



### IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1 (subject to change)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 1 Jan	30 Students resume	31	1 3-6 SWIMMING No preps at school	2 SWIMMING	3 SWIMMING
Week 2 Feb	6 SWIMMING	7 SWIMMING	8 SWIMMING No preps at school	9 SWIMMING	10 SWIMMING
Week 3 Feb	13 TAPS Swim Carnival 3-6	14	15 SWIMMING No preps at school	16 Dist Swim Orbost	17 SWIMMING
Week 4 Feb	20 Gr 4 Camp Cottage By the Sea	21 Gr 4 Camp	22 Gr 4 Camp No preps at school	23 Gr 4 Camp	24 Gr 4 Camp
Week 5 Feb	27	28	1 No preps at school	2 Div swim Bdale	3
Week 6 Mar	6	7	8	9	10
Week 7 Mar	13 Labour Day	14	15	16	17
Week 8 Mar	20	21 Harmony Day	22	23	24
Week 9 Mar	27	28	29	30	31
Week 10 Apr	3	4	5	6 Last day of term early finish 2:15	7 GOOD FRIDAY

ONLINE BANKING - Account Name -Toorloo Arm Primary School Council  
BSB 063 832 Acc No 1002 2188

Please include details - Surname and description e.g. Fees, uniform, camp etc.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Everyone to the 2023 school year and a special welcome to our new families and staff joining us for the first time. It was terrific to have all students with us for the start of the school year and to see them all interacting in such a positive manner. We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning together and succeeding together. At Toorloo we believe that all students can and will learn given time and support. We also know that parents and carers play a vital role in their child's educational outcomes therefore we look forward to working in partnership with each and everyone of you throughout the school year.

To the credit of our wonderful staff classrooms were quiet, orderly with an air of positive enthusiasm and anticipation for a great year. Special thanks go to Julie (Business Manager), Megan and Ali (School Cleaners) and Gary (School Maintenance) for their proud preparation of the school for the start of the new year.

#### Safety at Pick Up and Drop Off Times

The end of the school day is a particularly busy time in and around the school. The safest and preferred route is that parents and caregivers park at the reserve and utilise the path and the manned crossing. We try to reserve the parking at the front of the LTB hall for those mums and dads who have little ones asleep in the car. We have teachers on front gate duty and side gate duty at the end of each day to support the safe dismissal of students. Let's work together to keep our kids safe.

#### Home School Communication

This newsletter is our major source of communication between school and home. Teachers take considerable time to write their newsletter items each week to keep parents up to date with the learning focus for the week as well as any special events or requests.

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The newsletter is posted on our Skoolbag App and our website [www.taps.vic.edu.au](http://www.taps.vic.edu.au) on a weekly basis and it can be emailed or a hard copy provided to families upon request.

We also have a Parents and Friends Facebook page- search - Parents and Friends of Toorloo Arm Primary School. This is a closed Facebook page which requires membership approval. Please request membership if you would like to join. Photographs and messages are also uploaded to this periodically. Parents also help each other out with the sharing of information. It's a very positive space for our school community so it would be great to have all families on board.

### **Permission Forms / Headlice / Student details/Staying safe with ICT**

Forms for these items have been sent home today and need to be completed at the beginning of every school year, they will only take a few minutes to complete, so please take the time to sit down with a cuppa and spend 5 minutes reading and signing these forms. Multiple children can go on the forms.

- **General Excursion** for non-risk local travel
- **Photo/Publication form**
- **Headlice** form is to allow your child's hair to be checked by our trained staff
- **Staying safe with ICT agreement**

***These forms are due back to the office by the end of next week please.***

### **Hats Hats Hats – Sunsmart Policy**

As we are a SunSmart school hats are compulsory for first and fourth term. Two styles (broad brim or bucket) are available at our office and are the only acceptable hats in line with our uniform policy. (one exception is the Woorabinda Camp Hats that some students still have).



- A hat can reduce the amount of ultraviolet (UV) radiation reaching the eyes by 50%.
- We have available Broad-brimmed and Bucket -style hats that provide good protection.
- When choosing a hat for children, ensure that it fits correctly.

