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

SCHOOL BANK DETAILS
For direct debits please use the following details only:
Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633 000
Account No: 155467343
In details please type family name

What’s Happening This Week
Tuesday, 14 February ~ MACC (first session)
Wednesday, 15 February ~ Prep students not required at school
Wednesday, 15 February ~ Grade 6 students to Bunnings, Epping
Friday, 17 February ~ Assembly, 9:00am
Friday, 17 February ~ MARC (first session)
Friday, 17 February ~ District Swimming
Friday, 17 February ~ Parent Helpers Course, 2:30pm-3:30pm

What’s Happening Next Week
Normal timetabled week.

EXCEL MUSIC LESSONS
Weekly extra curricula music lessons are offered at Tallarook Primary School through EXCEL music. Keyboard, guitar and singing lessons are offered. If you would like your child to participate please complete the enrolment form attached. These are due back by Wednesday, 15 February with lessons then commencing on Thursday 16th February. Fees are paid at the beginning of each term.

ZOOPER DOOPER SALES
Zooper Doopers will be sold on days when the temperature exceeds 26 °C.
All funds will go towards the Royal Childrens’ Good Friday Appeal.
Remember each child can only buy one per day and only buy for themselves.
Dear, parents, teachers and students that are reading this. My name is Kaylan Couper Atar, I’m 11 years old and I have fortunately got the role of school captain. This is so exciting for me and I can’t believe I got this role. I am willing to help as many students, teachers and parents if you need me. I will always be at school early and here every day. I would like to thank all the students that have voted for me, as I couldn’t have gotten this great role without your support. This year I know that I will be a great school captain for this school and I will try my best to do my best at this role. Thank you all for your support, voting for me and I know that I will be a great leader. I would also like to say good luck to all the other grade 6ers this year.

Kaylan Atar, 2017 School Captain
We’ve enjoyed the most wonderful start to our academic year albeit incredibly hot! Last week we enjoyed the water familiarisation and safety sessions while also allowing our competent swimmers the opportunity to refine their swimming strokes and practise for competitive swimming at the District Carnival. Apart from thanking our students for the enthusiasm and energy they have demonstrated I’d also like to thank the senior students for the super job they’re doing with their buddies - well done!

Last week all students began receiving homework. During the Classroom Information Sessions teachers discussed the homework expectations. Please chat to your child’s teacher if you require any information about the homework expectations as these are new expectations.

Today was the first Breakfast Club session for 2017. Many thanks to Cindy Barclay for once again making time to assisting with running these mornings. It’s important that students wanting Breakfast arrive at 8:00am as serving will cease at 8:25am so that the room can be restored back into the Prep/Grade 1 classroom environment.

Our next “Parent/Classroom Helper” training session will be held on Friday, 17 February at 2:30pm. If you have some time and would like to help in the classrooms, and have not yet attended a session, please come along and join us. Having parent support in our classes is highly valued by all of us. There’s a role to suit everyone including listening to reading, running maths games and supervising a cooking or gardening group, to name just a few of the jobs. We are very fortunate indeed at TPS, to have so many family members who are willing and able to work with our staff and students to make a difference.

There have been some concerns raised about the safety of our students at the end of the school day around the parked cars on Main Road. Student safety is top priority, and as such, I would like to remind everyone to please take extra care when leaving the school grounds with children. Although students are educated about traffic safety, their behaviour can sometimes be unpredictable and erratic, and for this reason, extra care needs to be taken near the roadside. Please do not allow students to play games around parked cars.

We are planning a Family and Friends meeting on Friday, 24 February immediately after assembly. If this time doesn’t suit you, please let me know what day and time does suit you as most parents are flexible and keen to ‘grow’ the membership. It would be lovely to see a few new faces. If you were unable to make this meeting but would like to be involved – we would LOVE to have you on board, even if only to socialise!

Family invoices have been printed and will be sent home today. Please ensure these fees are paid in full by 28 February as the more money outstanding, the less the school can offer dynamic programs that our students fully deserve. If you’re experiencing any difficulty meeting the payment deadline, please contact me to discuss a payment option. I welcome and encourage you to pay weekly amounts as well as to organise CentrePay payments if that would make it easier.

