



### IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 4

|                    | MONDAY                       | TUESDAY                               | WEDNESDAY                           | THURSDAY              | FRIDAY   |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Week 11<br>Dec     | 15<br>Grade 6<br>Big day out | 16<br>Grade 6 Graduation              | 17<br>Last Assembly 9am             | 18                    | 19<br>Last day early<br>Finish 1pm<br>No Nowa Nowa Bus |
| Week 1<br>Jan 2026 | 26<br>Australia Day          | 27<br>Whole staff PD<br>Office closed | 28<br>Staff planning<br>Office open | 29<br>Students resume | 30   |

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Compass and



Parents and Friends of Toorloo Arm Primary School

### Principals Report


As we come to the end of the year, I'd like to say a very big thank you to our whole school community. My first year as principal has been a real privilege, and I've felt incredibly welcomed and supported along the way.

To our staff, thank you for everything you do each day for our students. Your care, commitment and teamwork are what make this school such a positive and supportive place to be. To our families and wider community, thank you for your ongoing support, trust and involvement throughout the year – it truly makes a difference. To our students, thank you for the smiles, the laughter and the effort you bring to school every day. Watching you learn, grow and challenge yourselves has been one of the highlights of my first year and a big reason why this job is so special.

I feel very lucky to be part of such a caring and connected community and I'm really looking forward to what we can continue to achieve together. Wishing everyone a safe, relaxing and well-earned holiday break, and I'll see you all in the new year.

Miss Hopkins.

### Wellbeing



**"GETTING THE RIGHT SUPPORT EARLY  
CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE"**

Want to know more? To self-refer or to discuss the program with an Early Help family worker please use the below contact methods.

**Contact Phone**  
03 5155 8300

**Email**  
[fycsearlyhelp@glch.org.au](mailto:fycsearlyhelp@glch.org.au)

**Location**  
East Gippsland

Early Help Family Services is here to support you and your family in your community and be available where you live, work, learn and play.

Early Help is available to parents/caregivers and families with children from birth to 17 years.

Early Help can provide;

- Short term individual support for families and caregivers
- Safe and confidential parenting groups
- Access and connection to peer support groups
- Support, information and referrals to help with parenting, child/adolescent behaviour, housing, family wellbeing, mental health, finance and disability

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**Christmas Carols**

We have a group of students from across the school that have been giving up their lunch times to practice Christmas carols for a short performance at the last assembly, tomorrow the 17<sup>th</sup> of December.

Hello from the library,



As we are now in our final week, it's time to return any **take home books and library books** that you still have at home.

Please assist your children to have a really thorough look for any of these books, as we would love to have them back on our shelves for 2026.

Thank you so much, Lisa

**Prep**

Welcome to the last newsletter of the year! A huge congratulations to the all the Preps for their hard work and determinations in 2025, you all did so well, everyone is so proud of you all.

**The last few days**

- **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>**
  - Final Assembly, please come along to join in the festivities.
  - Pool Day. Please bring a towel and your bathers for an afternoon of fun.
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**
  - Clean-up day, this will be a full day of cleaning and emptying the classroom of all furniture.  
Students are not required

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- **Friday 20<sup>th</sup>**

- Clean-up day, this will be a full day of cleaning and emptying the classroom of all furniture.  
Students are not required
- Early finish 1:00pm

**Wednesday's Last Assembly**

This Wednesday is the last assemble, this is a chance to say goodbye to some of the staff and listen to great carols, performed by some of the students in our school.

**Library Book**

There are a few library books still to come back, if you have received a slip in your reader can you please hunt high and low and return them as soon as possible.

Have a great Christmas,  
Miss Cock and Bree

**12AB**

Hello everyone and welcome to the last week of the year!

This week we are wrapping up the year and cleaning up ready for next year. The remainder of the week is as follows:

**Wednesday 17th December:**

Clean out tubs and belongings (Please bring an extra bag to assist with taking things home)  
Pool Day

**Thursday 18th/ Friday 19th December:** Clean up days

We want to thank everyone for an excellent year and appreciate the ongoing support. In particular, Miss Cunningham would like to say a big thank you to all of the TAPS families for their support over the past 5 years, she will definitely miss walking into school each day and being greeted by all the smiling faces.

Thanks, and have a safe and happy holidays!  
Eliza Cunningham, Caitlin Jackson and Lisa

**34AB**

Hello families of the 3/4 Unit,

As the term and the year come to an end, we would like to congratulate all of the students in grade 3 and 4 on their collaborative attitude to learning together. This approach to working as part of either class and together as a whole unit has made our role as teachers so incredibly rewarding and easy! We hope that all of the students will take this amazing attitude into their future learning classrooms.

We would also like to say well done to all students on their growth this year. Across the year and the group, we have seen amazing growth in all areas: academic, emotional and personal.

We would like to wish all families a safe and happy Christmas and break as everyone moves into the new year. To those families that are leaving us, we wish you all the best. To those families continuing at TAPS, we can't wait to see what learning and adventures 2026 brings us all!



Have a great week.

Ali Mackie, Larissa Murray, Lindy and Hunee

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## 56AB

Hello 5/6 Parents and Guardians

Yesterday we had a fantastic Year 6 Big Day Out – the sun came out for long enough for some as swim and some games. Thank you to Alicia Friend for coming down and helping us out, it was much appreciated.

Don't forget that tonight is graduation for the Year 6 students. Drop them off at 5:50pm or so for their dinner. Parents are to arrive around 6:45pm for the ceremony starting at 7pm.

Tomorrow is Pool Day – don't forget your bathers and towel. If you have not brought back your permission form, please do it ASAP.

We hope you have a safe and enjoyable Xmas and holidays.

Thank you

Carolyn Smith, Alec McPhee, Alyssa

## Art

Thanks to all the students this year for making it such a creative and imaginative one! There's nothing like seeing our world through the eyes of a child - remembering the wonder and excitement of the everyday!



I hope everyone have a safe, relaxing and creative holiday break.  
Jobi Laybourne.

## PE

### SPORT AND PE NEWS

We wrapped up PE for the year last week with a fun Christmas carrot hunt (for the reindeers). A wonderful time was had by all!

### Keeping Active Outside over the holidays

#### 1) HAVE A PICNIC

So easy and fun. If you let the kids help, make and pack the picnic too then it's 2 activities for the price of one. No need to go crazy with expensive or fancy picnic food – even if it's just some sangers, some cheese and a few pieces of fruit, the kids enjoy it just as much. If it's bad weather, you could have a 'carpet picnic' or a 'bed picnic' instead.

#### 2) NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

Kids love hunting for stuff – either make your own list of things for them to find (feather, stone, fir cone, flower, spider, petal, stick etc) or print out one of the many ready-made ones you can find on the internet.

#### 3) GET WET

Kids never tire of the stuff, do they? Ideally find a river or lake for them to paddle and splash in, but failing that, a water sprinkler, paddling pool or buckets and bowls in the garden always keep them occupied for ages. Bring out loads of kitchen bowls, cups and utensils out for them to 'make' stuff with.

#### 4) GO ON A BIKE RIDE

Pretty obvious I know. But I often I think to put the kids on their bikes in the park then don't actually get on one myself. Take everyone's bikes and go on a family bike ride or find somewhere you can hire some if you haven't got your own or can't fit them all in/on your car.

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**5) PHOTO SAFARI**

Give the kids access to a camera – either a ‘proper’ one, or your phone, or a disposable one, and go on a photo walk. Give them a list of things to find and photograph or perhaps decide on a theme or colour.

**6) TEDDY/TOY HIDE & SEEK**

Hide and seek can get a bit tiresome sometimes due to limited places for a big old adult to hide (and the kids’ insistence on always hiding in the same places!) Plus, if you’re out in a public place, you can’t hide well enough while still keeping an eye on the kids. Instead, bring out a few favourite teddies or toys to the local park and hide them instead – you can be much more inventive with hiding places.

**7) GO TO THE BEACH**

We’re lucky to have a decent patrolled beach a few minutes away. Sandcastles, paddling, crabbing, shell collecting... plus a picnic and it’s even better. Don’t let bad weather put you off, just wrap up warm and you can still do all the above, and the beach will be much less **crowded**.

**8) FLY A KITE**

You can buy really cheap ones from the shops, or you can make your own. It always amazes me how long they’ll play with these for – and older kids love them too.

**9) VOLUNTEER**

Get stuck into some activities to help others. Collect litter or help out a neighbour, it makes you feel good when you help others.

**10) FRUIT PICKING**

Kids love collecting stuff, it gets them out and about in nature, plus you get to scoff them all afterwards.

**11) HUT BUILDING**

A perennial favourite, either in your backyard or out in the bush, beach or park.

**12) MINI GOLF**

Not particularly expensive, and we do live in the mini golf capital of the world. Kids of all ages love it, and it keeps them occupied for ages.

Just a reminder for next year, the TAPS Swimming Carnival for Grade 3-6s has been scheduled for very early in term 1 on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> of February, with the swimming program for Gr 3-6s commencing on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of March.

I wish everyone a safe and happy break over the holidays and look forward to another action-packed year in 2026.

**Important Sport dates for Term 1 2026**

**Monday 9th February** TAPS Swimming Carnival Gr 3-6

**Thursday 19th Feb** Eastern District Swimming Carnival Orbest pool

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March-Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** Gr 3-6 Swimming Program Aquadome

Thanks

Barb (PE and SPORT COORDINATOR)



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Signed the Youth Tech  
Group

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(Balin's mum) for  
latest dates on  
0409 421 390

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