Upcoming Events

January 2017
26  Australia Day Public Holiday
31  Breakfast Club commences for 2017

February
2   Class Library borrowing commences
9   Meet & Greet Evening with Sausage Sizzle @ 5:00pm + Open Classrooms
13  P & C Meeting @ 7:00pm : School staff room—All welcome
23-24 Year 6 Leadership Camp

March
13  P & C Meeting
14  School Photos
31  Last Day Term 1

April
17  Easter Monday
18  First day Term 2
25  ANZAC Day public holiday
WELCOME TO 2017!

Welcome to the school year and to our first newsletter for 2017!

What a great first few days it’s been at Toogoolawah State School! The staff and students have enjoyed a very smooth start, all refreshed and recharged following the holiday break. After hearing lots of interesting recounts of holiday activities, the classes have hit the ground running with the teaching and learning programs underway.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone who is a part of our School Community. Welcome back to the families that were apart of Toogoolawah SS last year and a special welcome to the families that have joined us this year.

It is always exciting for children- new uniforms, shoes, books, lunch boxes and bags- to finally get to use their new belongings, and to get to catch up with their friends. The students should also be complimented on how proudly they wear their school uniform- they all look fantastic!

My first few days have been a great time to meet students, staff and parents at Toogoolawah. Can I say, ‘what a fantastic school we have here at Toogoolawah.’ We have a dedicated teaching staff, able support and administration staff and impressive school facilities! It has been an exciting time and I have had a warm welcome.

For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Nathan de Mey and I am the new principal at Toogoolawah SS. I have come across from Grandchester where I still reside and commute from each day. My wife Leticia is a classroom teacher at Ashwell SS. I have three children, Charlie and Noah who are both in high school and a daughter Alice, in grade 2 at Grandchester. I love my job as a primary school principal and believe that every student deserves to be pushed to do the best they can. I’m passionate about school sport, as well as other extracurricular activities and believe behaviour and engagement are crucial in order to create an environment where every student can learn and achieve.

But enough about me! We have much to look forward to this year and I am excited about working with you all towards a shared common goal in achieving the best outcomes for all of our students.

Please remember that attendance every day at school is important. The teachers have important learning programs planned for our students- every day of the week, every week of the year- so keep in mind, ‘EVERY DAY COUNTS!’ If, however, your child is absent simply contact (via phone call or email) the school - this enables us to explain the absence on our electronic tracking systems which are mandatory for all state schools.

Term 1 is always a busy term- with the establishment of new routines and new learning programs- so please take the time to read the ‘date claimers’ and maybe keep a copy on your fridge for any dates important for your family.
Day 8 Census will be conducted next Thursday. At present our enrolment numbers are close to our predicted enrolment numbers however if our numbers fall below that predicted enrolment we will need to make some changes to classes.

**STAFFING**

**CLASS TEACHERS**

- **PREP**: Ms Tracy Murdoch
- **YEAR 1**: Miss Nicole Vaughan
- **YEAR 2**: Miss Erin O’Hanlon (Mon – Thurs)
- Mrs Sue Seymour (Friday)
- **YEAR 2/3**: Mrs Sharon Cowley
- **YEAR 3**: Mrs. Monica Thornton
- **YEAR 4**: Miss Kate Cowley
- **YEAR 4/5**: Mrs Sarah Wolff
- **YEAR 6**: Ms Gemma Jorin

**CLEANERS**

- Mrs Donnie Foster
- Ms Lorraine Cowley
- Ms Jill Granzien

**SPECIALIST TEACHERS**

- **Support Teacher: Literacy & Numeracy (STLaN)**: Mrs Madonna Roxborough
- **Special Education**: Mrs Kirstene Cubit (Monday morning, Tues, Wed)
- Mrs Anna Lahey (Mon, Thurs, Fri)
- **Master Teacher**: Mr Mark Robertson (Mark works a 5 day fortnight = M-Tues on the odd weeks of the Term & Wed & Fri on the even weeks of the Term)
- **Music (Class & Instrumental)**: Mr. Adam Smith (M & T)
- **PE**: Mrs Jo Rollston (T)
- **Digital Technologies**: Ms Hilary Benson
- **LOTE**: Mr. Gladwyn Arwardi (W & Th)

