PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Welcome back to a new and promising school year! 2015 has started with a great buzz of excitement – a great start to a new school year. Every year is different and the exciting part of working in education is the newness of each year- new programs, new initiatives, new staff, new students and new opportunities for all members of our school community to grow and thrive!

😊New Students
Firstly we welcome all the new Prep students as well as Chloe, Daija, Talia, Billy, Caitlyn, Cathleen, Olivia, Skayla and Isobel. Welcome to their families as well.

😊New Staff
This year we welcome Mrs Smedley to the school office. Janelle is a new face in our school community and not only is she a new staff member, she is also a new parent in our school. Janelle will be working Mondays in the office.

We welcome Ms Donna Giliam to 2/3J where she will be teaching the students on Fridays for term 1 and possibly for the rest of the year. Donna has worked in our Cluster schools and she comes highly recommended. If her enthusiasm is anything to go on, 2/3 J is going to enjoy their time with Donna.

😊Other New things

- Science and Technology as a specialist area with Mrs Callcott and the Science Tech Room (Room 5) which looks exciting and engaging, thanks Mrs Callcott
- The Arts (Performing and Visual) with Mrs Jackson
- Mrs Callcott teaching 4/5G on Fridays
- Ms Gilbert teaching MARC library at TVPS and Toora P.S.
- KidsMatter Component 2: Social and Emotional Learning
- New school strategic plan that will support us from being good to GREAT!!!
- A new school motto
- New basketball court lines
- New paths and access ways around the school
- Introduction of a Language in 2015. The Waratah Cluster will be advertising for a Chinese teacher this term with the view to beginning the language program in term 2
- Proposed BYOD (Bring Your Own Device ) program
- New Lunchtime activities
- New community connections bringing outside interests and expertise into our school

... and other things over the horizon.....stay tuned

We warmly welcome back the VanderZalms (Mr V, Farrah, Burke and Lucas) and the Jinnette children.

Brett Smith
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
We are calling interest from parents and carers to join our School Council. Membership on School Council allows parents and carers the opportunity to represent the parent/carer community and input into the directions of the school. If you are interested or like some details, please see me or contact Sue Johnson. Nomination and self-nomination forms are available in the office area.

SCHOOL STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Brett Smith</td>
<td>Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office-Business Manager</td>
<td>Allyson Opray (Tuesday-Friday)</td>
<td>Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office-Administration Assistant</td>
<td>Janelle Smedley (Monday)</td>
<td>Office</td>
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<td>Prep R</td>
<td>Donna Russell</td>
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<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Peter Helms</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3J</td>
<td>Jeanette Johnson (Monday-Thursday)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Donna Giliam (Friday)</td>
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<td>4/5G</td>
<td>Claire Guy (Monday-Thursday)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sophie Callcott (Friday)</td>
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<td>5/6V</td>
<td>Gene VanderZalm</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARC library</td>
<td>Barb Quinn (Monday-Wednesday)</td>
<td>MARC building</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kath Gilbert (Wednesday-Thursday)</td>
<td>MARC building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science and Technology</td>
<td>Sophie Callcott</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Arts</td>
<td>Tanya Jackson</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary Welfare Officer</td>
<td>Kath Gilbert (Tuesday)</td>
<td>MARC building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integration</td>
<td>Sue Dowd, Janelle Smedley</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Chaplain</td>
<td>Jacqueline Taylor (Tuesday and Thursday)</td>
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MOBILE PHONE CONTACT (CALLS AND TEXTS)
The school phone contains a mobile phone contact for each family for increased communications. The phone number is mostly the mother’s number but some families have arranged for someone else to be the prime contact. If you would like to change the prime contact (the one in the phone) please let us know.

TIQBIZ – The company who administer our Tiqbiz application are in the process of changing our groups to align with this year’s home rooms. All 2014 groups will have their members deleted and you will need to resubscribe to your children’s 2015 year level and home room. **We will let you know when this is ready to happen.** Until then, all Tiqbiz communication will be via Whole School. You are still able to send absences via Tiqbiz at any time. More details for new users will be on next weeks newsletter.

CLOSE OF BUSINESS
Collection of forms and money at our school operates on a close of business (COB) basis (4pm). This allows staff and parents who are responsible for the collection to have a definite cut off so they can process money and forms. This also allows forms and money to find their way to the office during the day as students remember and find them.

ENVELOPES
When sending money or notes along to school please ensure envelopes are correctly labelled so that notes and monies go to the correct person or group. Please do not ‘mix’ envelopes, eg. book club and lunches orders as these are processed by different groups of people at our school.

SRI consent (previously known as Religious Education)
The 2015 SRI consent form accompanies the newsletter. If you are interested, consider the following items that are required to be brought to your attention:
- SRI is opt in
- the final groupings and SRI instructors will depend on participating numbers
- the instructors for each group will be noted in the newsletter for parent information before classes commence
- parents may withdraw students at any time
- there will be a $5 per student fee to the provider for materials and books — an invoice will be sent to each family when classes commence
IT USER AGREEMENT
The Years 4-6 IT User Agreement accompanies this newsletter. This agreement will allow students to access our various devices, the internet and cloud storage. If you have ANY questions please feel confident to ring me for any clarifications. The form needs to be discussed and returned to school by Wednesday 11th February (Cloud storage is only available for students who have returned their forms and there will be very limited internet access in the next week until forms are returned.)

