**Principal's Reflections**

**Young Leaders**

As I write this, our Year 6 students, along with Mr O'Connor and Mrs Bourke are in Sydney to attend Young Leaders Day. They will listen to a range of speakers, including Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione and Paralympian Ben Austin, discuss leadership and what it means in a range of different situations. With the bus having left Newcastle at 6am, I must thank Mr O’Connor, Mrs Bourke and the parents who made the early morning trip to make sure our students could have this great opportunity.

**Best Start Interviews**

As we all know, our wonderful little ladies and gentlemen in Kindergarten come to us with many different experiences and strengths. As a result, a number of years ago the Department of Education implemented Best Start Kindergarten assessments.

This Wednesday, Mrs Bourke will be holding her Best Start interviews to give parents and carers feedback on where our little friends are at in literacy and numeracy, and more importantly, how we will build upon it. This is a great opportunity for parents to have some one on one time with Mrs Bourke.

**Swimming Carnival 2016**

It was hot, sunny and awesome. As I mentioned I love a good swimming carnival and Tarro’s was no exception. I was particularly impressed with the attitude of our students who were more than happy to simply give it their best shot. The manners at the canteen were also a standout (not to mention the hot chips!).

We also had 16 students qualify for the Zone Swimming Carnival which was held last Tuesday. This is an amazing achievement given the size our school and we are incredibly proud.

Thanks must also go to Mr O’Connor for his organisation. Great school events don’t just happen by accident. Large amounts of effort and organisation take place behind the scenes weeks in advance.

This year Tarro Public School is taking part in the World’s Greatest Shave. We will be holding a CRAZY HAIR DAY on Friday March 11th with a gold coin donation going towards this worthy cause. Mr O’Connor and Mr Ebert have generously offered to shave their hair on the day and students can join in by colouring and waxing their hair. More information will be sent home closer to the date.

**School Photos 2016**

Our school photos are on this Friday 4th March for all students including Kindergarten. Having three daughters of my own I know how difficult it can be keeping their clothes clean and hair done. Can I ask that all parents speak to their child about the day and keeping clean and tidy until after their photos.

**Positive Behaviour for Learning**

At the end of last year the school began a journey to implement the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework. Through surveys completed by staff, students and families, we have identified our PBL values as:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Personal Best

These values will be important as the basis for how we develop our students and explicitly teach and develop behaviour expectations.

**P&C Meeting**

At the last P&C meeting a motion was carried to change the meeting days and times. The new arrangement is for P&C meetings to be held at:

**5:30PM on the second Monday of each month.**

The AGM will be held on Mon 14th March.

**Mark Cridland**

Relieving Principal
FOR YOUR CALENDAR

TERM 1

March
Fri 4th – School Photographs
Fri 11th – Crazy Hair Day
Mon 14th – P & C AGM
Thurs 24th – Easter Hat Parade
Friday 25th – Good Friday
Sun 26th – EASTER
Mon 27th – East Monday
April
Fri 1st – Pizza Day
Thurs 7th – Grandfriends Day
Fri 29th – Yr 1&2 Excursion to Taronga Zoo

Friday 8th April – LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS & STAFF

TERM 1 finishes Friday 8th April 2016

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

ZONE SWIMMING
Congratulations to those students who were involved in the Zone Swimming Carnival last Tuesday.

CRAZY HAIR DAY – Shave for a Cure
Friday March 11
A note will follow with more information for the day.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
Friday March 4
School photographs will be taken this coming Friday. Please ensure students wear their full summer uniform.

YR1 & 2 EXCURSION
TARONGA ZOO
Friday 29 April
A note has been sent home. Please return with payment to the office by Friday April 1st.

NOTES RECENTLY SENT HOME
- Newsletter - every 2 weeks even weeks
- Zoo Note – Y1 and 2
- Wakakiri
- School Photos

SCHOOL INFORMATION

UPDATING PHONE CONTACT DETAILS
As we have had some difficulty contacting some parents over the past few weeks, we ask that you please update your contact details on the form attached, if you have changed them recently.

It is important that we have up-to-date contact details in case of emergency.

STUDENT ABSENCES
Sometimes students stay at home for reasons that are not acceptable. For example:
- Birthdays
- Too tired to come to school because of a late night
- Stay home with siblings or parents who are sick
- Staying away for a whole day when an appointment is booked for a short time in the morning or afternoon.
- The weather, for example it’s too hot or raining.

Students staying home for these reasons will be marked as an unjustified absence.

NO HAT, NO PLAY
Just a reminder that Tarro Public School is a sun safe school – all students playing out in the playground will need to be wearing their school hat. Those students without a hat will be asked to play under the sheltered area near the office.
LOST PROPERTY
The clothing in lost property is overflowing and we will need to dispose of it in Week 8.
If you think your child may have lost some clothing, please come and have a look in the lost property which is situated in the foyer near the office.

BOOKPACK PAYMENTS
Payment for book-packs is due NOW. There are still many outstanding.
The cost is $35 payable at the office.

POP Parent Online Payments
This is a payment option available on our school website.

When you access the website (www.tarrop.schoo1.nsw.edu.au) there is a payment tab at the top of the page.

When you access the $ Make a payment you must enter:
☐ Student’s name and
☐ Date of birth

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner. These details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed at the time of payment.

Details of the payment are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process, please contact the School Administration Office.

P & C INFORMATION
CANTEEN
Open Tuesdays and Fridays
Our school canteen is now open for lunches and recess snacks. Please fill out your lunch order and place it in the canteen box at the office on Tuesdays & Fridays.

Please find attached canteen list.

HAPPENING SOON!!!
PIZZA DAY will be on April 1.
More info to follow.

EASTER RAFFLE
We are asking for donations for our Easter Raffle. The raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade. They are $1. Per ticket and books will be sent home at the end of the week.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION
Private In-Home Tutoring
Grades K-6
Reading Skills / Math Skills / Organisational Skills / Help with Projects and Test Preparation
I am a 2015 Higher School Certificate Graduate from All Saints College, Maitland. I charge affordable rates with the first consultation being free. Please contact me and together we can help your child reach their full potential!
Bethany Mate 0403 143211
Photos from:
Tarro Public School
Swimming Carnival
Friday 19 February