**ADMINISTRATION**

- Mrs Tracey McGarrigal
- Mrs Jenness McAuliffe (W)

**TEACHER AIDES**

- Ms Lorraine Cowley
- Mrs Kym Lukritz
- Mrs Roslyn Harvey
- Mrs Jenness McAuliffe

**FACILITIES OFFICER**

- Mr Trevor Hancock (Mon, Wed, Fri)

**SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN**

- Mr Brett Cornford (T & Thurs afternoons)

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**FACEBOOK**

Our School has a facebook page which we use to celebrate school and student successes, and to communicate news and information about school events.

You can find us at: [www.facebook.com/toogoolawahss](http://www.facebook.com/toogoolawahss) ... or...

You may follow the link on our school webpage.

Please be aware that we do not monitor the school’s facebook page 24/7. If you have any queries please contact the school office.
MEDICAL ACTION PLANS

If your child suffers from a medical condition that requires emergent action, the school needs an up-to-date medical action plan. Please see your GP to provide one for your child if they require it. It is important that the school has ready access to this.

PHOTOGRAPHS AT SCHOOL EVENTS

Parents and community members are most welcome to take images of children at school events however there are some protocols which have been set by Education Queensland if doing so.

♦ Please note that some parents withhold permission for images of their children to be made public in any media, print or electronic.
♦ Any images you take are to be for personal use only and this excludes posting on any social media.
♦ Parents are welcome to take close ups of their own children and thus exclude others from the image.
♦ If newspaper or TV organisations wish to publish images they are to provide the Toogoolawah State School with those images for a clearance to publish.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES

Our school hours are from 8:50am – 2:55pm. Students are required to be at school by 8:50am ready to start the day and are expected to be picked up from school by 3:00pm. It is important that students arrive at school on time as it is not only disruptive to the class when students arrive late but they are missing important parts of their learning by arriving late.

We have noticed this week that some students are arriving before the permitted time. Due to safety issues we ask that students not be dropped before 8:20 am.

If your child needs to be dropped at school before this time please contact the office to make arrangements.

Please ensure that your child is fully aware of their end of day routine e.g.: are they catching a bus, going to day care etc. to save them the distress of not knowing where they should be.
The following information outlines Education Queensland’s policy on the administering of medication in schools.

**Administering medication at school**
If your child requires staff to administer medication to your child at school, please contact the school office in the first instance to discuss your child’s requirements.

Please note, school staff will only administer medication that:
- has been prescribed by a qualified health practitioner (e.g. doctor, dentist)
- is in its original container
- has an attached pharmacy label.

Office staff will ask you to complete and sign Section 1 of the *Administration of medication at school record sheet*.

N.B. If your child requires more than one medication, you will need to complete a form for each medication.

**MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING**

When children are separating from their parents and carers they may behave in hard to manage ways (e.g., screaming, tantrums, or refusal). Understanding the meaning behind this behaviour and responding appropriately assists the child to manage their emotions and experience less distress (e.g., by speaking softly to the child about their feelings, stroking their hair and providing a comforting hug). Children copy their parents’ and carers’ emotions and behaviours. Children may interpret adults’ anxiety or worry as indicating to them that their situation is unsafe and that they should be fearful too (e.g., “the world is a dangerous place and I am not capable to handle it on my own”).

Adults can help children manage their separation distress and help them feel safe by being calm, relaxed and reassuring, noticing their child’s emotions and comforting them. A balance is required, however. For adults, it is important to find the balance between supporting and reassuring children and allowing children to have opportunities to practise managing their own emotions. By being emotionally available and showing understanding about children’s fears, you help to manage children’s distress when it is too big for them to manage on their own.

