TALLAROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL’S VISION:
To develop well adjusted individuals who strive to achieve their full potential in a dynamic, caring and supportive environment.

HOUSE POINTS

Dabyminga was the winner for last week with 4760 points.
Dabyminga was also the winning house for the Cross Country with 89 points to Rook Ranges 60 points

Ongoing House Tally:

Dabyminga: 30 649
Rook Ranges: 26 710

WHAT’S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday, 2nd May ~ MARC (Library)
Tuesday, 3rd May ~ Breakfast Club 8:00am-8:30am
Wednesday, 4th May ~ Sound & Sculpture Garden Project 9:00am-1:30pm

WHAT’S HAPPENING NEXT WEEK

Monday, 9th May ~ MACC (Art)
Tuesday, 10th May ~ Breakfast Club 8:00am-8:30am
Wednesday, 11th May ~ Sound & Sculpture Garden Project 9:00am-1:30pm
Friday, 13th May ~ District Cross Country @ Broadford State Motorcycle Complex

LUNCH ORDERS

Order forms for lunch orders this Friday have been sent home today with each child. Orders are due in no later than Wednesday morning, 4th May. No late orders will be accepted.

If you placed a lunch order for last Friday, this has been held for this Friday.

HEADLICE ALERT

Please make a regular time each week to Seek, Meet, Greet and Treat these unwelcome creatures.

Grade 6 Graduation Fundraising

We will be selling Brownies and Choc Chip Cookies this Wednesday for $1.00 each
Today is Ashley Ruth’s last day for this instructional pre service round at our school. I’d like to thank her for her enthusiastic and committed approach to teaching and learning. Miss Ruth has fitted in to the routines in our school as if she’d been here before and I know Miss Vandenhoven will miss the extra hands and collaboration that mentoring brings. Miss Ruth will be back later in Term 3 - we look forward to having her back again.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support ~ Last Friday we had yet another interesting visitor to our school…. Dan Petro, a renowned Behaviour Analyst. Dan has a wealth of experience and expertise in helping schools balance resources against an increase in the display of classroom and school-wide problem behaviours. While the percentage of students whose problem behaviours rise to the level of being disruptive or worse is relatively small, the impact within the classroom or the entire school is often extensive. The staff are fully aware that there are some issues/behaviours occurring on our school grounds that are not in keeping with our school values, we are working to help our students learn new behaviours through explicit teaching and vigilant support and have employed external expertise as we’d like to respond to problem behaviour situations in a way that is straightforward, effective, and focused on desirable results. Dan spent the entire day working in partnership with staff to refine and improve our school’s behaviour management and intervention programs. The staff at Tallarook Primary will continue to work exhaustively to promote safe change and effective decision making that respects the rights and independence of all individuals while also balancing the needs of the students whose behaviours are creating disruption. I encourage each of you who might have concerns about incidences that involve your child, to speak directly with me. This ensures that we are aware of each incident and that every incident is recorded and followed through on. We value your honesty and willingness to work in partnership with us to ensure every space in our school is a safe, orderly space for each student.

Children as Authors ~ Every year Libby Ahern (MARC) runs a writing competition that every student across all the schools she visits, can enter. The competition is open again. The categories are: most original; best factual writing, best illustrations, best storyline, best entry in prep, years 1,2,3,4,5,6; best front cover; best group entry (grade, class or whole school).

Rules: All books must be complete; maximum of two entries per student; books must be completed in 2016; any format can be used; books are to be entered in one category only; books may be written jointly, but remember one prize per book; no illustrations are to be copied or traced for best illustrations and best front cover categories only!

Students will be provided with regular reminders from classroom teachers about the competition. Grade 3-6 students are expected to complete this independently, as homework or during lunch time clubs. Teachers will be providing students with timelines for completion. Please help your child manage this expectation as this is a wonderful opportunity for students to see what’s being produced by their peers in other schools while having their work reviewed in other schools too.

Sound and Sculpture Garden ~ Sandra Bowkett will be back this Wednesday and fortnightly to the end of this term to work with students and their classroom teachers at creating a special new student centred space. This week they will begin working with clay…. I’m really looking forward to watching this garden take shape!

Staff Professional Learning ~ Just as all staff work consistently to improve student outcomes, so too do all staff continue to ensure we all keep renewing our professional knowledge to ensure our school continues meeting students needs, using research and best practice to move from “Good to Great”! As a result of recommendations from the Reviewers last year we have several Key Improvement Strategies that are a priority in helping us improve student outcomes even further. This Thursday (and across several more visits throughout the year) staff will continue working with an external Numeracy Coach (Denise Barker) on improving how teachers plan, teach and assess in Mathematics to ensure students are having their needs met with differentiated programs, clearly stated goals, learning intentions and explicitly stated success criteria. Mrs Pollard, our Literacy Coordinator, and I have also been actively investigating different writing frameworks and programs and are now ready to begin working with the rest of the staff to ensure consistency of best practice in every classroom to inspire and motivate students to write more effectively. Every teacher will also continue to work with Kim Blackmore, an Education Consultant, on refining our Inquiry Program while also ensuring every teachers’ professional practice, especially those aspects that involve nurturing relationships, curriculum decision-making, teaching and learning demonstrate outstanding pedagogy which focusses on what the teacher does to influence learning in others. (Pedagogy means: the function or work of teaching: the art or science of teaching, education instructional methods.) As you can see the Tallarook Primary School Vision ~ To develop well adjusted individuals who strive to achieve their full potential in a dynamic, caring and supportive environment ~ applies to students and staff alike! Later this term I will begin running learning sessions for parents as I’ve had parents requesting assistance in a variety of areas in order to help their children or “keep up”, especially with ICT. If you have any suggestions for parent learning sessions, please feel free to send your feedback to me.

Breakfast Club ~ Tuesdays, 8:00-8:30am ~ My thanks to Kelly Brown and Cindy Barclay who have been the regular “helpers” this term. If you’re able to assist, please see Nicole and she’ll provide you with all the details as well as ensure your name is put onto the roster.

Have a sensational week!  

Lynette Robberts

WORDS OF WISDOM.....

Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible'!  
Audrey Hepburn