Thank you to everyone for supporting our recent BOOKFAIR. Your support has enabled us purchase $300 worth of books for our library.

We have a busy week coming up with all students performing in the Yarram Eisteddfod Monday/Tuesday in Verse Speaking and some classes performing on the Wednesday in ‘One Act’ plays. Permission notes went home on Tuesday for the Eisteddfod, it is imperative that we have the signed notes returned to school as soon as possible.

I would like to thank our staff who travelled over to Tarwin Lower Primary School in horrid weather on Tuesday to participate in after hours Professional Development with the Corner Inlet Learning Alliance. A great example of our staff striving to be the best they can be for our students.

August has been nominated as Education Support Month in all schools. Our school is fortunate to have quality Education support staff who play a vital role in the running of our school. Each member of our Education Support staff is highly skilled, dedicated and caring. Therefore I would like to take this opportunity to thank Di, Deb and Durelle for their ongoing support and commitment to our school.

Thanks to parents and students in Grade 5/6 for returning their expression of interest in Somers Camp so promptly. We now have to wait for our allocation, to see how many students we are able to send.

Congratulations to our students Ryan and Callum who performed in the Bugsy Malone production. Our students, as well as past Toora PS students were involved in this fabulous production and each of them demonstrated dedication and commitment to their roles.

Thank you to the parents who supported FAMDA in making this happen and thank you to the school community who went along to watch.

Parents and Friends continue to be active and met this week (Monday 28th July) – all are welcome to these meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 11th August at 9:00am.

- Barb Purvis

NOTE: If you wish to see the “One Act” plays - you will need to attend the Yarram Eisteddfod on Wednesday 6th August. We will not be participating in the weekend FAMDA event “Schools One Act Plays” in Foster.

AUGUST
01st  Parent Opinion Surveys are due back today
01-31st  Education Support Staff month
4th—11th  Yarram Eisteddfod
11th  PFA Meeting 9:00am
14th  School Council meeting 2:00pm

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

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING - Thursday 14th August
The next meeting of School Council will take place on Thursday 14th August in the school staffroom at 2:00pm.
A reminder that all Agenda items and reports (Welfare/ PFA/Canteen/Buildings & Grounds/Curriculum etc..) should be forwarded to Di Walker by Monday 11th August.

GET WELL SOON
All students and staff send our best wishes to Erin Jones-Jacobson who is currently recovering in hospital. We hope you get well soon and look forward to seeing you back at school.
July Wellbeing Report from Sara Janssen – Student Welfare Officer

Student wellbeing – You Can Do It! Term 3 focus – Persistence
Our whole school focus for Term 3 is Persistence . . . but what does this word actually mean? I have interviewed several of our students and teachers with regards to the question, “What is persistence?”

Django – persistence, that’s not giving up
Mrs Wogan-Brown – when you continue to try and try, no matter how difficult the challenge
Callum – being brave enough to take part in something new
Rohan – having patience, keeping on trying
Chelsea – having confidence that you can do it
Tylah – trying to do your best
Mr Whittle – not giving up
Monique – keep trying, keep trying, keep trying

According to the You Can Do It! program, persistence is:
- Thinking, “I can do this”
- continuing to work even when schoolwork is difficult
- not letting yourself be distracted by others
- working tough – sticking with a task even when you are tired or feeling grumpy
- accepting that it is ok to make a mistake, and that you might even learn from that mistake
- asking a teacher for help when you are not sure what to try next
- completing tasks and assignments on time

Students with persistence will impress their teachers, their parents and even themselves.
Believe in yourself, keep on trying, ask for help when you need it, complete all your work . . . and you’ll be surprised and pleased with your school results . . . and with where life takes you.

Toora Playgroup & Story time at Foster Library
I attend the Toora Playgroup each Friday, between 9.15 and 11am at Toora Kindergarten. It is wonderful to spend time with families, catching up with parents and babies/toddlers/pre-schoolers each week. We play games, read books, do puzzles, make craft, play in the sandpit and ride bikes around the yard. We also share morning tea and a cuppa (thanks to Mandy for the awesome coffee).
Some of the children from playgroup will be joining their big brothers and sisters at Toora Primary School next year. These children will be ready for school, because studies show that children who go to playgroup do better at kindergarten, and children who go to kindergarten do better at school.
Toora playgroup is relaxed and fun, and all new families are most welcome to come along. If your children are already at school, why not buddy up with a friend who has a baby, a toddler or a pre-schooler and come along together.
On Friday 25th July, families from Toora went to the Foster library for a special playgroup story-time session. Kohby, Hudson, Ryan, Callum, Thomas, Logan, Tess, Tully and Lara enjoyed dancing along with the songs, rhymes and stories. We even learned about the “nibbles and dribbles” policy, which means that the librarian will forgive you if your baby or toddler enjoys their book at little bit too much. The session finished with a craft activity, some book borrowing and calls of “see you next Friday!”

Blokes Reading Shed – Attention all Dads, Uncles, Grandpas and other important Blokes

There will be a free event for blokes and their kids at:

    Foster Library, From 6pm to 7pm, On Tuesday 19th August
Share some stories and make your own fold-up shed to take home. No bookings required.