AUSTRALIA DAY
Thanks to our 2015 School Captain, Niamh, for representing our school at the Meeniyan Australia Day Ceremony. Niamh opened the ceremony with the raising of the flag. Niamh and I then shared thoughts about Australia Day and Australia written by 56R. Congratulations to Niamh who memorised her speech and confidently adapted it at the last minute. Congratulations to the Meeniyan Tavern Nights for the winning South Gippsland Community Event. Congratulations also to Cathy Waldron for her nomination as Citizen of the Year for her contribution to the community. Cathy’s community involvement arose out of the need to find a kindergarten teacher which then led her to continue to contribute many different and admirable ways.

BUS TRAVEL COMMUNICATION
1. It is school practice to follow the last notification by parents or carers regarding bus travel and not rely on verbal messages relayed by students. If a misunderstanding occurs or there is confusion, we endeavour to contact parents.
2. Parents/ Carers of bus travellers who are not going home on the bus on any given night MUST notify the office prior to the end of the day. A phone call or note to school is required.
3. Parents/ Carers of bus travellers who collect their children without notifying the office, must see the bus duty teacher.
4. If the arrangements are permanent, eg. tennis for the whole of Term 1, please request a ‘change of arrangement’ form from the office. At the conclusion of your child’s participation it is your responsibility to contact the office and have the arrangements revert back.

EMAILING NEWSLETTER
If you would like to receive a copy of the school newsletter via email please send a request to the following address: tarwin.valley.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au If you are already on our list and wish to remain, there is no need to reply. We will take it that you will continue to receive the newsletter electronically. The email copy will not replace a hard copy sent home to families, as we often have attachments to send home to various grades, but it will mean you have a copy saved to your computer each week for future reference! You are also reminded that all newsletters are available to view via our web site: www.tarwinvalleyps.vic.edu.au

PARENTS & FRIENDS
MACS ROSTER – February 2015
For any change in your shift please call – Maureen Graham on 5664 0038 / 0402 402 591

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>10am – 1pm</th>
<th>1pm – 4pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 2nd</td>
<td>Jayne Scott</td>
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<td>Wednesday 4th</td>
<td>Sally Gorman</td>
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<td>Thursday 5th</td>
<td>Tania Dods-Cumming</td>
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<td>Monday 9th</td>
<td>Melody Martin</td>
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<td>Tuesday 10th</td>
<td>Belinda Bright</td>
<td>Jayne Scott / Kylie Bright</td>
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<td>Wednesday 11th</td>
<td>Sally Morrison</td>
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<td>Tuesday 17th</td>
<td>Jocelyn Mackie</td>
<td>Bev Johnson</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24th</td>
<td>Janet Phillips</td>
<td>Sally Gorman</td>
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LEONGATHA INDOOR NETBALL ASSOC (ECA Centre)  Season 9th Feb – 1st June
Senior Ladies: start 6.45pm games
Junior 15&Under girls or mixed: Start 6.00pm games
Junior 13&Under girls or mixed: Start 6.00pm games
Single player entry or team entry for all sections
Entries Close: 5th Feb  Enquires: Wendy 0400534694 or Mandy 0409 868 470 or jbongers@dcsi.net.au

MEENIYAN JUNIOR BASKETBALL
Meeniyan Junior Basketball would like to invite any new players 7 - 17 years to come join our competition.
Section 2 & 3, from 4.00pm Friday nights, Section 4 -Wednesday nights
Season starts Friday 20th February. Could all new players or any players not playing or unavailable 1st game please contact Kim 0427346048/56636252 or Darlene 0417640035/56640035. If you played last season you will be automatically put into a team, unless you have already advised us otherwise. Names must be in by Friday 13th February, late names will not be accepted.
Teams & times for Section 2, 3 & 4 will be published in the Star news paper on Tuesday 17th February.
Reminder: Fees are to be paid up front. Section 1 - $35, Section 2 & 3 - $40, Section 4 - $50. Plus registration fee if due

MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB – SUPER CLINIC – MEENIYAN RECREATION RESERVE
Community after-school activity with AFL Club Melbourne
for children aged 10-18 years at Meeniyan Recreation Reserve
Wednesday February 11th, 2015 – Starts 4.30pm
Email – chelsea.caple@aflvic.com.au to confirm your place

Become A Volunteer Host Family - It’s Fun!
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2015. Our students from Canada, Belgium, Finland, France and Italy are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.
Hosting Is Fun! Find Out more!
Getting to know your student well before he or she arrives is rewarding learning experience, fun for everyone involved and helps your student settle quickly. To help you make this important decision, contact WEP today to receive an information pack for your family.
Sylvia Kelly - Manager – Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733 / Email: info@wep.org.au / Online: http://www.wep.org.au