MAY

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<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Cultural Performance - “The Twoks” music improvisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Winter Sport Gr.5/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>21st</td>
<td>Year 6 Transition Day at SGSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>School Council Meeting 2:00pm Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>24th</td>
<td>Toora Primary School Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>29th</td>
<td>Indigenous Cultural Session 10:00 - 11:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>31st</td>
<td>Winter Sport - Gr.5/6</td>
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JUNE

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Division Cross Country - Wonthaggi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Choir visit to Prom View Lodge</td>
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TOORA SCHOOL, A GREAT SCHOOL!

Thank you to everyone for making the Relief Principals feel welcome and part of our school community during my absence. I was pleased to receive positive feedback from these Principals who were delighted to have the opportunity to work with every child in the school. We know we have great children but its good to have it acknowledged by others. Thank you also for your best wishes.

My unplanned absence was a good test run for when I go on Long Service Leave for the first eight weeks of Term 3. We are lucky to have secured Mr Walter Birkenbeil for this time period and we are all looking forward to it.

Regards, Barb Purvis

Toora Primary School Cross Country
Friday May 24th 2013

Our annual Cross Country event will be held on Friday the 24th of May 2013 in the vicinity of Sagasser Park. All students from grade prep to six will be expected to take part with the only exceptions being students with a note from their parents citing medical reasons. All students will have taken part in training sessions in preparation for this event.

There are two levels of participation:
1. A walk/run of approximately one kilometre (Prep to Grade 2 will participate in level 1)
2. A run of approximately two - three kilometres

Only students who take part in the two-three kilometre run are eligible to win medallions. Students, who qualify for the next level (Division), will compete at Wonthaggi on the 5th of June 2013.

Students will be expected to wear appropriate clothing (School shorts and t-shirt recommended) including comfortable footwear. A change of clothes, particularly socks and shoes as well as a plastic bag to put any wet or muddy clothing in would be a good idea. Water is available from a drinking tap at the park and students will be offered cut up oranges at the completion of their event. Students may bring their own drink bottle if they prefer.

The cross country will commence shortly after 2:00pm and we welcome parents to help to act as marshals and to watch the students in their annual cross country event. If you can help in any way with this event please let us know prior to the day. Weather permitting we will present the medallions at the park before returning to school. Students can be dismissed from the park after all presentations, please let your child’s teacher know if you are taking your child home from the park. All other children will be walked back to school for dismissal.

- Thank you, Ali Wogan-Browne
NAPLAN

Today the students in Grade 3 & 5 will have completed their NAPLAN testing for 2013. The NAPLAN consists of 4 elements; Maths, Reading Language and Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Writing. Tests provide a snapshot of student performance at a particular point in time. Unfortunately results will not be made available to parents and school until later in the year. However, staff are consistently assessing your child’s progress and adapting their programs to meet student needs. Students approach NAPLAN in different ways; where some feel challenged and relaxed others feel overly anxious which can impact student scores.

WINTER SPORTS

Last Friday students in Grade 5 & 6 travelled to Foster for the Winter Sports fixture against the Combined Register Schools of St Laurence’s and St Joseph’s. The Winter Sport programme offers the following sports: Football, Netball, T-Ball, Soccer and Basketball.

Our students displayed excellent sportsmanship and cooperation towards everyone involved.

This week we travel to Mirboo North Primary School and look forward to playing competitively against another school with our Prom Coast team members of Welshpool and Foster Primary Schools.

THE TWOKS

On Friday 17th May we will be hosting Welshpool Primary School for a combined school cultural performance from “The Twoks” funded through the Country Education Program.

A brief outline taken from their website:
Combining improvisation, pop and electronica, The Twoks are a band like no other. Formed by the electric violinist/vocalist Xani Kolac, The Twoks are a trio that will take you on a sonic adventure through dark, dense and tribal soundscapes, to sweet violinistic melodies and melancholy stories.

Popular with both jazz and indie rock/pop audiences, The Twoks have been featured on an eclectic range of radio stations and programs, from Triple J to the 3MBS program ‘Classically Melbourne’. Taking influence from the likes of Bjork, Sigur Ros and Camille, the music of The Twoks is uniquely their own.

2013 Prom Camp

Grades 3– 6
November 13th, 14th & 15th
Cost will be $175.00

THANK YOU

A very successful Mother’s Day Stall was held last Thursday by the Parents and Friends Association, raising approximately $178.00.

Thank you for providing such a diverse range of donations and spending money for your children. They had a great time selecting your gifts.

We trust you all had a fabulous Mother’s Day being - pampered and looked after by your children.

Thanks also to Sam Dale, Sharon Jones and Kelly Packham for coordinating the stall. Well done everyone!

REMINDER:
• All visitors to the school MUST present at the Admin office and sign in.
• 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 3:40pm. All other students are supervised between 20 to 9 to half past 3
• Our phones are manned during the school business hours of 8:30 am - 4:30pm.

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

School Council has set the 2013 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.

