

Term 2 Week 8 2012

Thursday 14 th June	Spelling Bee Finals
Monday 18 th June	ICAS Writing Exam
Tuesday 19 th June	Mufit Day - ICAS Spelling
Thursday 21 st June	Spelling Bee Grand Finals
Friday 29 th June	3 rd Payment of \$50 due for Stage 2 Camp
Tuesday 3 rd July	NAIDOC Celebrations

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Parent - Teacher Interviews

A friendly reminder that parent- teacher interview notes have been distributed and teachers should be responding shortly with a confirmation of interview times. If you are in any doubt or you have any questions regarding the interview process please contact your classroom teacher.

P & C Disco

The P & C will be running a K - 6 Disco on Thursday 28th June in the school hall.

There will be two sessions :

- K - 2 - 3.30pm - 4.50pm
- 3 - 6 - 5.00pm - 6.30pm

Both of these sessions will be fully supervised and supported by school staff.

The cost for the disco is \$5.00 and this includes 1 sausage sandwich, 1 can of soft drink, and a raffle ticket for the lucky door prize.

Stay tuned for more information.

School Professional Development

Staff have spent the past two weeks writing Semester one student reports. Reports are currently with supervisors who will then shortly pass them to me for a final perusal before they go home.

This week staff will be participating in further Focus on Reading training. Mr Maumill and Mrs Munro will be leading the training.

Mr Maumill has also built in time for teachers across the school to observe other classrooms and the strategies being implemented within. This is reciprocated as the teachers swap roles and then a general reflection and feedback takes place.

This model of professional development leads to greater teaching skills which of course leads to better face to face teaching for your children.

Congratulations Jennifer Barnott- Clement

Jennifer recently represented our school as an MC at the South Western Sydney Regional Dance Festival.

This event provided an ideal opportunity to showcase Jennifer's wonderful public speaking skills.

Congratulations Jennifer for your outstanding effort in representing not only Tahmoor Public School but the whole of South West Sydney ! Well Done !

Let's get physical

Getting outside for just a short while everyday is healthy in many ways. In just 10-20 minutes you can receive your daily dose of vitamin D, important for bones, muscles and overall health. Vitamin D is not readily available from food, so good old fashioned sunlight for a few minutes a day (outside peak UV times of course) is the best way to get it. Heading outside also ensures you and your kids get some physical exercise and a break from TV and computer screens. For more ideas to get physical go to: www.activekids.org.au/

Telling the time

Learning to tell the time is one of those life skills that, well, takes time. There are some great resources on the School A to Z website that can help. This page includes a downloadable clock template and both analogue and digital time references. www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/detresources/tell_the_time_uHKOzycPnd.pdf

Electronic School Sign

Our school is planning to purchase an Electronic school sign which will be located in approximately the same position as our current school information sign.

The benefits of this sign will be as follows:

- Provide a strong profile for our school which will be able to be seen in both directions of Remembrance Drive.
- Great promotion of school events.
- Easy rotation of messages so that our school community is informed at the appropriate time of any event.

Our P & C have generously donated 50% of the cost and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their generous support of our school.

Second Multi-categorical class

We have been given permission to set up our second multi-categorical class which is due to commence the first day of Term 3.

We are awaiting advice from District office to see which students will be coming into this class. A teacher has been appointed to the class and her name is Mrs Julia Stirling. Mrs Stirling comes to our school from Sarah Redfern Public School and Campbelltown East Public School where she has a strong background of teaching in the special education arena. I'm sure I speak on behalf of our whole school community where I welcome Julia to Tahmoor Public School.

Facebook

We have had some concerns in relation to some of our students who we believe are using Facebook. Please be vigilant if your children are using Facebook and ensure they are using it appropriately. Technically children under 13 years of age should not be using Facebook - that applies to all students in primary school. We have invited a Police Liaison Officer to talk to the whole of Stage 3 early next term. He will be talking about Facebook and its appropriate use.

Bike Helmets

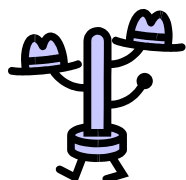
A friendly reminder to students who ride to school that they must wear a bike helmet. There are a number of our students who are riding to school without a helmet.

Have a great fortnight

Dave Schofield

Principal

Hat Rack



Reading is an important skill which our children develop through a strong home school partnership. Parents and carers can easily support their children to develop the necessary skills when learning to read. This process can begin even before your child starts school. Below are ten useful tips which will assist children who are learning to read.

Ten Tips To Assist Pre-school students and beginning readers

1. **Read to and with your children for 30 minutes every day.** It is very important to read out loud to your children before they start school. Help your children to read with you. Ask them to find letters and words on the page and talk with your children about the story.
2. **Help your children to read on their own.** Reading at home helps children do better in school. Have lots of children's books in your home and visit the library every week. Help your children get their own library cards and let them pick out their own books.
3. **Help your child to see that reading is important.** Suggest reading as a free-time activity. Make sure your children have time in their day to read. Set a good example for your children by reading newspapers, magazines, and books.
4. **Set up a reading area in your home.** Keep books that interest your children in places where they can easily reach them. As your child's interest in reading increases, make sure that you add more books to your collection.

5. **Give your children writing materials.** Children want to learn how to write and to practice writing. Help them learn by having paper, pencils, pens, or crayons for them in your home. Help your children write if they ask you.
6. **Read and write with your children in their native language.** Practicing their first language will help your children learn to read and write English.
7. **Talk with your children as you do daily activities together.** When you take your children places, talk with them about what you are doing and ask them questions.
8. **Ask your children to describe events in their lives.** Talking about their experiences makes children think about them. Giving detailed descriptions and telling complete stories also helps children learn about how stories are written and what the stories they read mean.
9. **Restrict the amount and kind of TV your children watch.** Watch educational TV programs with your children that teach letter sounds and words or give information about nature and science.
10. **Keep track of your children's progress in school.** Visit your children's classrooms to learn how your children are doing in school and how you can help your children become better students. Ask about the school's reading program and where your children need help.

