now from all families and can be paid at the school office. (We also accept payment plan)

VIEW OUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE
Our newsletter can be viewed online on our website at any time as well as via a link on our FaceBook page.

www.tooraps.vic.edu.au

‘LIKE’ us on Facebook: TooraPrimarySchool

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE/AMBULANCE COVER ARRANGEMENTS AND PRIVATE PROPERTY BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Schools are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

The Department cannot advise parents/guardians on whether to purchase a student accident policy/ambulance cover, or which policy to purchase. It is recommended that they seek assistance in this matter with their insurance broker or find a suitable personal accident insurer in the Yellow Pages or online.

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property students and staff should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Our Grade 5/6 students working on shape work.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Friends of the Toora Heritage Pear Orchard Inc Present:
The 4th Annual
PEAR/pair PARTY!
Sunday 15th March 10am - 4pm
Mill Street, TOORA, Vic

Featuring...
LIVE MUSIC ALL DAY
Local Produce Stalls
Art Exhibition
Face Painting
Children’s Activities
Talks & Demonstrations
Family & Local History Display
FOOD STALLS & CIDER
Local Ice Cream & Coffee
Taste & Buy Pears!

ENTRY
BY DONATION

Plus... 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Toora Post Office Featuring - Brass Band & Display
Australia’s Biggest BBQ by the Toora Lions to support Cancer Research for Kids with Cancer
Toora Village Studio Gallery Art Prize

Further Info: ph 0428 864 520 Follow us on Facebook

TOORA FOURTHS FOOTBALL TRAINING
(Under 15’s including 11-12yr olds who would like to train for fitness)
Training commenced last Monday 2nd Feb at the Toora Football Ground at 5:00pm.
Training will be each Monday and Wednesday at 5:00pm.
Inquiries to Troy Johnson 0409953743

PROM COAST SOCCER CLUB
GALA DAY
Sunday 22nd February 2015
At Arthur Sutherland Recreation Reserve in Welshpool.
Start 10:30 to 2 pm.
Come along for some family fun and a game of soccer. BBQ lunch provided.
For more information go to www.promcoastsoccerclub.com.au

TOORA NETBALL CLUB
2015 PRE-SEASON TRAINING

All players are invited to training-
Every Thursday 6:30pm
@ Toora Netball Courts

This training is for all grades - Seniors, Under 17s, 15s, 13s & 11s

New Players Welcome

Please contact Kelly (0417 165 163) for any info