Direct Deposit details:
Toora Primary School BSB 633-000 Acc:124311424 Please use your “family name” as Reference.
**FRIENDLY REMINDERS**

**Student Supervision:** We have staff members on duty from 8:40am until school starts and then again after school until 3:40pm (for last bus). School hours are 20 to 9, until 1/2 past 3. (Bus students excepted).

Before school is a very busy time for staff preparing for the day ahead. Meeting times may be arranged via the Administration office or through your child’s Communication Book.

All visitors are required to deliver items /lunches etc to the office. Visitors are not permitted beyond the office without an appointment.

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**WHOLE SCHOOL KOORI CULTURAL DAY**

Wednesday 29th May 2013
10:00am - 11:30am

Welcome to Country with John Murray
Smoking Ceremony
School Leadership team invited to speak
Principal Speech
Unfurling of the Aboriginal flag

- Indigenous Story-telling
- Boomerang Throwing
- Damper cooking on the Learning Stone Fire Pit

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**Support your local school**

![Support your local school image](image)

*Please ask at the check-out if your stickers aren’t offered.*

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**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING POLICY**

In 2013 we are scheduled to review our Student Engagement and Well Being policy which is timely as our student leaders recently attended a Student Leadership Forum in Korumburra in which they identified “STOP BULLYING!” as their special project!

They proactively organised an activity lunch club for today in which most students participated and played extremely well together. Congratulations students!

It is important that staff, students and families work together to promote positive student behaviour and build a safe and inclusive environment. On the school’s website we have the current policy that we wish to update and clarify. In this week’s newsletter we have included some definitions of bullying and unacceptable behaviour and we would appreciate your feedback as it is important that we have a shared understanding of these terms. Thank you to those of you who have already provided us with feedback. We would appreciate your ideas and further feedback, as we work through the process of clarifying all aspects of this extremely important policy.

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**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING POLICY**

**Ideas:**

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We are participating in the **Woolworths Earn & Learn** program again this year. It started on Monday 8th April and finishes on Sunday 9th June. Start collecting your stickers at the checkout, and place on point sheets *(attached)*.

Place your completed sheets in the collection box in the foyer. Tell your friends, neighbours and relatives to collect stickers for Toora Primary School!
Bullying and unacceptable behaviours should be addressed as part of a school's duty of care to provide respectful, safe and supportive school environments.

Definitions taken directly from DEECD Guidelines

**Bullying**
Bullying is when someone, or a group, deliberately upset or hurt another person or damage their property, reputation or social acceptance on more than one occasion. There is an imbalance of power in incidents of bullying with the bully or bullies having more power at the time due to age, size, status or other reasons.

There are four broad types of bullying -
- **Direct physical bullying:** includes hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching, pushing, or damaging property.
- **Direct verbal bullying:** includes name calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, homophobic or racist remarks, or verbal abuse.
- **Indirect bullying:** is often harder to recognise and can be carried out behind the bullied person's back. It is designed to harm someone's reputation and/or cause humiliation. Indirect bullying includes:
  - Lying and spreading rumours
  - Playing nasty jokes to embarrass and humiliate
  - Mimicking
  - Encouraging others to socially exclude someone
  - Damaging someone's social reputation or social acceptance.

- **Cyberbullying:** is direct verbal bullying behaviours using digital technologies. This includes harassment via a mobile phone, setting up a defamatory personal website or deliberately excluding someone from social networking spaces.

**What bullying is not**
Many distressing behaviours are not examples of bullying even though they are unpleasant and often require teacher intervention and management.

- **Mutual conflict:** involves an argument or disagreement between people but not an imbalance of power. Both parties are upset and usually both want a resolution. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.

- **Social rejection or dislike:** is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

- **Single-episode acts:** of nastiness or physical aggression are not the same as bullying. If someone is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion they are not being bullied. Nastiness or physical aggression that is directed towards many different people is not the same as bullying. However, this does not mean that single episodes of nastiness or physical aggression should be ignored or condoned as these are unacceptable behaviours.

**Unacceptable behaviour**
Unacceptable behaviour in the school environment refers to a wide range of behaviours that are not acceptable or appropriate, including harassment, discrimination and a threat or act of violence.

- **Harassment:** is behaviour intended to annoy, disturb, threaten or upset another person. Harassment and bullying may involve similar behaviours.
- **Sexual harassment:** is unlawful behaviour under the Commonwealth Sex Discrimination Act 1984 and the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 1995.

- **Discrimination:** is treating a person or group less fairly or well because of a particular characteristic such as culture, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability or disability, religion, body size and physical appearance, age; marital, parenting or economic status. Discrimination commonly involves exclusion or rejection.

- **Violence:** Violence is the damaging and destructive use of force by a person or group towards another person, group or property. This force can be physical, verbal, sexual or another action or behaviour and can involve an ongoing relationship between the parties. Violence may involve provoked or unprovoked acts and can be a one-off incident or can occur over time. Violence may be used by those targeted by bullying or other unacceptable behaviour to try to redress the imbalance of power.

A threat of violence is words or gestures expressing intent to use an act of force against a person.