2012 CALENDAR
FEBRUARY
Prep students absent WEDNESDAY’s
22nd PE swimming session
22nd School Council Meeting 7:30pm
23rd District Swimming Sports (Korumburra)
25th Foster Show
27th School Photos
29th PE swimming session

March
Preps attend school every day
01st Division Swimming at Korumburra
02nd World Day of Prayer - Gr 5/6 students
12th Labour Day PUBLIC holiday
13th Responsible Pet Ownership visit
23rd National Ride to School Day
27th Athletics Sports
30th Term 1 Ends

April
16th Term 2 starts
19th Central District Squad Athletics
25th ANZAC Day holiday

May
15th-17th NAPLAN Testing Years 3 & 5
25th District Cross Country

June
08th Curriculum Day - Pupil Free
11th Queens Birthday Public Holiday
12th Division Cross Country
26th Parent Teacher Interviews
29th Term 2 Ends

School Office Hours
8.30am—4.00pm (Wednesdays unattended)
Absences - Phone the office or write in your Child's communication book
Lunch Orders
Every Wednesday - order must be in by 9:15am

SCHOOL COUNCIL
School Council members have the responsibility to present ideas and concerns of their representative groups, as well as to feed back information, issues and decisions to the school community. The primary duty of School Council is to work for the benefit of the whole school community.

School Council is an important avenue for parents to have school policy items discussed and decisions made for the benefit of all students. Please contact School Council members if you have items to be discussed.

Nomination forms are available from Di in the office for those interested in nominating/re-electing. We have two vacancies for parent members and one community vacancy. Please don’t be shy! We need a group of interested people to ensure our school continues to meet the needs of our community.

PREPS
What a wonderful transition our preps have made into the rhythm of school life. Our thanks for the preparation done by families in partnership with Mrs Wogan-Browne. It is hard to believe they have been here for only 2 weeks. This year’s group have opted to attend four days a week and have Wednesdays off until the end of February.

WELCOME TO Mrs Sophie Callcott, who is our MARC (Mobile Area Resource Centre) teacher this year. Mrs Callcott, a trained teacher Librarian, drives and runs the van at Toora Primary School every Thursday. Our students are instructed in library and literature on a weekly basis, and encouraged to borrow from the van.

Mrs Callcott would like to remind families that there are still a few MARC library books outstanding from 2011, please check at home and return them to school as soon as possible for cataloguing.
SIGNING IN
All parents and visitors are required to sign in at the Office rather than going to classrooms. If you have something to deliver to your child please leave it at the Office rather than disturbing the class. You are asked to make an appointment at the office if you have any issues you wish to discuss with your child’s teacher or the Principal.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Please call in and see Di in the office if you wish to order any items of School Uniform.
The following families have uniform items for payment & collection in the office: Rip, Tanner, Paola, Benton, Guligo, Leslie

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Our school photos will be held on Monday 27th February. Envelopes have gone home with your child/ren today. These need to be returned no later than the morning of Monday 27th February. If you have any problems understanding the ordering system on the photo envelopes please feel free to call in to the school office.

LOST PROPERTY
The start of the year is a good time to check that all your child’s belongings are clearly named. This includes jumpers, lunch boxes, drink bottles, school hats etc. If jumpers, etc are clearly named, they can easily be returned to your child throughout the year.
The Lost Property basket is located in the covered eating area outside the Gr 4,56 & 23 classrooms. All lost property is placed in the basket. You are encouraged to check the basket during the year for lost items.
At the end of each term, unclaimed Lost Property items will be donated to Local Opportunity Shop.

HEAD LICE
Yes, head lice are back as well as the students! Please CHECK YOUR CHILD’S HAIR regularly and treat when appropriate.

KITCHEN GARDEN NEWS
Our Kitchen Garden lends itself to learning that relates to health, wellbeing and personal development. It offers opportunities for students in small groups to learn through hands-on experience the joy and benefits of growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing seasonal food. Small groups work each Tuesday with our local horticulturalist Mr Arie Bos, and then prepare and share food and tasting experiences with Dinah Brownfield our student welfare officer.
Student Garden reports and photographs are published under our Kitchen Garden link on our website.

MEET THE PREPS & GRADE 1

Jai A Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? Borrowing Books
What are you excited about learning? Learning letters

Tannah B G Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? Learning.
What are you excited about learning? I’m excited about learning letters.

