Dear Parents/Guardians,

With just one week go to before the end of term one, I must say it has flown by. I’m very pleased with the start our school community has made to the new-year and excited by the year ahead. Many thanks to the efforts of our parent community (see over the page), it really does take a community to raise a child.

Monday 21st is Harmony Day. Did you know ...

- Almost half of Australians were born overseas or have a parent who was.
- People from more than 200 countries make up our Australian community and 300 languages are spoken in our homes.
- Apart from English the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi.
- Over the last 70 years seven million migrants have made Australia their home

I’m reminded of the diversity of Aboriginal languages that existed prior to settlement. Here’s a link to a fascinating map. http://www.abc.net.au/indigenous/map/

This years theme is “Our diversity is our strength”. Please discuss with your child the activities and ideas we will explore on Harmony Day.

Thank you to the parents and community members who have expressed an interest in coming in and sharing their stories. I’m keen to add to the list of people willing to share stories and experiences of difference and diversity. Please call the school to express your interest, we’d love to hear from you.

Brett Whittle
Acting Principal.
2016 CALENDAR

Term 1:  28 January to 24 March
Term 2:  11 April to 24 June
Term 3:  11 July to 16 September
Term 4:  3 October to 20 December

MARCH
18th  PFA Meeting 8:30am in School meeting room
21st  Harmony Day
21st  RACV Street-Scene Incursion
22nd  School Council Annual General Meeting 2:00pm
23rd  Easter Hat Parade & Easter hunt
24th  End of Term 1  2:20pm dismissal

APRIL
02nd  Toora Primary School Variety Market 8am - 1pm
11th  School resumes Term 2
12/13th  Starlab incursion
25th  ANZAC Day public Holiday
27th  Corner Inlet District Athletics Sports  Gr.3-6

Absences - All absences are recorded electronically using our COMPASS program, please phone the office on 56 862 283 or write in your Child’s communication book if your child has had an absent day or will be away for any reason.

THANK YOU

- Thank you to Cheryl Baker for your very generous donation of Looms and a bag full of loom bands for our students to use.
- Thank you to Kathryn, Melissa, Emma, Nigel and the helpers who turn up each week to ensure Canteen Lunch is delivered on time. Great teamwork!
- Jenny Delaney and Anna Hopkins for your hard work and dedication in getting our monthly Variety Market up and running! We look forward to the next market scheduled for Saturday 2nd April.
- THANK YOU to our wonderful band of workers in our PFA who managed to successfully run the catering for Friday afternoon and Saturday at the Welshpool Flower Show last weekend. Special thanks extended to: Emma Hughes, Denise Avery, Di Need, Joy Kipps, Leanne Van Dyke, Sue Guilford and Helen Harris who stepped in when volunteers were needed. …Once a PFA member…always a PFA member. A stellar effort from all of you and very much appreciated by Toora Primary School.
- Thank you to Nigel Plowright and PFA members for managing the Pear Party Catering on behalf of the school, again an excellent effort from a very small band of helpers. Special thank you to Windmill Café proprietors Erwin and Karin for their generous donation towards the Toora Primary School.

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.

This week the P/1/2 students have been learning about length. They warmed up their thinking skills by ordering themselves from shortest to tallest and then collected 10 objects from around the room and ordered them by length. In Buddies, Mrs Gilbertson and the 4/5/6 class helped us to do a fun art activity called ‘Hot Hands’ where we coloured our hand with warm colours (red, orange and yellow) and the outside of our hand with cold colours (blue, green and purple). On the right as you walk into the project space there are some of these art pieces on display.
Corner Inlet District Sport

Due to a reduction from 2 to 1 lane for our District in Athletics at Division level, Corner Inlet District has had to review our sporting processes for 2016 and beyond.

After much consideration and deliberation Corner Inlet District (Welshpool, Toora, Foster, Tarwin Lower, Fish Creek and Tarwin Valley schools) has decided that we will run a Grade 3-6 District Athletics day instead of the usual Prom Coast and Waratah days.

**Corner Inlet Athletics Day**

*When:* Wednesday 27th April (Term 2, Week 3)

*Where:* South Gippsland Secondary College

*Who:* Students in Grades 3 to 6 from the 6 Corner Inlet District Schools (Prep/1/2 students will have their own Athletics day later in the year)

We see this as a fantastic opportunity to create some new sporting traditions in our District. The 6 schools will compete for a District perpetual shield which is calculated by each school’s total score divided by the number of Grades 3-6 students who compete, from that school, on the day. We will also have male and female age champions across all age groups.

This year is transition year to a new structure and we are endeavouring to provide a great day of competition and sportsmanship. After the event we will be reflecting on the day, acknowledging what worked well and what can be improved for 2017 to make a great new sporting competition considering all schools and students.

We thank you all for your continued support of our schools and look forward to sharing this exciting new chapter in the history of Corner Inlet. Your feedback of the day, of course, will always be warmly welcomed.

If you require any information regarding the changes to our Athletics carnival please see your school Principal.
FOSTER FAMILY FETE

Sunday 27th March (EASTER SUNDAY), Foster Primary School will be hosting the Foster Family Fete with an aim to raise funds to support the improvement of resources and facilities across all departments within the school.

