

Toongabbie West Public School

Building Educational Success Together

Ballandella Road Toongabbie; Phone: 02 9631 3610

We would like to show respect and acknowledge the Darug People, the Traditional Custodians of the Land.

Newsletter: 20th October 2020 Term 4 Week 2

For further information, visit our web page at: <http://www.toongabwst-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

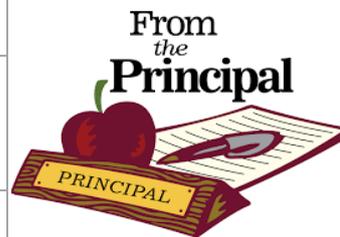
If you would like to receive a newsletter electronically,
please email toongabwst-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and include your child's name and class.

CALENDAR

30th October	Halloween Mufti
1st December	Year 6 to 7 High School Orientation day
16th December	Last day for students
18th December	Last day for Staff

From the Principal's Desk

DEAR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS



It seems not too long ago that we were closing up and locking down, now as you are aware NSW has continued to manage COVID in our communities. There are still a few new cases and still responsibilities for everyone to follow. Our school is navigating these changes in a safe and steady way. The biggest highlight we have seen each day since returning to full time attendance is the accelerated growth in the independence of our kindergarten students and their ability to come into school, deal with lost property, lunch boxes, moving around the school, build friendship groups while still developing strong connections with their teachers and other class mates.

This term, we will continue to have parents only onsite if they have already contacted the office. Drop off will remain outside the gates, and pick up with social distancing will continue, please continue to take care and not mingle with other parents on the school site. If you need to speak with your child's class teacher, please email or call the office to organise a time. If you are unwell, displaying even the mildest flu like symptoms, please do not come to school and arrange to be tested. If you do get a COVID test, please provide the result to the office via email.

We will also be running our kindergarten orientation this term, letters have gone home to the families with details. Planning for our Year 6 farewell and presentation day ceremony are under way. We are planning this, but confirmation about parental involvement is awaited, more details will be sent home as soon as we have them. We all need to be able to adapt and pivot when needed but from what we have seen, the TWPS community is on the right path.

On one recent P&C meeting a discussion began about the lack of a carnival this year came up, one of the



parents asked how about a Halloween Mufti day, I thought it was a fabulous idea and so Friday 30th October we will have students coming to school dressed up as ghouls, ghosts and possibly more 'monsterish' than normal. The canteen will have very special deals for the day to go with the Halloween theme. It makes 2020 feel a bit more normal, with not letting events be cancelled if we can do something.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS TERM 4

This year as with previous years, our teachers will be completing professional learning on the staff development days, Thursday 17th December and Friday 18th December. There will be no school for students on these days. School will finish for students on 16th December.

Dates for students return for 2021 will be sent home shortly.

DRINK BOTTLES

Due to the COVID guidelines our school bubblers remain taped off. The weather is getting warmer and we seem to be having more children forgetting their drink bottles. A drink bottle will be vital in the term 4 heat.

ADMIN BLOCK BUILDING WORK

Building work on the admin block shelter will commence shortly (the end of October, depending on steel materials being delivered) to provide a wonderful all-weather play area for the K-2 children, the total cost is \$117,000. Help has been given to us by the P&C obtaining a grant for \$15,000. With a sun safe and rain proof environment for this area, students will have a great resource to enjoy. The admin quad will be fenced off while construction happens, there may be some small changes to pick up of Kindergarten students during this period, and changed details will be notified to parents.

TRANSITION TO KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

With changes made to school activities by the department we are now able to begin a modified Kindergarten Orientation. We have posted home our 2021 transition information package to the families who have indicated they are starting at Toongabbie West Public School in 2021. This also includes the structure we have to follow to make it a Covid safe experience. Our transition to kindergarten program offers families and 2021 kindergarten students' opportunities to familiarise themselves with our school and prepare for a successful and happy start to kindergarten. Planned lessons will

happen in the current kindergarten rooms. There will also be a visual orientation movie posted on our website to allow both parents and children to see the school and all of the resources they might otherwise miss.

KINDERGARTEN 2021

Toongabbie West Public School prides itself in delivering quality programs to students in a warm, caring learning environment. Our teachers are professional, caring and committed to teaching students a broad and balanced curriculum across the key learning areas. We pride ourselves on catering for the individual learning needs of all children.

If you have a child who will be commencing Kindergarten in 2021 (turning 5 before 31st July 2021), please start the enrolment process as soon as possible. Applications can be obtained either from the school office or from the school website.

UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS

To ensure there is clear communication between school and home it is extremely important that parents/carers notify the school of any changes to their contact details. The most common reason for school staff to contact parents/carers is to discuss a matter concerning your child. However, there are a number of emergency situations when we may need to contact a parent/carer, including when a child is ill or injured and needs to be collected from school. Please notify the school office urgently of changes to your contact details, including mailing and email addresses, phone numbers and emergency contacts.