If your child does not have a school hat, he/she will only be allowed quiet play on the art room deck at recess and lunch time. Please make sure your hats are clearly named for return when they are misplaced.

### **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) applications**

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 51565517 and ask for an application form to be sent home with your child. You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page.

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

### **Grade 3-6 Swimming starts tomorrow.**

Students were given the information and medical forms on Monday. We must have the medical form for students to participate in the swimming program. We are looking forward to the Grade 3-6 swimming carnival on Monday 13th of February. Please ensure children have everything they need each day of the swimming program.

### **Brekky Club 8.20am -9.00am**

If any parents would like to help out in the kitchen for brekky club, we would love to hear from you. Brekky club will begin in week 2 and is a great way for kids to start their day at school. Please see Kerry, Julie or Quita if you are able to help.

Kindest regards  
Kerry Hughes

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**Prep**

Welcome everyone to a new year at school! We are excited to welcome our Preps who have settled in well. We are busy decorating our new room with our work and getting to know each other. I believe in an open-door policy so feel free to come see me for any reason.

**Prep screener**

Tristan our consultant speech pathologist will be here Thursday and Friday this week, could all **Word by Mouth** consent forms please be returned by Thursday.

**Pickup**

During home time we are getting the students into the routine of being picked up outside our classroom so it would be great if parents/guardians or siblings could be waiting near the picnic table when the bell goes.

**Wednesdays**

Just a reminder that the Preps have Wednesdays off and you have each been allocated a specific time to come in so I can have a one-on-one session with your child to do the English and Math online interview. It is an assessment program that allows me to find their level of understanding and skills so I can create appropriate activities for everyone's learning. Please be prompt and if you have any issues with your time slot, I will do my best to change it, but please be aware that it can only be done on Wednesday.

**School Hats & Sunscreen**

Term one is a Sun Smart Term, and it has been great to see the amount of students who are remembering their hats. It would be fantastic to make sure student's hats are named for they do get lost, especially on the monkey bars!

**Take Home Readers**

Students will be setting up their book boxes this week and they will start to bring a reader home on Thursday. We encourage you to sit with your child a read each night.

**This week we are looking at:****Reading:**

- We are setting up our Reading Workshop structure, class library and book boxes.
- We are focusing on the letter 'm, a, s, t, i' looking at their sounds and visual cue.

**Writing:**

- Student's names and directionality using the line.

**Maths:** Number knowledge

Have a great week,  
Miss Cock

**Grades 1/2**

Hello and welcome to all our 1/2 families in 2023!

We are so excited to be working with you all this year. Students have settled into both classes exceptionally well and have been quick to get back into chatting and playing with their friends again. It has been so great to see all their smiling faces. We would like to make a special welcome to Savannah Blank in Miss Cunningham's class, 1/2A, we hope that you had an awesome first week at TAPS!

This week in reading, we are setting up our Reader's Workshop, students are choosing new books and learning about what books they like to read, and what makes a good fit for each student. Yesterday we sent home student's book covers, and just like last year, we encourage students to read at home as much as possible. If you would like to come into classrooms and read in the mornings, you are more than welcome to come and help out – everyone is welcome. Reading is usually in the first 30 minutes of each day for both classes.

In writing, students are drawing and writing about their holidays with as much detail as possible. They are drawing their pictures from their holidays in their Writer's Notebook, as this is a place where they can record their ideas. Later in the week, we will be focusing on handwriting and making sure to correctly write the letters a, d, g, o, and q using dotted thirds.

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## Writer's Notebook

Writer's Notebooks are a personal scrapbook for each student to record their ideas for their writing. We like to make students' Writer's Notebooks special to them. Starting next week, students will be decorating the cover of their Writer's Notebook with things that show off who they are as individuals. We are asking that each student brings in a few small things that they can use to decorate, and we ask that all things are 2D (flat like paper) and are around A5 size – think of it as scrapbooking. Some ideas are: photos, pictures of their favourite things, tickets to places they have been etc. Please do not go out and buy anything and please only send things that you do not need again. If you would like to send us anything to print for this, feel free to send it to us in an email.