What better way to spend an Easter Sunday with the family enjoying:

- Graffiti Wall
- Spinning Wheel
- Monster Garage Sale
- Ripper Rides
- Fabulous Food
- Competitions
- Creative Cakes
- Photo Booth
- Marvellous Music
- Adventurous Activities

Last day of Term 1 next Thursday
Please note that the last day of Term 1 is next Thursday 24th March. School finishes at 2.20pm sharp! Bus travellers will depart school at 2.20pm.

CAFEEN - Next week there will be a ‘special’ lunch for Canteen. BBQ Kofta & salad in a flatbread with a Big M $4.00. For catering purposes could we please have lunch orders returned on Wednesday 23rd March.
My favourite place is up in the tree,
I can see far places near you and me.
All of the leaves sway from side to side,
But in the Winter they glide from the sky.
Down below just past the Breeze,
In the faint distance there are even more trees.
This is my favourite just because,
The world goes quiet just like the sea.
I see my guinea pigs eating grass
Just next to the cat who is as still as glass.
Dads in his workshop chatting with Ernie,
About fishing and hunting and their
amazing past journey.
So up in my tree I’m reading a book
Listening and taking a look
My favourite place is up high in the tree.

By Scarlet

My favourite place has some cows and some chickens.
Some ducks and horses.
It is my favourite place because it is my family.
It is sloppy and slimy in the ground,
even when you turn around.
I like seeing the cows and all the animals.
The dogs are always helping me,
that makes me smile with glee.
The cows are very beautiful.
The dogs are always helping me,
that makes me laugh.
They chase the cats which are very tough.
The chickens are very precious,
their eggs make me woosy,
rarely they make me doosey.
Virginia Ryan owns this farm,
which is very peaceful and very calm.
Her son William is being quite troublesome.
He is inviting all his girlfriends over the fence,
which is making Virginia very tense.
So Virginia is up at her holiday house.
On TV she doesn’t watch Mickey Mouse.
Saturday we are going to see Matilda and make our
way,
Back down to the farm to feed out some hay.

By Will

My favourite place is my house. I play on my DS and watch movies and watch TV. I feel stressed, sad, excited and happy. I get stressed and sad when I play my DS and I feel excited when I am going to get something.

I am mostly alone but the person I am mostly with is Charli. I love home, it is the best place in the world. I wish mum could spend more time with me. I live on a dairy farm. I wish Brodie could come to my house. I love reading books at home. I love reading Giraffe books. I love my life. It is best when I play my DS. Minecraft is the best.

My favourite place is home.

By Deacon
Into Port Welshpool I go down where the beach is held. The tides are out, where the dim sea grows. My favourite beach, is a fabulous beach, for the great, nice, lovely breeze grows lower and lower. I go far south into the sea currents where my favourite place lies.

At the sea I have my time of fun, I feel even better when I have my family there. At the beach everyone is happy. When my family is happy, I will always be happy. Every time I go to the beach with my family we are always happy and there is no more arguments or problems. I love my favourite place, there could never be a better place (except my family)

By Mackenzie

My favourite place is my Nans. I like to drive the quads and tractors. I like to spend time with my Nan. When I go there I feel joyful and excited because my Nan spoils me. The things I do for my Na: I take the washing in for her, I make her laugh. I help her with the dishes. I help her clean the house. Being at my Nans house and spending time with her is my favourite place.

By Zane

My favourite place is the pool. I like to swim. I like to go in the boat in the river and dive in like a dolphin and swim like a crocodile. In the water It is like floating in space. When its time to go home I get a lolly.

My other favourite place is Magic Mountain. I like the Tree-Climb, the Waterslide, Little car, Goth and the Roller-coaster. It is fun.

By Brodie

My favourite place is home because it is where I live and eat. Home is where I sleep and do all of my stuff and I also do jobs. I like home because my family is there. My other favourite place is at the footy because I go there and play with my friends. William and I love to there and play together, we always challenge each other for the Football. There are other people at football that don’t like me, but that doesn't bother me.

By Xavier

My favourite place is wherever my NERF guns are. I have won 5 out of 16 NERF wars.

What Do I Do: I improve them for better combat. It makes me feel tremendous. I now have made a NERF version of an SNG (they are a machine gun)

If I am ever with me NERF guns I feel safe.

On NERF war7 I destroyed the other team (Tex and Dad), I made a sniper/machine gun and sat in the chook pen.

NERF Wars make me starving.

I sometimes loose my bullets, it makes me unhappy.

My favourite NERF war was No.15. I made a sniper/machine gun/s shots, I ran into the field, I had toy swords, I laid down and got my toy grenade, I threw it at Tex then ran over and got his toy grenade. I did not see dad, I turned around, Dad was at my gun so I ran to the back of the ute. Dad got his NERF hand gun and came after me, I got him with the toy sword. My favourite place is wherever my NERF guns are!

By Django

My favourite place is my Garden. I sit next to my cat, she likes to play with me. We always sing and glide and land in my tree, Lilley and Ellie don't know yet, but they will, I know they will. While my cat and I sit in my tree I sing a song to her and I feel happy sitting and climbing in my tree. I like to sit in the middle of my garden on a blue seat. Under my tree there are red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple flowers. I have a rainbow flower that grows next to my seat on both sides of me. I always go there when I'm sad because it cheers me up when sing. I put flower petals into a wishing well, I also put money into it and wish for it to be more, but it doesn't work. So all I do is tell Lilley and Ellie I have a password to the Well, I want to become small and explore the garden, but I can’t wish it, because that's impossible for anyone except ants.

By Chelsea