Kaylee B Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? Learning.
What are you excited about learning? About Reading.

Chelsea B Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? Playing outside.
What are you excited about learning? Reading.

Django D Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? I like looking at books.
What are you excited about learning? To read.

Erin J-J Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? Borrowing books.
What are you excited about learning? Learning to read.

Jasper K-W Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? Playing outside.
What are you excited about learning? Reading.

Olivia P Age 6
What has been the best part about starting school? Meeting new friends.
What are you excited about learning? Reading books.

Holley R Age 4
What has been the best part about school? Playing What are you excited about learning? Drawing.

Aaron T Age 5
What has been the best part about starting school? Playing with the toys.
What are you excited about learning? Going shopping, learning to use money.

Jodie A Age 6
What has been the best part about school? Maths
What are you excited about learning? Everything!

Reghan L Age 6
What has been the best part about school? Doing lots of stuff.
What are you excited about learning? Maths

Brodie S Age 6
What has been the best part about school? Playing with my friends.
What are you excited about learning? Numbers and reading books.

Gracie S Age 5
What has been the best part about school? Playing with my friends.
What are you excited about learning? Maths

School Newsletter Email
In an attempt to save costs and paper, we are encouraging parents to use our web site and/or email to access the school newsletter which is published weekly. Please complete your email address below, detach and return this slip to the office. Please note if you were receiving the newsletter by email last year, we will need your address again to update our data files.

Your name: Email address:
EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

Process for 2012:
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 (29 January 2012) for the first instalment, and the first day of term 3 (16th July 2012) for the second instalment, and
- submit their application to the school by the due date – 29th February 2012

No late claims can 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 29th February.

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 2012 Parent Supported Materials and Services Charge (formerly known as school fees) at $120 per child.

The Parent supported materials and services charge is due now from all families and can be paid at the school office.

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

Planning smart lunches - Plan ahead so that you have the ingredients available.

- Make sure that a variety of foods are included in the lunch box.
- To avoid the morning rush, prepare lunches the night before.
- Involve your child in the selection of healthy food choices.
- To avoid wasted lunches involve your children in the preparation.
- Keep food fresh and safe keep it cool, try freezing a drink bottle.
- Encourage your child to drink water— 4 glasses a day

Smart School Snacks include—fresh or frozen pieces of fruit, unsalted nuts, pumpkin seeds, dried fruit, plain popcorn, cheese slices or sticks, a tub of yoghurt, vegetable sticks, muffins, scones, variety of breads and crisp breads.

Limit the amount of cordial, fruit juices and soft drink as these are high in sugar. Water is best.

YARRAM SKATE PARK — Commemorative Opening , Featuring Pro Skate Jam’s and DJ Cam
12 noon until 6pm - 18th February . Free food, music and jumping castle for the children

Prep for Parents

Did your child start Prep this year? Would you like tips on how to support your child in their first year at school?

Then subscribe to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s new weekly Prep for Parents email. You will be sent an email every Wednesday during school term that will include tips, advice and information about the day-to-day experiences children have in the classroom and things you can do at home to assist and encourage your child.

To subscribe to Prep for Parents, see:


PAULS MILK CAPS

Toora Primary School is continuing to run the Pauls Collect-A-Cap fundraiser this year!

Please help us to raise money for our school by collecting the caps from any Pauls milk container and sending them with your child to admin foyer.

Caps can be collected from any Pauls milk container including Skinny Milk, Physical, Trim, Smarter White and White Milk.

For every cap collected the school will earn 10 cents!

Please wash the caps before sending them to school.
RAINFOREST RHYTHMS
Jazz, Folk & Bush Bands
Commemorative event for
Black Saturday 2009
Tarra Bulga National Park Visitor Centre
Saturday 18th February 11am—4pm
Briagalong Bush Band, local musicians and singers including Sue Coad, Ashleigh Skews, Alex Bowden, Chelsea Smith, Ben Garland, Barbara Jefferies, Bruce Morgan

Sunday 19th February 11am—4pm
Strzelecki Stringbusters, David Hynd—Pipe Major and the Sale RSL Pipe Band, Briagalong Bush Band, Unusual Suspects, Inpromptu, John Northmore

Free barbecue and Devonshire tea
BYO chair / picnic rug
Enquiries to Pam 5196 6140 or 0417 393 303