Next week on Monday night the 2016 School Council will hold it’s last meeting. Our newsletter for next week will be sent home on Tuesday so that we can include all the decisions passed at this meeting. Thank you to the members of the community who have collected nomination forms for the 2017 School Council elections. Remember nominations close on Tuesday next week.

Students keen to participate at the District Swimming Carnival on Friday will be raced off on Wednesday at 3:00pm at the Tallarook Outdoor Pool. Please could you collect your child from the pool if they’re involved in the race off. They will know by the time they leave the pool whether or not they’ll be in the Team going to Lancefield on Friday.

Enjoy the cooler weather for the rest of this week……. Lynette Robberts
Over the past week Prep/Grade 1 students have been learning action songs.

**Why we learn action songs:**

Children’s action songs offer rich learning experiences that have them memorizing information in a variety of ways. Children’s action songs have children learning musically, verbally, visually, and physically - all at the same time. The combination of all of these learning styles, found in children’s action songs, strengthens memorisation of information and the ability to recall what has been learned. Children’s action songs also supports listening and necessitates following directions. Action songs require children to listen and follow directions in order to sing, move, take turns, develop new ideas, or perform other actions in a song.

Some of the songs that we have learnt so far are:

- Heads and shoulders
- Crabs and seashells
- Open shut them (opposite)
- A sailor went to sea
- Hokey Pokey

Also last week, students began taking reading books home. It is a whole school expectation that students practise reading every night at home (a minimum of five nights a week). For Prep/Grade 1 students this only has to be for ten minutes a night. For the first few books it may be someone reading to the child and build up to your child recognising familiar letters or High Frequency Words that have been learnt in class or even your child reading to you.

**Hints for listening to your child read:**

- Before reading, talk about the cover, the title, the pictures, and discuss what the book may be about.
- During reading, discuss what has been read up to that point, and imagine what will happen next time.
- After reading is finished, talk and ask questions about the story and the pictures.
- When reading together, take turns. Beginning readers can read the repetitive parts and more experienced readers can read a paragraph or a page.
- On finding an unknown word: **Pause** to give your child time to work out the word
  - **Prompt** – go back to the beginning of the sentence, or read past the difficult word to the end of the sentence.
  - look for a clue in the picture or the words
  - look at the first letter and think about what the words could be
  - ask “Does this make sense?”
  - try to sound out the word
  - if necessary tell your child the word
  **Praise** your child for trying even if mistakes are made

Once your child has finished reading please complete their diary with the following information:
Title of book, Author, Page numbers read, Comment about the reading experience, Parent signature.

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” — Dr Seuss

*Natasha McLeish*
Last week I was able to observe many students showing great persistence in learning new skills during the water safety and swimming sessions. From those that had little experience and overcame their fear to have a go to those who had some experience and were extending their skills. It really was a privilege.

This week we will have our first sessions of Art (Tuesday), so please remember to send an Art smock if you haven’t already, Music with Mrs Sherwood on Thursday and Library (on Friday).

In class we will be starting to learn about writing persuasive text. To help your child with this style of writing ask them questions, such as, ‘do you think dogs are better than cats?’ Ask them to give you reasons for their answers.

During maths we are focusing on counting sequences, counting forwards and backwards, from zero and from other numbers.

Kelly Pollard

This week, students in Grade 4, 5 and 6 will be developing their skills on answering questions, by identifying key information within the questions themselves. They will be writing recounts, focusing on describing their emotions.

In Maths this week we will be working on ordering numbers up to five digits, as well as working with numbers using decimal-thousandths. In other areas of maths students will be looking at length, how to measure length, converting between units of length and worded problems using length.

Our Inquiry topic this term is Identity. These first few weeks we will be looking into rules and laws, the role in the classroom and society as a whole as well as the similarities and differences in rules and laws.

Thank you for your support in encouraging your children to complete their homework throughout the week. Let’s keep this happening.

Emma Vandenhoven