ISSUE 2
8th February 2016

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

Happy Birthday
Will Me ~ 8th February

Tissues
Would families please send along a box of tissues with each child for their classroom. Thank you

School Crossing & Parking Zones
A reminder to families to use the school crossing when crossing Main Road. The school crossing is supervised between 8:15am to 9:00am and between 3:15pm to 4:00pm.

Please be aware that there are No Parking and Bus Zones in Main Road. Our friendly School Crossing Supervisor, Yvonne, is happy to show you where you can and can not park.

What’s Happening This Week
Monday, 8th February ~ MARC (Library)
Monday, 8th February - Friday, 12th February ~ Gr 3-6 Swimming Program @ Tallarook Pool 1:15pm-3:15pm
Tuesday, 9th February ~ Pancake Day, 7:45am
Tuesday, 9th February ~ Excel Music Lessons 10am-1pm. Information Session - 11am
Wednesday, 10th February ~ Prep students not required at school
Thursday, 11th February ~ Information Night / Meet & Greet 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Friday, 12th February ~ Assembly, 3pm

What’s Happening Next Week
Monday, 15th February ~ MACC (Art)
Monday, 15th February ~ Parent’s & Friends Club Meeting, 9am
Monday, 15th February ~ Parent Helpers Course 6:30pm-7:30pm
Tuesday, 16th February ~ School Photos
Wednesday, 17th February ~ Prep students not required at school
Friday, 19th February ~ District Swimming
Friday, 19th February ~ Assembly, 3pm

Grade 6 Graduation Fundraising
This week we are starting to raise money for our end of year Graduation outing. This Wednesday, after lunch eating time, Kiara and Aaron will sell cupcakes, muffins and cookies for $1.00 each.

Each child can only buy one item and children will not be allowed to buy treats for their friends. If you could send the exact change with your child we’d be very happy. Thank you for supporting us.
We’ve enjoyed a sensational week of many firsts - some wonderful successes and some epic fails. As I tell our students to FAIL is good if we treat failure as:

First
Attempts
In
Learning

and we make every effort to reach success through the lessons learnt failing.

This Thursday evening we’re holding our Information Night. Please privilege time to attend as it’ll be an opportunity for parents and teachers to ‘meet and greet” while teachers also share the essential elements they require your support and assistance with during 2016 so that your child can achieve their full potential. Also on Thursday night, we will run through our Emergency Management Plan and be available to answer your questions around what it means to be a school on the Bushfire At Risk Register. Yes your children are welcome to attend with you as nothing discussed will be a surprise to them!

A reminder that we’re handing out certificates for holiday reading at assembly this Friday. If you read over the holiday, please bring your reading record in to school so we can prepare your certificate. Reading nights have been replaced with Reading Sessions this year. The tally for this year began on Monday 1st February. Happy reading everyone!

Our Grade 3-6 swimming program began today and will continue at the Tallarook Outdoor Pool from tomorrow. Helpers who are available to assist with the supervised walk to and from school to the pool are very welcome.

Looking forward to your presence at the Pancake Breakfast tomorrow. Remember if you’re available to assist on any of our committees (Breakfast Club, Grounds and Buildings and Canteen) I’d love to hear from you.

Have a great week.............................. Lynette Robberts

PS: Grade 1 and 2 students will be painting the garden shed this Wednesday. Please ensure they are wearing clothes you’d be happy for them to ‘ruin’ as the paint will not wash off.

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M.A.R.C. INFORMATION 2016

Welcome Parents, Teachers and Children.

The MARC Van [Mobile Area Resource Centre] provides library resources to both children and teachers and library lessons to children in 9 schools: Buxton, Flowerdale, Highlands, Jamieson, Marysville, Merrrijig, Strathbogie, Taggerty, and Tallarook.

The MARC van visits your school once a fortnight.

There are approximately 300 children and 30 teachers in the MARC schools, and each class has a fortnightly visit. Please check your school newsletter for this terms timetable. The MARC van has about 9,000 items, including books, magazines, and teacher resources.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS A NAMED LIBRARY BAG to help protect items against damage and loss.

Charges : A $20 fee is charged for each unreturned or damaged item.

Writers Camp: Dates: 2,3,4, Nov [Wed, Thurs, Fri after cup day weekend] Author/Illustrator: Kevin Burgemeestre. Over the past twenty-four years, MARC has offered a 3 day writer’s camp for children in Grades 3-6, where the children work with an author or illustrator. I am very pleased to continue with this very popular camp at Rubicon Outdoor Centre. Information will be sent to your schools in term 3.

Literature Festival [workshops with 5 authors/illustrators] This special day is offered to your school every three years. 2016: Marysville, Buxton & Taggerty schools will be invited to attend. Date: 3rd Term - To be announced! More information to follow!

Children As Authors: A children’s book writing competition: 2nd Term. Judging / results 3rd Term

Thank you,

Libby Ahern
MARC Van Teacher
Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Tallarook Primary School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on 08/02/16 (insert date and year). The ballot will close at 9.00 am on 22/02/16 (insert date and year).

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DET employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position in the school.

Lynette Robbeks
Principal

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSERF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSERF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSERF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The assistance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSERF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

Applications Close
29th February 2016

HOW TO APPLY
Contact the school office to obtain a CSERF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/cserf

MORE INFORMATION
For the CSERF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/cserf
School Council Elections – Information for Parents
School Council Elections 2016

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

• A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.

• A mandated elected DET employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

• An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember
• Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
• Consider standing for election to council this year.
• Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact Lynette Robberts for further information.
CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

The Conveyance Allowance is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus. The conveyance allowance is also available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus.

Eligibility criteria:
The eligibility criteria varies depending on the type of school attended and where it is located. Students attending a government or non-government school must:

• attend their nearest government or non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible
• be enrolled at a school/campus outside Melbourne’s metropolitan conveyance boundary
• reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
• be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

Students attending a government or non-government specialist school or Department-recognised special setting must:

• attend their nearest government or non-government specialist school or Department-recognised special setting
• reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
• reside within the Designated Transport Area (DTA) for the government specialist school attended (applicable to government students only)
• be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

Note: Specialist schools and special settings located within metropolitan Melbourne are not subject to the conveyance allowance boundary and students may apply for a conveyance allowance.

Special settings include:

• deaf facilities
• English language schools and centres
• re-engagement centres
• Secondary Teaching Units.

Note: Department-recognised special settings such as deaf facilities and re-engagement centres are determined by the Wellbeing Health and Engagement Division

Payment amounts:
Depending on how a student travels to school, an eligible student may be granted a conveyance allowance based on:

• the least expensive public transport fares; and/or
• a distance based allowance when travel is by private car and/or private bus.

Application forms can be collected from the office. All applications need to be received by the school no later than Monday, 29th February 2016.
Have you ever thought...

‘If only my children would listen, things would be calmer at our house!’ or

‘Sometimes my child’s behaviour makes me feel really angry’?

You are not alone!

Come and join us at the:

‘Tuning in to Kids’ Parenting Program

A six session ‘emotion coaching’ program for parents and carers of primary school age children where you will learn how to

- Communicate with your child.
- Understand your child’s needs and emotions.
- Help your child learn to manage their emotions.
- Assist your child to deal with conflict.
- Have the tools to help manage your child’s behaviour.

Starting: Thursday 4th February 2016 for 6 Thursday evenings
Time: 7pm to 9pm
At: Broadford Community Centre
158 – 162 High Street Broadford

This is a free program.
Program is open to all members of the public
Bookings are essential as places are limited

To register or for further information contact Joanne at Primary Care Connect
Tel: 5823 3200

Brought to you by Hume Region Parent Education Service