

# 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: 18 February 2020 Term 1 Week 4

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](mailto:toongabwst-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) and include your child's name and class.

## CALENDAR

19 Feb	Mufti Day, \$2 gold coin donation
25 Feb	Meet the Teacher
26 Feb	Swim Carnival
28 Feb	Summer PSSA starts
3 Mar	P&C Meeting
5 Mar	Zone Swim Carnival
18 Mar	SRC Disco
19 Mar	Regional Swim Carnival
25 Mar	School Photos Day
1 Apr	Easter Mufti Day
3 Apr	Summer PSSA ends
9 Apr	Easter Hat Parade



## From the Principal's Desk

### DEAR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

The school car park is, at the moment, shared with Before and After School care before 7.30am and after 3.30pm when it becomes staff only movement into the school grounds. If during the time where parents are dropping off or picking up children at Before and After School care, then consideration must be given to traffic entering the school from the road. It is a very dangerous situation reversing out on to Ballandella Road with limited visibility of vehicles coming down the hill, vehicles leaving the school must give way to traffic entering the car park.

There will also be an increased police presence around the school, monitoring parking illegally, speeding, blocking driveways, and parents choosing not to use the crossing in Ballandella Road. Our children are too important to risk in this manner.

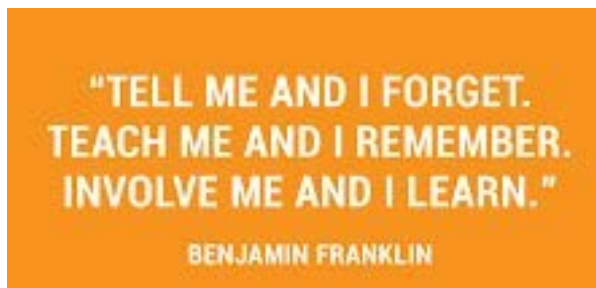
We have noticed a number of children coming to school before 8.30am and also being picked up after 3pm. Please understand that there are no teachers on duty to supervise students. Also the park in Derbyshire Avenue is not an appropriate or safe place for children to play before or after school because they are being dropped off early or picked up late, a number of children have been hurt at these times because they are not supervised.

### AFTERNOON PICK UP

Parents are reminded that at 3pm, if you are collecting your child from Kindergarten classes please remain by the silver seats area next to the library. Distractions at the end of the day when your child is getting information is going to make them forget and possibly come to school without something or in the wrong clothes. It happens all too often because a parent has peeked in the window.

The issues facing schools are vast, some are financial, some are historical and some are attitudes. How do we improve in these areas? The school environment is important for students to take pride in coming to school, wearing a uniform which shows they belong, coming to school with an attitude to do their best and bringing their best efforts to their learning, supported and encouraged by parents to

fully engage with their education. Toongabbie West approaches all of these as a community to support our children. The best attitude is often shown in the way students listen, perform and hence engage in their learning. Last term students brought home their reports, the boxes labelled effort are something you might like to go back and look at. If they are getting a 1 or a 2 then excellent, if a 3 then some extra effort might be good. If they are getting a 4 or 5 then it is time to have a conversation with them about why their effort is so low. Often the results and comments are about high school environments, please remember your child will be in high school very soon. Start the habits now.....



A recent article in the Sydney Morning Herald highlighted some recent research and studies; **Australian classrooms are among the least disciplined** in the world. According to a global survey, with a high proportion of students saying their learning time is lost to noise and disorder and they cannot work well in class.

Australia has ranked 70th out of 77 participating nations for classroom discipline. The index is based on 15-year-old students' views about the level of discipline in the classroom, with a high proportion of Australian students reporting that the teacher is not listened to and it regularly takes a long time for the class to quieten down. Comments about this result shows a higher proportion of students reporting that the teacher has to wait a long time for students to settle down, that students cannot work well and that they don't start learning for a long time after the lesson begins.

"We are basically among the worst in the world and that has been ignored."

"If students don't want to listen to what the teacher says, if there is noise and disorder in a learning space, and if a teacher has to wait for a long time for students to quiet down, how can we expect students to learn effectively in school?"

'Alarm bells': Australian students falling behind in maths, science and reading led to a caution that the OECD report did not make a direct link between Australia's poor ranking on the index of disciplinary climate and its slipping academic performance.

The survey found Australian teachers regularly face an environment that is noisy and disordered by 42.9 per cent of Australian students who reported there was noise and disorder in most or all of their classes. I would like to think that here at Toongabbie West parental support for

any issues which may arise are fully supported by the whole community.

#### MUFTI DAY

**WEDNESDAY IS A MUFTI DAY** to raise funds for a school in the bush fire area which has lost everything, resources, red light play items as well as the everyday essentials which all schools take for granted. Half of the funds raised will then be passed on to Wires to support injured wildlife in the devastated areas.

