From the Principal
On Wednesday 14th May, staff and students at Toora Primary School hosted an afternoon tea to celebrate National Volunteer Week. The afternoon tea was an opportunity for the school to say a big thank you to the countless volunteers who give up their time to assist with programs and special events at the school. We have a number of dedicated volunteers that regularly give up their time and use their expertise and skills to provide our students with the very best learning and development opportunities.

National Volunteer Week was a great opportunity for us to stop and recognise the efforts of the numerous people in our community that contribute their time to our school. Our school is fortunate to run a number of programs and events due mainly to the time given by members of our community. We have parents that volunteer on our School Council, assist with sports and excursions, running our canteen and cooking school lunches and providing reading/learning support in our classrooms.

We are grateful and truly appreciate all members of our community who so graciously give up their time to provide support and extra opportunities for all our students.

PUPIL FREE DAYS
A reminder to all families that on Friday 6th June the school will be closed (Pupil Free Day) for our staff and staff from neighbouring schools to undertake Professional Development in Mathematics (Number) with Di Siemon from RMIT.

On Monday 9th June all schools in Victoria will be closed for the Queens Birthday Public Holiday.

GENED NEWS
It was great to hear from parent this week that they’ve been familiarising themselves with GenED - the new online student Reporting tool.
Parents are able to access and view Learning tasks, Observations and work samples of their child’s work online. GenED is NOW also viewable on Smartphones. If you are a Smartphone user there is a GenED app available via the Google play store (search for GenED).  (Not yet available via APPLE store)
MOTHERS DAY STALL - THANK YOU

We hope all our Mums and special friends had a wonder-ful day on Mothers Day. We would like to thank all the families who donated goods for the stall. Also thank you to Sharon Jones, Sam Dale and Kathryn Brown for their organisation skills on Friday - you did a great job running the stall. We banked $210 dollars from the stall, with expenses of $103 - so overall a good effort.

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 8:40am - 3:30pm.

TOORA PRIMARY SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Our annual Cross Country event will be held on Thursday 22nd May 2014 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 ses-sions in preparation for this event.

There are two levels of participation:

- A walk/run of approximately one kilometre (Prep to Grade 2 will participate in level 1)
- A run of approximately two-three kilometres

Only students who take part in the two-three kilometre run are eligible to win medallions/ribbons. Students, whom qualify for the next level (Division), will compete on Thursday 5th June 2014 at Stony Creek Race Course. Students will be expected to wear appropriate clothing (School Uniform, shorts and t-shirt) 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, friends and family members 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 dis-missed 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.
On Friday 16th May 2014 we all went to the Hawthorn football clinic. We learnt how to play football with a different school and we all learnt how to play football as well.  by Isaac Tanner

The Footy Clinic - Hawthorn edition
Today we went in a bus to Leongatha and on the way we watched cars and we also picked up students from Fish Creek. When we got there our first activity was a game of poison ball. When we heard the whistle blow, we moved onto goal kicking and then we did question time. There where some good questions like “have you won a grand final” and “how many games have you lost” we had a great time and I hope we do it again. By William Cashin

Today (Friday 16th May) I went to the football clinic. We went to the Leongatha footy oval. We played some fun games with the professional footballers. The Hawthorn players taught us everything there was to know about footy. We did some running, some tackling, some handballing, some Aiming and some racing. It was a great day. By William Cashin

Science with Sara
On the 15th of May 2014 we had science with Sara. We were doing kitchen chemistry so we were doing experiments with things that you use to make food. We were in groups so I was in a group with Danielle, Kaleb, Isaac and Nikki and we were doing an experiment with water that was soaked in purple cabbage and lemon juice, washing detergent, baking powder and things like that. We had to put the water that had been with the cabbage with all the things that were in the flower shaped paint pellet. We had to write down what happened with them all and then we saw what the difference was between self-raising flour and plain flour. After that we packed up and went back to class. By Sophie Allott Gr.4
Welfare Officer’s Report - 21st May 2014

Don’t overdo the “B” word!