Adults can help reduce children’s fear of separation from parents and carers by reassuring and comforting them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Understanding Children’s separation distress can be due to...</th>
<th>Adults can help reduce the child’s distress by...</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The way the child thinks</strong></td>
<td>Supporting your child to develop helpful thinking and remind them of what usually happens when you are away from each other.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;I don’t feel safe without my Mum or Dad.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;You can trust me to make sure that you are safe.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Something bad will happen and I may never see them again.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;When I leave you, you are ok and I’ll come back for you.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How they cope with feeling afraid</strong></td>
<td>Giving your child some ways to cope when they are apart from you</td>
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</table>
| "I am scared and I don’t know what to do."                 | "Here is a kiss for you to keep in your pocket until I come back."
| "Here is a photo of us together to remind you that we will be together again soon." |
| "Let’s take some deep breaths to calm us down." |
| **Picking up on parents’ and carers’ cues**                 | Being calm and helping your child to be calm too |
| "Mummy looks worried and upset so there must be something wrong. Now I feel worried or scared too!" | "Mummy seems happy and relaxed. Seems like everything is ok. I feel safe. There is nothing to worry about." |
**Library News**

What a fantastic RESOURCE CENTRE we have at our school!

Our school library is a catalyst for literacy and reading and for teaching and scaffolding inquiry learning and plays a key role in the cultural and social life of our school.

Students in 4 – 6 are able to access computers before school and during second break, watch videos and DVD’s, play games and read a wide variety of Fiction and Non-Fiction books.

We have competitions, visiting authors and illustrators throughout the year and community celebrations.

- Readers Cup
- Poetry Feast
- Show poster and show visit
- Book Week
- Literature Festival
- National Simultaneous Storytime

Digital Technologies are accessed and taught as part of the school curriculum in the computer area on Monday and Tuesday. Teachers use this area for Reading Eggs, Mathletics and general class work throughout the rest of the week.

Accelerated Reader is another program students use to enhance their comprehension and reading skills.

All are welcome to drop in and say hello to the library staff: Hilary and Jenness. We would love to see you.

**Class Library Borrowing**

Class borrowing for all classes is held every Thursday. The first borrowing day for this year will be Thursday 2nd February 2017.

All books may be borrowed for up to two weeks.

*A library bag is required for borrowing for Prep to Year 3 students.*

*The Year 4 to 6 students are also encouraged to use a waterproof library bag when borrowing, to help protect the books from their lunches etc.*

- Prep to Year 2 students may borrow 2 books.
- Years 3 to 6 students may borrow up to 5 books which includes 2 Accelerated Reader books.

All students are actively encouraged to independently use the library facilities for both research and leisure purposes.

The library is open before school and during second break

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**Welcome to our 2017 Prep Class**
You are invited to
Toogoolawah State School—Meet & Greet
Thursday 9th February

All families are invited to attend a Meet & Greet on Thursday 9th February in the Undercover area to meet our new Principal, Mr Nathan de Mey and to visit your child’s classroom.

When: Thursday 9th February 2017
Time: 5:00—5:30pm Sausage sizzle
5:30—6:30pm Open classrooms (Families are invited to visit their child’s/children’s classrooms and meet their teachers.
Where: Undercover Area

We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Chappy’s News—Breakfast Club
Chaplaincy Brekky club starting Tuesday 31 January 8am Undercover area (Tuckshop kitchen).

Menu
31 January- Pancakes
7 February-tin spaghetti on toast

Community Notice
Tennis Lessons
Tennis lessons are available at the Toogoolawah Tennis Club courts on Thursday afternoons starting on 2nd February, 2017.

Enrolments are welcome at any time. All levels, ages and abilities can be catered for students from 4 years old to High School.

For further details please contact Peter Bourne 0417 779 102.