A school disco to help with this fund raising will happen later in the term, the theme may be around the reason why we are fundraising, listen out carefully for more information and to help prepare your costume.

#### ZONE PSSA TRIALS

Due to the large amount of rain we have received, the Zone PSSA trials have been changed. Below are the changes:

- All netball, softball and cricket trials will now be held on Friday 21 February. These trials will commence at 9:30am and conclude around 11:00am.
- All rugby league, soccer and touch footy trials will be rescheduled to either on all Wednesday, Thursday or Friday afternoons at a venue to be confirmed.

Any further information will be provided to you as soon as it has been passed on to the school.

As a result of these changes, the school's PSSA Summer competition is now scheduled to commence on Friday 28 February, weather permitting. The students who have been selected to represent our school teams will receive permission notes as soon as our school trials have been finalised. Thank you for your understanding.

Mr B Kattic



#### KL 2020

KL have been settling well into kindergarten at Toongabbie West. They have been working hard to learn and adapt to new routines, expectations and follow instructions. KL students have been



very resilient with all the rainy weather and having to play inside, but are definitely eager to play on the grass area. We have been learning about choices we can make that help us stay strong and healthy. Students helped make a 'KL fruit and vegetable bowl' on foods we eat during crunch 'n' sip time and wrote a procedure on how to wash your hands. We also painted our own Hungry Caterpillars using sponges.

We have been learning about the sounds that 'a', 'm', 's', 't' and 'i' spell and are working on reading and building words out of these letters. In gym, KL have been learning their shapes such as pencil, star, tuck, pike, straddle, and their favourite; motorbike.

KL had their first drumming lesson in week 3. They learnt about a djembe - where it has come from and how they are made. Students are working on holding the djembe correctly and drumming to a beat.

Joanna likes playing, Aarvi likes drawing, Ariyanna has enjoyed painting, Kody loves 'Silly Pirate Song' and everyone has loved Go Noodle. I am looking forward to seeing KL's progress over the year!

Miss K Lohan

to develop their fine motor, gross motor and cognitive skills. I am amazed to see the progress each student is making in and outside the classroom.

In the classroom, K/1H students have been learning about Chinese New Year. We have read stories and learned about the legend of Nian and why the colour red is so special. We even created our very own dragon puppets to give us good luck and wisdom throughout the year.

K/1H have had a wonderful start to the year, and I look forward to a great year of learning ahead!!

Miss K Hodgson

K/1H classroom teacher



### KB

Kindergarten students in KB have done remarkably well in learning their school and class routines during their first weeks at school. The students are really enjoying reading books, literacy and numeracy activities which are helping them to develop their fine motor, gross motor and cognitive skills. We have been learning about making healthy food choices to make us fit and strong. Students are enjoying building words by using the sounds of the letters that we have learnt in class. KB loves gymnastics, art, dance and singing songs with their peers.

I am amazed to see the progress each student is making in and outside the classroom. We have had a wonderful start to the year and looking forward to working closely with them.

Ms N Bala

KB Class Teacher

### PBL

In Weeks 4 and 5, our new school focus is Be Safe, with a specific emphasis on 'be in the right place at the right time'. This is especially important as we have new students in the school. Teachers are giving lessons in the classroom reminding students of this



### K/1H

What an exciting start to the year! K/1H students have settled well into school and have enjoyed making new friends and getting to know each other through games, creating self-portraits and discussing their similarities and differences.

We have been learning the school rules and classroom routines and expectations through ongoing PBL lessons. We also decorated paper bags to store our Tassie Tokens and Toonie Tokens in the classroom. The bags are filling fast which means that students have been following the class and school rules and are engaged in their learning!

Students are also really enjoying completing literacy and numeracy activities as well as music and gymnastics lessons which are helping them



expectation. Teachers need to be able to locate students in case of an emergency, to ensure their safety or to relay messages and information. Students need to show the correct behaviour while moving throughout the school to ensure they arrive to their location in a safe and timely matter.