I have been concerned to hear many of our students using the “B” word . . . yes, that’s right “bullying” when they tell me about small conflicts and classmates being bossy. For example, if a friend says “I’m going to beat you in the cross-country”, the student thinks that’s ok, “it’s just a comment”. But when these two friends are not feeling happy with each other, a comment like that can lead to bad feelings and some students go home and say “so-and-so bullied me today”. I am not saying that bullying does not exist, nor am I saying that mean comments are ok. Bullying does exist and mean comments can be really hurtful. It is just that sometime we over-use the word “bullying”. There is a difference between bullying behaviour, which is when someone repeatedly uses their power to hurt or scare others, and bossiness, which is when people speak with a bossy or mean tone of voice. Neither of these behaviours are ok, but only one is actually bullying.

In my role as Student Welfare Officer, my emphasis is on helping our students to be strong in themselves. I teach students to be assertive, to stand up for themselves, without being emotional or aggressive. I celebrate when our students are kind and thoughtful, thinking first before they react, considering other people’s feelings. At Toora Primary School, we work hard to create a safe, positive and welcoming learning environment for our students. We hope to work side by side with you – our whole school community – to help our children grow into adults who are strong, kind and responsible.

Sara Janssen, Student Welfare Officer
YEAR 7 2015
INFORMATION EVENING
Students and parents who are interested in finding out more about the Year 7 Program at South Gippsland Secondary College are invited to an information evening on Wednesday 28th May at 7.00 pm. The venue for the evening is the College Flexible Learning Centre, Pioneer St, Foster. The evening’s program will consist of:

- Hands on activities and displays of student work
- Information about the Year 7 program and College activities
- Opportunities to talk with staff about the Year 7 program and your child’s needs
- A presentation by the Year 7 Ambassadors
- A delicious Supper

If you have any questions or require additional information about the evening, please contact the Year 7 Program Leader: Amy Knee on 56822066. Knee.amy.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

We look forward to seeing you there!

KITCHEN CHEMISTRY

All three classes are studying Kitchen Chemistry with Mrs Janssen for the first half of Term 2. Students are learning about solids, liquids and gases, experimenting with household acids and bases and working out how to work in a scientific way - making predictions, recording observations and drawing conclusions from their results. This week we used red cabbage indicator to work out which household substances are acids or bases. Acids included lemon juice and vinegar, and these made the purple indicator turn pink ("Like magic" said some of the Preps). Bases included bicarb soda and washing up detergent, which turned the indicator blue.

Pictured here are the Prep/1 class

PFA MEETINGS - These are held fortnightly with the next meeting scheduled to run on Tuesday 26th May at 9:00 am
Dear parents and carers,

In my time as Minister for Education, I have met many dedicated volunteers giving up their time and using their expertise to provide students and school communities with the very best learning and development opportunities.

As Australia celebrates the 25th National Volunteer Week from May 12-18, it’s an opportune time to recognise and celebrate the valuable work volunteers do in our school communities.

On behalf of the Victorian Government, I would like to sincerely thank all of you who donate your time and expertise to your school. It wouldn’t be the same place without your important contribution.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

The Hon. Martin Dixon, MP
Minister for Education

Have you returned your Camp form?

We are currently in the process of finalising our Middle & Senior School camp for 2014. This year’s camp will be a three day trip from the 10th November to the 12th November. This year we will spend one night in Ballarat exploring Sovereign Hill and the next night in Melbourne to take in some city sights including a trip to Scienceworks and Williamstown.

My child/children............................................................................................................................
will be attending the Middle and Senior School Camp. I have included a deposit of $30.00 per student. (No forms will be accepted without the deposit) I understand that the deposit is non-refundable if I change my mind.

I understand that part payments may be made, with the full amount received by the school no later than 31st October, 2014.

Signed........................................................................................................................................