Dear Families,

Thank you for your warm welcome back. I had a wonderful time during my Long Service Leave and am now the proud grandmother of a beautiful baby girl, Evelyn. The weather is certainly colder than what I became used to in Queensland where my daughter lives but it was still lovely to return to work this week and catch up on news from Term 2.

Improvements to the canteen kitchen are continuing and we hope will be finalised shortly which is very exciting. Thankyou to Kelly Packham who has been overseeing this process and who recently achieved her Level 2 Food Handling qualification. Our School Council and Parents & Friends Association will keep you informed of developments.

The Yarram Eisteddfod is fast approaching and students will be participating in Verse Speaking and Drama. Permission notes will be sent home next week.

Many thanks to Coral Raby for donating Hop Bush seedlings and to Mr Whittle and students for planting these to form a hedge along our laneway fence on the oval side.

I look forward to sharing a productive and rewarding third term with you.

Cheers,
Barb Purvis

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2014 CALENDAR

**JULY**
- 24th-25th Book Fair - purchasing days

**AUGUST**
- 01-31st Education Support Staff month
- 4th—11th Yarram Eisteddfod

**SEPTEMBER**
- 1st Grade 6 students - Second Orientation Day
- 11th Division Athletics Sports
- 19th Last Day Term 3

**OCTOBER**
- 6th School resumes Term 4
- 23rd Aquatic Ed. Program commences

**NOVEMBER**
- 4th Pupil Free Day
- 5th Public Holiday
- 10th-12th 3-6 School Camp
- 11th Junior School Long Day Excursion

**Head-lice Checks** - these take place fortnightly. The same Thursday as the newsletter.

**School Office Hours**
- 8.30am - 4.15pm (Wednesdays unattended)

**Absences**
- Phone the office or write in your Child’s communication book

For a more comprehensive yearly Calendar go to www.tooraps.vic.edu.au/website%20calendar.pdf

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**BOOK FAIR GARDEN**

**Where:** Toora Primary School - Project Space

**Time:** All Day

**When:** Thursday & Friday 24th & 25th July 2014.

All students will have an opportunity to browse the book fair items and write their ‘Wish Lists’ during Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday class sessions. Book purchasing will take place on Thursday and Friday. We invite families to come up next Thursday and Friday 24th/25th July to browse and purchase from our Book Fair.

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**Grade 3 - 6 MELBOURNE CAMP**

**When:** 10th - 12th November 2014
**Cost:** $180

**Where:** Sovereign Hill, Ballarat & Melbourne - City Experience

A reminder that the 2nd camp instalment of $30 was due on June 20th.
The 3rd camp instalment of $30 is due on Friday 25th July.
SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP ZONE
A reminder to all families that Harriet Street and Welshpool Road Service road is a 40km speed school zone and police will be patrolling this area regularly.

SCHOOL VISITORS
Please remember to sign in at the office when you are visiting the school. Student late arrivals need to be signed in at the office by a parent/guardian also please.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
If you are in receipt of a health care card, you are eligible for the EMA Allowance. Please contact the office for an application form. Those families who received an allowance in the first semester, need not re-apply. It is your responsibility to make sure you have an application in for this allowance. Applications close 14th August. No late applications accepted.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ ABOUT OUR SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS?
Our 2013 Annual Report to the school community is now available in the State Register on the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority’s website: http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/StateRegister/Search.aspx/Search?SearchType=0.
The annual report is a key legislative and regulatory requirement, but it is also an important way to keep our school community informed about how we are performing and what is being done to improve the learning, engagement and wellbeing of our students.
Providing information about our school in this format helps the community to become involved and engaged in discussions about the school and how further improvements can be supported. We encourage you to have a look at our report.

THE PARENT OPINION SURVEY - Monday 28 July to Friday 8 August, 2014.
The Parent Opinion Questionnaire is an important indicator of how well Toora Primary School is meeting the needs of its students.
All families will be receiving their survey shortly, we ask that you take a few minutes to consider each question and complete the survey. The surveys are completely anonymous. Could you please make every effort to return your completed survey to the school office no later than this Friday 15th August. Thank you for taking the time to fill out this important survey.

UNCLAIMED SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS
Please ensure your child’s clothing is clearly labelled. We have a pile of unclaimed clothing which will be taken to the Toora Op Shop at the end of the Term if unclaimed.
Please note that all students should be wearing long Winter uniform (long pants and sleeves) during Term 3.

STUDENT INITIATED LUNCHTIME LEGO ACTIVITIES
Many students have been choosing to take part in the Lego activity of a lunchtime.
Pictured here are: Brodie, Brayden and Jayden.