**Safer Internet Day**  
**2020** | Tuesday  
11 February  
Together for a better internet

**Start the chat about online safety and help make every day a Safer Internet Day!**

Safer Internet Day was recently celebrated on Tuesday, 11 February 2020. The theme was 'Together for a better internet' and Australia's eSafety Commissioner

is encouraging parents to have family conversations about online safety. You can download the Safer Internet Day resources at [esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au) and use them to start the chat about online safety with your family. While there you can also check out eSafety's great range of advice and resources. You can download the 'Parents guide to online safety' booklet (available in 5 languages), look through eSafety Kids with your family or get familiar with the step by step advice for reporting different types of online abuse. -

Mr Thomas

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

It is that time of the year again! Our school photos will be taken on:

**Wednesday 25 March 2020**

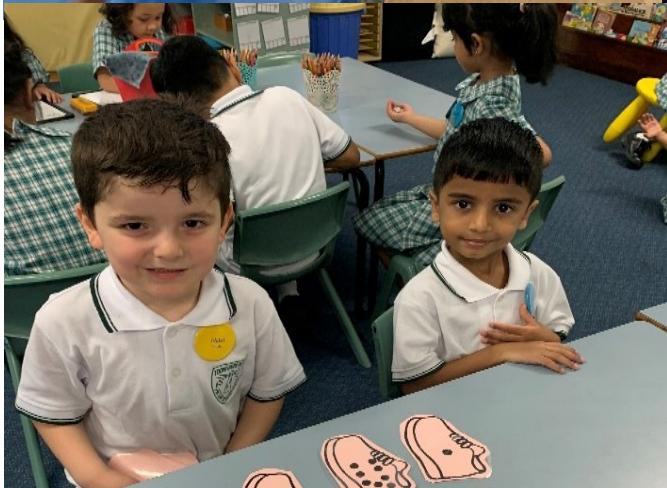
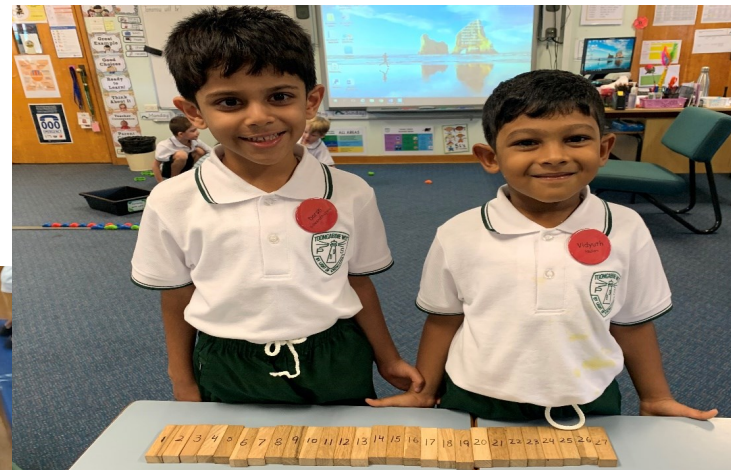
Envelopes will be coming home today. Please do not seal envelopes inside each other. Each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day. Photo order envelopes must be returned with children on photo day or earlier to the office. **Orders will not be accepted at school after photo day.**

**Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request.**

**Please ensure your child is wearing full school summer uniform on the day.**

Payments can be made by cash (correct amount), or money orders enclosed in the envelope provided. For safety and security reasons credit card payments can only be processed online via

[www.theschoolphotographer.com.au](http://www.theschoolphotographer.com.au) website using code X1268PC41T which is on the envelope and paid in advance.









# SEEK CHALLENGE. SCOUT.



Membership hotline: **1800 SCOUTS**  
 or **scan the QR code**

Your local Scout Group welcomes you.  
 1st Toongabbie Scout Group  
 Contact Email: Lisa.Dent@nsw.scouts.com.au  
 Contact Phone: 0432 493 869

# The simplest way






... to make healthy drinks interesting.

Plain tap water is the best drink choice. It's cheap and quenches your thirst. However, if you're looking for something different here are some good options:

- Plain milk
- Sparkling water
- Milk blended with fruit of your choice for a delicious filling smoothie
- Water flavoured with slices of lemon, strawberries or mint



Try to avoid sugar sweetened drinks such as soft drinks, iced tea, flavoured water and fruit drink as they do not contain any nutrients our bodies need but add a lot of kilojoules which can lead to weight gain. If having juice, have only a small serve and consider diluting with water or ice.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
4	17	18	19 Bush fire Mufti Day	20 Sports Cap- tains Assembly	21 Zone PSSA Tri- als	22/23
5	24	25 	26 Swimming Car- nival 	27	28  PSSA Starts	29/1 <b>March</b>
6	2	3 P&C Meeting	4	5 Zone Swim- ming Carnival  SRC Assembly	6 PSSA	7/8
7	9	10	11	12	13 PSSA	14/15
8	16	17	18 SRC Disco 	19 Regional Swimming Carnival  Library Moni- tors Assembly	20 PSSA	21/22
9	23	24	25 School Photos	26	27 PSSA	28/29
10	30	31	1 <b>April</b> Easter Mufti Day	2	3 PSSA Fin- ish	4/5
11	6 Cross Country 	7	8 Cross Country Back up	9 Fun Day Easter Hat Pa- rade 	10 Good Fri- day	11/12 Easter 