Kids – it’s your job to ask Dad/Uncle/Pop/Gramps with your biggest “please” and more enormous smile.

Let’s see how many Toora families we can get there!
LEAVING A TRAIL

Technology is great but every time you use it, you leave a trace of yourself. It could be in an email, a text or an uploaded image so take care with these simple hints. Your digital footprint

Almost everything you do with technology leaves a trace: something called a digital footprint. Your digital footprint is a bit like a map of everywhere you’ve been with your technology - everyone you’ve spoken to (and sometimes, what you’ve said), every image or comment you’ve posted, and every file you’ve downloaded. Digital footprints are very hard, in fact almost impossible, to erase. Here are some examples:

♦ Text messages and emails can be saved by the person you sent them to, and forwarded to many more people than you ever intended.

♦ You can delete a blog, or a comment or image you’ve put on a site like MySpace or Facebook, but you don’t know how many people have downloaded it before you delete it – and a copy is always saved in the site’s archive.

♦ Even a one-on-one IM chat can turn into a public conversation if the person you’re talking to decides to record or copy it.

♦ Technology is great, but you do need to take some care about how you use it.

HEATING & REHEATING STUDENT FOOD
Please note we are unable to heat or reheat food for our students at school.

We look forward to our canteen starting up again soon. The Canteen is an agenda item for our next school council meeting (14th August, 2:00pm).

SPARE CLOTHING
At times students need to borrow a change of clothes from school. Please make sure these clothes are cleaned and returned to school in a timely manner so that they are on hand if needed again by students. We are currently right out of spare clothing.

PARENT OPINION SURVEYS
Parent Opinion Surveys were distributed to all families via Australia Post last week. Thank you to those families who have already completed and returned their surveys.

We need as many of the surveys back as possible to maintain statistical reliability. Help us to help your children. Please return your completed survey to the collection box in the school administration foyer TOMORROW August 1st.

When completing the survey it will be a little repetitive. Please also remember that things like ‘reports’ are government /DEECD regulated, that is, the school has to do what we are directed.

‘Extra curricula activities’ includes for example sporting events, Gippspell, Eisteddfod, Scrabble Tournament, camps and competitions.

Please also remember that our teachers are extremely professional and caring, and that sometimes they put pressure on children to perform at their best and learn new things, and while this may be uncomfortable at times for students, it is done to help them. Thank you in anticipation.

CLUBS PROGRAM - TERM 3

WHEN: Each Friday afternoon commencing Friday 29th August 2:15 - 3:15pm for three weeks
WHO: All students will participate in a club. Staff & Parents are invited to conduct a club.
WHERE: In different teaching & learning spaces within the school.
WHY: To engage students in their learning and strengthen our home/school relationships.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES: Tennis, Netball, Basketball, Cooking, Craft, Knitting, Games eg Scrabble/Chess, Construction, Lego - the possibilities are endless.

If you are a parent who would like to volunteer to conduct a club and you have Friday afternoons available please contact the School Admin as soon as possible with your suggested club activity.
Fun and engaging art classes that encourage a love and appreciation of art and artists.
Casual and Ongoing classes available, for toddlers to teens.
NEW! ‘Great Artist Saturdays’ - Students learn about a well known artist before making an artwork of their own in a similar style!
For more information or to book a free trial class, contact Jacqui on 0400959522 or visit bookbookartstudio.com.au or www.facebook.com/boobookartstudio

TRIVIA NIGHT
To benefit Fish Creek and District Primary School
FRIDAY NIGHT 8TH OF AUGUST - TWENTY FOURTEEN
7:30pm for a 7:45pm start at the Fish Creek Footy Rooms
Book a table for your team of 8-10 - or join an existing table
Nibbles and supper provided - Bar open with Proceeds going to Footy Club
Games, raffles, and a silent auction - Generous Prize to be won!

Fish Creek and District Primary School

On National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day the 4th August you are invited to attend a very special occasion at Fish Creek Kindergarten.
We will be celebrating this day with the much anticipated opening of our learning stones area.
We open this area to have 'a place to be me', to promote inclusion and partnership of all within the kindergarten, to encourage children to expect inclusion for themselves and for everyone, throughout their lives. We promote and encourage other ways of knowing and being, this includes individuals within the kindergarten, community, Australia and the world - respect for diversity.
Including a smoking ceremony and welcome to country.

Toora & District Community Adult Running Group
All welcome – it’s never too early or too late to start running. From absolute beginners to any level of running welcome. Stay motivated, learn from others, pass on your knowledge to new runners, company on long runs, stay fit and healthy! Learn to run your first 5k, improve on your 10k time or train with others for ½ marathon or full marathon. Visitors to South Gippsland are welcome to join us whilst on your stay in our area.
When: Tues/Thurs: 4.30pm to 5.30pm, Saturday: 7.30am for long runs  Meeting Point: Sagasser Park, Toora
For further information - Contact Cathy 0425 798748