In maths we are starting off the year with place value through the use of number lines. By the end of the week, students will have worked with a partner to make a number line for their table.

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact either of us by calling the school, dropping in for a chat before or after school or sending an email. Our emails are below:

[eliza.cunningham@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:eliza.cunningham@education.vic.gov.au)

[caitlin.jackson@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:caitlin.jackson@education.vic.gov.au)

Thanks and have a great week!

Eliza Cunningham and Caitlin Jackson

## **Grades 3/4**

Welcome New and Old families to the 3/4 Unit at Toorloo Arm Primary School!

Yesterday on our first day, we provided students with their resources and started to outline the learning format for all units. We will continue to build on this throughout the first few weeks of learning. The focus for our first three weeks includes:

- Getting to know each other;
- Establishing a positive and supportive classroom culture;
- Being the best we can be with a clear focus on our swimming program;
- Getting back into a routine of daily reading and writing; and
- Exploring number lines in maths.

Swimming is a key focus in our first three weeks of school and an essential part of the whole curriculum program. Please make sure your child comes equipped for swimming (bathers, towel and goggles) and help them prepare at home by making sure they have a good night's sleep, by recognising they may need extra snacks at and after school, and that they may need more downtime/rest time after school than usual. Regular sleep patterns are essential during the swimming program and set a standard for the rest of the year.

Miss Haldane and Mrs Murray both have open classrooms which means you are welcome to come into our classroom any day to listen to children read or to assist in any other way. If you have specific concerns about your child or the classroom environment, please contact the office to make an appointment so that Miss Haldane or Mrs Murray can give you their full attention without impacting on the whole class learning.

Exciting news! Grade 4 are being offered a 5-day, 4-night camp in Queenscliff at "The Cottage By The Sea" during week 4 of term 1. Mrs Murray will be attending this camp and all grade 4 students are encouraged to attend. This is a fabulous opportunity and more details will be coming home soon!

Mrs Haldane, Mrs Murray and Alyssa 😊

## **Grades 5/6**

Welcome back everyone. It was great to see everyone again, it was a really smooth start to the year.

This week we will focus on establishing routines and expectations. The students in the senior learning unit will be given extra duties throughout the year. Rosters are being organized to ensure all students are given the opportunity for extra roles and responsibilities. We look forward to supporting the students to rise to the 'senior student' challenge.

Swimming starts this Wednesday. Grade 5/6 A (Mr McPhee's class) starts their lesson at 12.45 and 5/6 B (Mrs Mackie's class) starts at 1.30. The swim sessions run for 45 minutes. Feel free to pop in and watch the lesson if you wish. It's a good idea to make sure your child has a little extra in their lunchboxes as they get very hungry during swimming and can have an extra snack when they get back to school.

The grade 6 Polo shirt order forms have gone home today. Please remember that all forms must be returned by Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> of February. Payment is not due until the T shirts are collected. We would appreciate the order back ASAP. Thanks

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If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to pop in or make a time for a chat. We are looking forward to a great year.

Thanks

Alec and Ali

## SPORT and PE NEWS

WELCOME BACK! SO exciting to see the many smiling faces this year! PE classes have already commenced for Preps and Grade 1/2s. I look forward to another great year of challenges, fun and fitness. The overall philosophy in PE at TAPS is to provide ALL students with the opportunity to participate in age-appropriate physical activities, games, sports, and fitness activities that can provide enjoyment of physical activity, as well as build pro social, psychomotor, and cognitive skills.

We strive to safely provide the opportunity for students to enjoy physical activity, become more confident with their abilities, increase their knowledge of health-related fitness, and help them find ways to be lifelong activity seekers. We really encourage students to **HAVE A GO** and develop resilience skills, such as positive self-talk, when learning new skills and playing games and sport, whether they are individual, cooperative or competitive.