Parent/carer-Teacher Interview Tips

Parent/carer-teacher interviews will be held during Week 10 of this term. I have included a list of tips and information which you may find useful.

The idea behind regular interviews is for parents/carers and teachers to work as a team. Parent/carer involvement in education is a powerful force, and annual parent/carer-teacher conferences guarantee that every parent/carer has the opportunity to discuss their child's progress.

They are very short - 10 minutes long and as teachers have many interviews on the one afternoon it is important that they do not run over time. Prepare before the interview to make the best use of that short time. If you need more time, schedule another appointment.

Prepare

Read your child's report.

- Make notes about your questions and concerns.
- Talk to your child about the report.
- What do you want to ask the teacher?
Make a list.

Ask Questions

Arrive on time. Bring your list of questions. The teacher will review your child's report card or show you samples of his or her work.

Tell the teacher what your child likes and dislikes about school. Let the teacher know if you think there is too much or too little homework.

Parent/carer-teacher interviews are strictly confidential. Share personal information that might be affecting your child's progress or behaviour at school (e.g., family illness). This information will help the teacher understand your child better.

Some example questions which you may like to ask include:

- What does my child do well?
- What skills does she or he still need to develop?
- Is my child getting extra help? In what areas?
- What is your homework policy?
- How much time should my child be spending on homework?
- How does my child get along with the other students?
- How can I help my child at home?
- What is the best way to contact you if I have more questions?

Take notes so that you remember the areas which were discussed and strategies to assist your child for after the interview.

Follow Up

Talk to your child. Stress the positive things the teacher said. Talk about how you and the teacher are going to help with the things that need to be improved

Remember that parent/carer-teacher interviews are an important opportunity to work together to support your child's educational needs.

Thank you and kind regards,
Michael Maumill
Highly Accomplished Teacher.

EARLY STAGE ONE NEWS

A special thankyou to the many parents, grandparents and friends who attended the K-2 assembly last week. It was wonderful to see so many Kindergarten students receiving their Bronze award in recognition of their positive behaviour at school.

SPORT...

SSW Cross Country

Best wishes to Emma Matthews and Krystal - Lee Holdsworth who will compete at the SSW Cross Country at Hurlstone HS today. Both girls will be competing in very wet and muddy conditions. We look forward to hearing their results.

Paul Kelly Cup AFL

Best wishes to our boys and girls PKC teams who will compete next Friday at Bargo Sportsground for a spot at the Regional Finals. Here's hoping for some fine weather.

Coles Sports for Schools

Coles Sports for Schools promotion has started. For every \$10 you spend at Coles, Bi-Lo or Coles Online you will receive a voucher. Place them in the promotion box in the office. Last year the Tahmoor community collected just over 55 000 vouchers. We look forward to your support over the coming months.

Premier's Sporting Challenge

This challenge is well underway. Please remember to return your 'HOME' log books on a weekly basis so you can add this time to your 'SCHOOL' log book. I know many students are on track to receive their Diamond award at the conclusion of the challenge.

Athletics Carnival

The annual Athletics Carnival is scheduled to be held on the 26th July (Thursday, Week 2) with back up dates on the 2nd and 9th of August. Notes will be coming home in the week and we are hoping to have payments finalised prior to the end of term. A reminder that this is a compulsory event.

Stay fit and healthy!
Miss Allard

P&C News

Dates for upcoming P&C meetings are

- 12th September
- 10th October
- 14th November
- 12th December all at 9 am in the Teachers Centre.
- Helpers will be needed for upcoming events; Athletics Carnival next term and also Special food Days ie: Hot Soup Day. Please see Karen or Mrs Scott in the Canteen for Special food Days

Thank you

Kylie
P&C Secretary

GIRL GUIDES

My name is Julie and I am the leader for Picton/Tahmoor Girl Guides. We are inviting girls to come and join our unit.

We are at Thirlmere RSL Mason St Thirlmere Wednesday 5pm - 6.30 pm Three Nights Free No obligation to join just come and visit. NO WAITING LIST Please call Julie on 0487785765 or just pop in.

We are currently working on centenary badge, Action badge. We also go camping at the zoo, hiking, family camps, cooking, scrapbooking, movie nights camping skills and wide games.

Kind regards

Julie
Picton/Tahmoor Guide Leader

Ambarvale Recreation Centre

Excite Holiday Program

For children during the next school holidays

Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th
July

Cost: Monday 9th \$10, all other days \$25 child, per day.

Family Specials available, 8.30am - 4.30pm Lunch included

For more details please contact 46263033

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

The next Blue Light will be held on Saturday, 23 June, from 4PM to 7PM Cost \$5-00, mums and dads free. Ages from 4 years to 14 years, inclusive. Under 4 years, free.

Special guest will be DAN EWING, who plays one of the river boys, HEATH BRAXTON, in "HOME & AWAY"

UNIFORM SHOP

Old Style Gabardine Long Pants \$10

Old Style Gabardine shorts \$5

Culottes \$10 LIMITED SIZES AVAILABLE

Uniform shop Opening Hours:

Monday 2.15 - 2.45

Wednesday 8.30 - 9am

Friday 2.15 - 2.45

CRAFTY LADIES

Wednesday 27th June

Card Making 9am - 12pm

Cost \$20 pay upfront when booking

Making Christmas Angel Cards

Need to know attendance ASAP

Contact Sharon Mordue 0408809250