HEALTHY BREAKFAST AND PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our Healthy Breakfast on Tuesday. It was a lovely way to start the day. The golden brown pancakes cooked to perfection on the old school barbecue were greatly appreciated by children and adults. Kathryn Brown, Sharon Jones and Sam Dale did an amazing job. Thank you!
The gold coin donation was to cover ingredients for the breakfast with any extra funds going toward future breakfasts. Thank you also to Coral and Danny for the donation of lemons. A number of parents were able to stay for a Parents and Friends Association (PFA) meeting/get together (Kathryn, Sharon, Kirsty Sunderland, Sandra Jenkins, Sarah Dubignon, Kristy Robertson, Danielle Cockerall). The PFA is a sub-committee of the School Council and is keen to get your ideas to bring to School Council meetings. Kathryn was the PFA School Council representative last year and will continue in this role for 2011.

BUILDING UPDATE
A site meeting was held for the multi-purpose hall yesterday. The two main jobs for completion are installation of the rubberized sports floor and getting the electricity connected. The flooring has arrived and installation will take a number of days. Hand-over should take place at the end of the month. We look forward to holding end of term / Easter activities in the hall so that we can celebrate student achievements as well as enjoy the new hall which has a fantastic kitchen, a store-room for our musical instruments as well as a larger store-room for our sports equipment plus a large bathroom (toilet and hand basin). This project, which is our federally funded Building the Education Revolution project, is running to time and has made excellent progress due to the great work that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Project Manager Paul Hilton, architect John Kirk and builder Darren Young have done with School Council. School Council President Danny Jenkins and retiring community member Ray Argento have been invaluable throughout the building process of this project and the state funded Building Futures project. The Building Futures project still requires the erection of a fence separating the car park from the school grounds, installation of drainage from one pit to another between the car park and multipurpose hall and levelling of the playground. School funds will be added to that provided by the government to shape the oval and seed it.

RING THAT BELL......
We have a bell on the reception desk for times when the office is unstaffed. It was put to the test yesterday and was successful so we hope that it will continue to be useful on the occasions when there is no-one at reception. Please note that Di Walker works only four days a week, usually having Wednesday off.

TOORA COMMUNITY PLAN LAUNCH
Thank you to the many students and families who were able to join us at the Toora Hall for the official launch of the community plan. We, once again, received positive feedback on the children’s behaviour and singing. Their contribution to the celebration was enjoyed by those in attendance. We were pleased that the Toora netball club revised their starting time to enable our students to attend the hall and training – another example of community groups working together.
We were very pleased that once again the achievements of our school were evident in the data published on the MySchool website. We received positive media coverage in one of the Melbourne daily papers. Please note that the results reflect a snapshot of a school’s performance and the data is taken from the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) results. These tests are administered to grade 3 and grade 5 students. Test papers are locked in the school safe until the day the tests are administered. On completion the tests are packaged up immediately by the principal and collected by a courier. They are marked in Melbourne and results are sent to schools for distribution to families several weeks later. Our MySchool data has grade 5 results only, there were not enough Toora grade 3 students for Melbourne to publish the results without jeopardizing student privacy.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
On Friday the 4th of March grades 5 and 6 walked to the Anglican Church for World Day of Prayer. The World Day of Prayer committee in Chile has the theme question, “How Many Loaves Have You?” As an invite to enter a process that draws us into the Bible, into the background of Chile, and into the real situations of our lives and communities. They also gave us a little bit of a taste of what life would be like living in poverty. They offered us bread and afternoon tea. I and a few others also helped hand out friendship bands, which obviously symbolises friendship, but they’re named friendship bands because you need a friend to tie them on to you. It was also lovely to see lots of other members from the community taking part too. We were all very polite and enjoyed our time. By Kate Jenkins

The Welshpool & District Playgroup is having a Intimo Fundraising Party, Wednesday 16th March 10.30 Start, at the Welshpool Kindergarten Building, 15 Main St, Welshpool.

We want to raise funds for age appropriate ride on’s and toys for the Playgroup.

Have you ever tried bra shopping with Toddlers - Impossible!! Come and get a FREE private and personal fitting while the kids play! Also for ladies & girls who do not like the normal lingerie experience. All Welcome! For more details call Nicole 0425 732 285 or Jill 0417 582 180.

Crazy Hair Day
On Friday the 18th of March we will be having a crazy hair /out of uniform day it will be raising money for world vision and the Lions Club Cancer foundation. It will be a gold coin donation please take part in this fun event.

GROUND – URGENT JOBS NEED YOUR HELP!
We appreciate that families need timely notification of working bees and School Council will set a date at their meeting next week. We also know that many of you are willing, able and ready to get into the school gardens to continue the great work that was done with parent involvement last term. There are a number of urgent jobs that need your help. You may spend as little or as much time as you wish but please sign in at the office before commencing any work. You may wish to work alone, with a friend(s) or with a couple of students who are eager to learn more about gardening.

- Weeding of highway garden (weeds have been sprayed)
- Tip runs
- Spraying of fence line on multipurpose hall side of closed road section (spray unit and spray supplied by school).

Once the highway garden is clear of broken branches etc we will then establish a winding path, spread soil and mulch and spread pebbles where needed, dig suitable holes for planting and complete the planting of our sensory/wilderness garden. We will also spread soil where needed along the flag pole side of the dry river bed and plant native grasses along the sides. We will then purchase some plants from the local market, but if you have suitable plants please bring them along next week.

We would like the highway garden to look welcoming, and for the sensory/wilderness garden to be an attractive and interesting work in progress – it will take time for the plants to grow and observing changes and being actively involved in creating and maintaining the gardens will be part of the education process for our students.

2011 LEADERSHIP TEAM
Congratulations to our 2011 School Captains and Leadership team. With student illness and family holidays we will feature a photo of our full leadership team in next weeks newsletter. Newly elected 2011 Leadership team:
School Captains: Mason Hyde and Kate Jenkins, Agnes House Captains (Dark Blue): Brendonn Springthorpe & Bonnie Orgill
Franklin House Captains (Light Blue): Tristan Koolen & Kourtney Brewer
Fundraising Leaders: Alanna Dessent & Abbie Cook, Activities Club Co-ordinator: Shelbie Sunderland
I Sea I Care / Environmental Leaders: Ebony Nicholls & Taylah Hillis
PORTRAIT PAINTING
Yesterday 15 students from grades 3-6 engaged in the first of their two portrait workshops with local artist Marilyn Ardley and art teachers Anda Banikos and Walter Birkenbeil. Our students are creating portraits that will be exhibited as part of the Great Southern Portrait Exhibition to be held in April. Community members are also invited to submit artworks.
Once students have completed their portraits next week, they will conduct workshops, with our support, for the rest of the school so that all students can submit exhibits. Information about the portrait prize can be obtained from: www.promcoastseachangefestival.org

ATHLETICS SPORTS - Friday 1st April 2011
Toora Primary School will be in charge of the Discus and Shot Put events at the Athletics Sports to be held on Friday 1st April at the South Gippsland Secondary College oval (with the back-up day being Monday April 4th). We are urgently calling for volunteers to man these two events during the day. Please indicate below if you can help out at anytime during the day and return this form to school tomorrow.

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