**Please make sure you catch up with me if you have any concerns about your child's participation in PE, or if you are interested in connecting them up with sport in the community, I can usually point you in the right direction.** Also, it would be great if your child wears runners and has a water bottle on PE days, so that participation is comfortable and safe, and of course, hats are compulsory this term. Prep and 1/2 classes currently have PE on Monday and Tuesday.

The senior sporting calendar at TAPS will start tomorrow for all students in Years 3-6 with our swimming program at the Aquadome, Lakes Entrance, and will run for 4 weeks. Thanks for getting those permission forms done. The focus of this important part of our school curriculum is confidence, water safety, stroke technique and preparation for the swimming carnivals. Children have been placed into groups according to ability by the swim instructors at the Aquadome.

We encourage parents and carers to come along and support the children. Times are as follows:

Grade	Lesson
Grade 3/4 A	11.00 am to 11.45am
Grade 3/4 B	11.45 am to 12.30 pm
Grade 5/6 A	12.45 pm to 1.30 pm
Grade 5/6 B	1.30 pm to 2.15 pm

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, the TAPS house swimming carnival will be held at the Aquadome. **This is for ALL Gr 3-6 students - events and activities for all levels of swimming ability are provided.** TAPS sports carnivals have always been really successful due to the fantastic help from our multi-talented parent group at TAPS-let me know if you can help out in any way if you are able to attend! No experience required. Swimmers with the fastest time in the age groups 10 years and under, 11 years and 12 +years will go through to the District Swimming Sports in Orbost on **Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> Feb.** Divisional (Bairnsdale) Carnival is on Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> March, and Regionals are on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> March.



### ATF FREE After School Tennis Lesson at TAPS

**IT'S ON!** Tennis coach Nigel Carr will again start the Australian Tennis Foundation **Free** Tennis Lessons after school program this Thursday at the school for interested students. The session is an hour long starting at **4.15 pm to 5.15 pm** - please note parents are required to stay for the hour. Newcomers most welcome! If the weather is not looking great, please keep an eye on the SkoolBag ap for any changes.

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Please put in your expression of interest or let the office know for the first session this **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2023 asap.**

The other 4 sessions for Term 1 are fortnightly (Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb, Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March).

#### TENNIS – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_ of class  
\_\_\_\_\_ to be considered to participate in the tennis program.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Thanks,  
Barb (SPORT COORDINATOR)

#### Important Sport dates for Term 1 2023

##### WEEK 1

Wed 1 Feb Gr 3-6 swimming program starts

Thurs 2 Feb Gr 3-6 swimming program

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb ATF FREE tennis coaching 4.15-5.15**

Fri 3 Feb Gr 3-6 swimming program

##### WEEK 2

Monday 6 Feb 2023 Gr 3-6 swimming program

Tuesday 7 Feb 2023 Gr 3-6 swimming program

Wednesday 8 Feb 2023 Gr 3-6 swimming program

Thursday 9 Feb 2023 Gr 3-6 swimming program

Friday 10 Feb 2023 Gr 3-6 swimming program

##### WEEK 3

**Mon 13 Feb TAPS CARNIVAL Years 3-6 starts midday**

Wed 15 Feb Gr 3-6 swimming program

**Thurs 16 Feb District Carnival Orbest Qualifying swimmers (back up Fri 18th Feb)**

**Thursday 16th Feb ATF FREE tennis coaching 4.15-5.15**

Fri 17 Feb Gr 3-6 swimming program final session

**Thurs 2 March Division Swim Bairnsdale Qualifying swimmers (back up 4<sup>th</sup> Feb)**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar ATF FREE tennis coaching 4.15-5.15**

**Thurs 16 March Regional Swimming**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Mar ATF FREE tennis coaching 4.15-5.15**

##### ART

Welcome back! This week will see students get straight back into routine and start off their creative learning by revisiting fundamental artistic skills and ideas. Senior students will start off by investigating the colour saturated world of Pop Art, while Junior and Middle School Students will explore environmental art and the spaces around them. I can't wait to see what 2023 has in store!

Jobi Laybourne

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