FEWER KIDS ARE ACTIVE ON THEIR WAY TO SCHOOL

Today we drive our kids to school in record numbers. The national rate of "active travel to school", as the experts call it, has declined over the past 40 years from 75 to 25 per cent of trips. Much of this can be explained by growing car ownership, changing family dynamics and increasing distances between some homes and schools. But there have also been changes in how far kids are allowed or are willing to go. Nearly 60 per cent of Australian parents report that the distance from home to school is three kilometres or less. Health professionals estimate that more than 70 per cent of children and 91 per cent of young people do not meet minimum physical activity recommendations. Can we do more to help our children and also ourselves keep fit ?

SELECTIVE HIGH 2022

Selective high schools cater for academically gifted students with high

potential who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic standard. Selective high schools help these students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, and by using specialised teaching methods. Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 11th March 2021. If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2022, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address). To APPLY please register on this website:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/publicschools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>

HEARING SUPPORT UNIT

We have been working hard in the Hearing Support Unit.

In HR we have doing lots of fun activities. We have been learning about the letter A and counting to 20. We learnt that apple starts with A and decorated our own apples using paper chips.



We also enjoyed Cosmic Yoga and making different animal poses. We had fun playing with the parachute and had lots of giggles.



In HG we have been reading a variety of books this semester. We like to create artwork to go along with these books. In HG we try our best and work very hard.



We all have improved in our reading and enjoy writing about our artwork. In HM we enjoyed reading the book Charlotte's Web and completing activities related to the text. In Geography we have been learning about different environments in Australia and were inspired to create an artwork representing trees.





We also learnt in Creative Arts how to draw faces so that the features are of the right proportions.

3-6 CRICKET CLINICS

Yesterday, trainers from Cricket NSW visited the school and ran cricket clinics for our 3-6 students. Stage 2 participated in the morning and Stage 3 took part in our middle session for the day. The activities were fun, fast paced and designed to teach the children who aren't experienced in the game fundamental skills, such as catching, batting, fielding and running. Students that are skilled in cricket also had fun being able to show-off their talents! The feedback from most students were that they enjoyed the games and the talented trainers who ran them.

Mr Kattic

I think that the cricket clinic was fun and AMAZING! Cricket is something that I enjoy a lot and it supports you to go outside and play with your friends and family for fitness. The cricket activities were amazing and I could go on and on about them but I won't!



Thank you, teachers and coaches, I really enjoyed it.

Anthony 4/5B

HALLOWEEN GALA DAY FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

As there will be no Halloween Carnival this year, we are planning a special Friday on 30th October. Not a carnival but a time where all students can come dressed to school as a representative of the Halloween celebrations, such as ghouls, gremlins, ghosts and so on! We will have a character parade for classes and students to showcase their outfits to the rest of the school, followed by Halloween themed activities for the rest of the day.

CANTEEN

Halloween treats for sale in the canteen. Jelly with eyeballs, zombie monster munchies and lolly bags are all \$1 each Spiders are \$2 each All items will be available for both lunch and recess until sold out.





HAPPY



HALLOWEEN



HALLOWEEN TREATS IN THE CANTEEN
FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER
AVAILABLE AT LUNCH AND RECESS
UNTILL SOLD OUT
LOLLY BAGS \$1.00
ZOMBIE MONSTER MUNCHEES \$1.00
JELLY AND EYEBALLS \$1.00
SLUSHIE SPIDERS \$2.00

Nutrition Snippet

SPRINGTACULAR FRUIT AND VEG.



Try these seasonal recipes:

- [Beef and broccoli stir fry](#)
- [Zucchini slice](#)
- [Healthy apple crumble](#)
- For these recipes and more visit healthylunchbox.com.au

healthylunchbox.com.au



Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box

Toongabbie West Public School

Notification of Absence by Parent/Carer

Name of Student:

Class:

Date/s of Absence:

Reason for Absence:

Sickness

Family reasons

Other reasons (Please State)

Signed/Notified by:

Date:

Enrolling Students for 2021

Please return to the school office if you are planning on enrolling a student in Kindergarten in 2021 and have not yet contacted the office.

OR please pass on this information if you know of someone who has a child of the appropriate age and is interested in enrolling them at this school.

Children must have turned 5 years old by 31 July 2021 in order to be eligible to commence school in January 2021.

Child's Name:

Date of Birth:

Parent's Name:

Contact Phone Number:

Other Information:

Students not returning in 2021

Please return this slip if your child is **not returning at all** to Toongabbie West Public School (not including Year 6 students) 2021

My child

of class will not be returning to Toongabbie West Public School in 2021.

Because

.....

Signed: Parent/Guardian

Date:

Students returning late in 2021

Please return if your child is returning to Toongabbie West Public School **after the commencement of Term 1.**

My child

of class will be returning late to Toongabbie West Public School on (date):

Because

.....

Signed: Parent/Guardian

Date: