Draft School Plan for Consultation

More consultation around the new draft school plan for 2015-2017 was undertaken at the last P&C meeting on Tuesday 17 March and a draft copy of the school plan is available on the school’s website for wider community consultation. Representatives from the school evaluation/planning project team and school staff are excited by the new directions outlined in the draft school plan and welcome your feedback. All parents and carers are invited to attend a community forum, which will be held in the 5/6 Ruby classroom at approximately 10:30am, following the Easter Hat Parade, on Thursday 2 April. The meeting will enable an opportunity for wider school community consultation and discussion. We hope to see you there!

History in the Making - ANZAC Commemorative Service

Jordan C, Zoe S, Sam H, Jackson G, Jade T and Mrs Broadbridge attended a very special ANZAC Day commemorative service at the Wollongong Botanic Gardens last Friday. Highlights of the event included the planting of a sapling, which was a cutting from the original pine tree from the battlefields of Lone Pine, on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Another highlight was the arrival of the ANZAC torch, which will be the focal point of many activities between now and the 100 year anniversary of the end of the great war, in 2018.

‘Everyone Belongs’ at ToPS

Our Harmony Day celebrations were once again both meaningful and enjoyable for all involved. This year the students were involved in mandarin language lessons with a Harmony Day focus. The students were also encouraged to wear orange, the colour representative of inclusiveness and respect, to school last Friday. All students contributed to the creation of chalk drawings in the playground and in doing so certainly showed how all students at Towradgi Public School are included, respected and valued. Thanks go to Ms Warner and Mr Ratcliffe for the coordination of this year’s Harmony Day activities.

ToonSchool Learning Fun

Last Monday students engaged in ToonSchool workshops, which were aimed at building their self-esteem, self-confidence and sense of renewed resilience. The incursion sessions provided participating students with the skills to express themselves in new and exciting ways using the art of cartooning. From all accounts it was once again, a very worthwhile and enjoyable learning experience for all involved and thanks go to Mrs Green for her coordination.

Visit our website: www.towradgi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Cross Country Carnival
The School Cross Country Carnival was held today. All students K-6 participated in the event and it was wonderful to hear the encouraging words and cheers from all members of our school community. Many thanks go to the P&C and the Sydney Markets who kindly provided fresh water and fruit for the students and thanks to all of the volunteers who assisted. Thanks also go to Mr Santos for coordinating our Cross Country Carnival this year.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
As part of our reporting process we offered opportunities for parent/teacher interviews last Wednesday. We trust that these interviews provided you with a snapshot of your child’s progress to date and remind you that if at any time throughout the year you have questions or concerns about your child’s progress, please don’t hesitate to make an appointment with the class teacher in order to discuss and resolve them.

New Initiative - Community of Schools (CoS) Choir
Mrs Lieschke and another teacher from Bellambi PS are developing a Community of Schools Choir. The Choir will comprise of students from Towradgi Public School, Corrimal Public School, Corrimal East Public School, Bellambi Public School and Tarrawanna Public School. The aim is to have the students learn a number of songs at their home school and come together for rehearsals once a term at one of the schools involved and then participate in a variety of performance opportunities in the community as they arise.

School Photographs Next Tuesday
School photographs will be taken on Tuesday 31 March. Envelopes for purchasing photographs were previously sent home and must be returned by next Tuesday. Students are required to wear their full regular school uniform, including white socks and black shoes on the day. Sports uniform is not to be worn for the school photos. Your cooperation in ensuring the students wear the appropriate attire is greatly appreciated.

Friendly Reminder – School Uniforms
Towradgi Public School values the wearing of school uniform as it strengthens our student’s sense of belonging, unity and school identity. It has become evident however, that a number of students are not adhering to the Towradgi Public School Uniform Policy (a copy of which has been sent home with this newsletter). Of concern is the wearing of brightly coloured joggers, jewellery and caps. We seek your support in ensuring that your children reflect our school community standards and expectations by wearing the correct uniform to school each day.

Annual Easter Hat Parade
Our annual Easter Hat Parade will be held following the morning assembly on Thursday 2 April and parents and families are invited to attend. Students are encouraged to decorate their Easter hats at home and bring them to school for the parade. The P&C are requesting donations of Easter eggs so they can put together Easter baskets as prizes for the Easter raffle. The P&C will be presenting prizes to the winners of the Easter raffle at the conclusion of the Easter hat parade.

ICAS University of NSW Competitions
Information about the University of NSW International Competitions and Assessments has already been sent home and entries close next Thursday 2 April. It is wonderful to see a large number of students wishing to challenge their capabilities this year through their involvement. Participating students will be engaging in the assessments at different times throughout next term. We wish all participants the very best and congratulate them for taking on the challenge.

Coming Up - Anzac Day Commemorations
This year Anzac Day falls on the first Saturday after the commencement of term 2. Anzac Day is a very important part of Australian culture and at Towradgi Public School we believe it is of great importance to teach our students about this significant part of Australian history. This year, a small group of school leaders will once again represent our school at the Anzac Day Schools Service in Wollongong on Wednesday 22 April and on Friday 24 April at 9:45am, our Student Representative Council (SRC) from Kindergarten to Year 6 will lead us all in a special whole school Anzac service. Parents and carers are invited to join us on this special occasion. All students will also be invited to accompany Mr Santos and Mrs Broadbridge to the community dawn service on Anzac Day, which will be held in Wollongong and more information in relation to this event will be sent home in separate correspondence to parents.
School Fence Upgrade

I am pleased to advise that tradespersons commenced the installation of the school security fencing. It is anticipated that the installation will take approximately 6-8 weeks to complete, weather permitting.

P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 21 April at 7pm in the school library. All school community members are welcome to attend.

Important Dates to Remember

Next Thursday, 2 April will be the last day of term one. Students return for the commencement of term two on Tuesday 21 April.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the school community for your continual support throughout term one and wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Cathy Broadbridge
Principal

Teachers Are Learners Too!

Mrs Lieschke, Ms Warner and Mr Santos participated in the 'Inspire, Innovate: Leading Innovation and Change Conference'. The conference focussed on building the capacity of aspiring leaders to lead innovation and change in their schools. As a result of their participation, our school leaders are very much looking forward to leading the further development of innovative practice in classrooms at Towradgi PS and delivering curriculum that is relevant and engaging and enhances the learning outcomes of our students. Mrs Lieschke also participated in face-to-face conferences as part of her graduate studies in Asian education.

Mr Ratcliffe, Mrs Duncan and Mrs Figliuzzi updated their certification in 'Health Care Procedures' and Mrs O'Dwyer updated her 'First Aid' certification.

Mrs Snowden participated in 'SAP Finance Training' which will greatly support the implementation of new processes for managing school finances.

Mrs Pivovarski undertook training in the 'Minilli' program, which is an early literacy program aimed at supporting small groups of students from K-2.

Reminder

This is a friendly reminder to families who are yet to return your Easter Raffle Tickets, sold or unsold. They are due back to school as soon as possible. Keep them coming, the Easter baskets are looking great. Thank you for helping make this P&C fundraising event a successful one!
Aussie of Month
CONGRATULATIONS to Isaac S on being awarded Aussie of The Month for March 2015.
What a great achievement—well done!

Stewart House School
Clothing Appeal 2015

There is a scheduled pick up date for The Stewart House clothing appeal on 8 May 2015.
Have a sort through your spare clothing at home during the holiday break and donate clothing to this worthwhile charity. Thank you.

Assembly Awards
K/1 Pink Scarlett M, Tully M
K/1 Orange Alex A, Lucinda C
2 Red Toby M, Ava S
3/4 Green Aidan H, Charlotte B, Bowen E
4/5 Blue Jay S, Kurt R, Tamieka P
5/6 Ruby Nina S, Jonah S, Amielle C
K-6 Purple Matthew J
K-6 Yellow Angus J
PBS Award Matthew N, Wyatt B

Bronze Award
5/6 Ruby
Jade T, Bernard O, Sam H, Ella R, Jackson G,
Jordan R, Geordie M, Jonah S, Zoe S, Nina S,
Sarah L, Melanie F, Jordan C
TOWRADGI PUBLIC SCHOOL

UNIFORM POLICY

Rationale:

Towradgi Public School values the wearing of school uniform as it strengthens our student’s sense of belonging, unity and school identity. School uniforms are consistent with occupational health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation.

We believe that the wearing of a school uniform reflects our pride in, and commitment to, our school and all it has to offer us. Students are encouraged to wear their correct school uniform every day. The uniform requirements have been developed by the Parents and Citizens Association of Towradgi Public School.

Guidelines:

- The school uniform will reflect school community standards and expectations. It will be developed in consultation with the whole school community.

- The Uniform Committee will be responsible for the purchasing, retailing and introducing uniform items. It is financially responsible to the school P&C and will report at P&C meetings.

- All students will be expected to wear the school uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities out of school hours unless otherwise advised. However, no student should be disadvantaged when uniform items are not available due to circumstances beyond their control.

- Everyone has a role in setting standards for the school. Teachers and other school staff model appropriate standards for students.

- Student enrolment cannot be contingent on upon wearing the school uniform and suspension or expulsion solely for non-compliance with uniform requirements cannot occur.

- Positive reinforcement and encouraging behaviour are the preferred approaches to ensuring students wear the school uniform.

- School hats are considered part of the uniform in line with the Sun Protection Policy.

- The following items are not part of the uniform and are unsafe in terms of Occupational Health & Safety requirements – Large or “dangly” earrings, thongs or sandals, oversized jewellery, large amounts of jewellery and body piercing.

These guidelines reflect School Uniform Policies and Procedures (DEC 2004)
The Towradgi Public School uniform is available for purchase through the school, and consists of:

**Girls Summer Uniform**

Sky blue short sleeve shirt (school emblem front only), navy blue culottes, white socks and black shoes. Navy blue broad brimmed hat or navy bucket hat.

**Boys Summer Uniform**

Sky blue short sleeve shirt (school emblem front only), navy blue shorts, white socks and black shoes. Navy blue broad brimmed hat or navy bucket hat.

**Girls Winter Uniform**

Sky blue long sleeve shirt (school emblem front only), navy blue slacks or navy and sky blue school tracksuit pants, navy blue fleecy top with school emblem or navy and sky blue zipped jacket with school emblem, white socks and black shoes. Navy blue broad brimmed hat, or navy bucket hat.

**Boys Winter Uniform**

Sky blue long sleeve shirt (school emblem front only), navy blue trousers or navy and sky blue school tracksuit pants, navy blue fleecy top with school emblem or navy and sky blue zipped jacket with school emblem, white socks and black shoes. Navy blue broad brimmed hat or navy bucket hat.
Girls' Summer Sports Uniform (to be worn on designated sports days)

Navy blue and sky blue shirt with red piping (red school emblem printed on the front and Towradgi printed across the back), navy blue and sky blue shorts with red piping, white socks and white joggers. Navy blue broad brimmed hat or navy bucket hat.

Boys' Summer Sports Uniform (to be worn on designated sports days)

Navy blue and sky blue shirt with red piping (red school emblem printed on the front and Towradgi printed across the back), navy blue and sky blue shorts with red piping, white socks and white joggers. Navy blue broad brimmed hat or navy bucket hat.

Girls' Winter Sports Uniform (to be worn on designated sports days)

Navy blue and sky blue shirt with red piping (red school emblem printed on the front and Towradgi printed across the back), navy blue slacks or navy blue and sky blue school tracksuit pants, navy blue fleecy top with school emblem or navy blue and sky blue zipped jacket with school emblem, white socks and white joggers. Navy blue broad brimmed hat or navy bucket hat.

Boy's Winter Sports Uniform (to be worn on designated sports days)

Navy blue and sky blue shirt with red piping (red school emblem printed on the front and Towradgi printed across the back), navy blue trousers or navy blue and sky blue school tracksuit pants, navy blue fleecy top with school emblem or navy blue and sky blue zipped jacket with school emblem, white socks and white joggers. Navy blue broad brimmed hat or navy bucket hat.

Further details and prices are provided with P & C information and are also available at the office or on our school website.
In addition to the items of clothing selected for the uniform, the following issues are also requirements:

- School hats are an essential part of the school uniform and are to be worn year round. The school has the policy ‘No Hat – Sit in the shade under the COLA’ to ensure safety in the sun.
- Wearing of studs or sleepers in pierced ears only, is acceptable
- The removal of all rings, necklaces and bracelets while at school
- Tattoos, nail polish and make-up are inappropriate for school attendance

The above issues are all in place for child safety reasons – safety for the child in question, in addition to the safety of fellow students.
Towradgi Public School
PARENTS & CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

March 27, 2015

Holidays on the Horizon
Wishing you all a restful Easter, one of less routine and family time.

P & C Funds Major Resources
At our meeting last Tuesday we voted to contribute to
- air-conditioning for K-6 Yellow
  - $5 000
- reading resources
  - $3 000

Hot Cross Bun Drive
Thank you to the families who have supported this. We have 110 orders being delivered Tuesday 31st March.

School Cross Country
Thank you to the parents who helped with cutting up fruit (thank you Mrs Warner!) and serving water.

Easter Raffle
Our team have created beautiful hampers from your donations for the Easter Raffle. This will be drawn after the Easter Hat Parade, Thursday 2nd April. If you still have tickets, you can still return them, sold or unsold.

Election BBQ March 28
Tomorrow we are running a BBQ and cake stall under the COLA. If you have volunteered you should have received your time. If you are coming to vote, have breakfast or lunch with us.

Bacon and Egg Rolls $5.00
Sausage Sandwich: $2.50

Election Day Cake Stall
From all the news at the school gate there are going to be some great cakes and goodies to take home for afternoon tea!

School Photo Vouchers Draw
If you made your voluntary contribution by March 20 you are now in the draw to win a school photo voucher from MSP. This will be drawn Monday 30th March at Lines.

The P&C Voluntary Contribution is set at $30 per child or $50 per family.

Grants Applications
We have members working on applying for local community grants. These applications take time to write and we thank you for your efforts.

Ongoing Fundraising
School Banking (Fridays)
Ink and Toner Recycling
www.quickbeds.com/?grassrootscode=1231

Next Meeting April 21st
For agenda items, please contact me, P & C Secretary, bronte@uow.edu.au