



Mount Tarcoola Primary School



School Motto
"Reliability"

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 2 2016 No: 16

CONTACT DETAILS

Principal:

Mark Whisson

Deputy Principals:

Justin Harwood

Marlene Bevan

Manager Corporate Services:

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 17th – Friday 21st October
National Water Week

Friday 21st October
P&C Disco

Mon 24th October - Fri 4th November
Interm Swimming Pp—Yr 6

Tuesday 1st November
Parent Newsletter

Friday 11th November
Remembrance Day Service

Friday 25th November
Parent Assembly Rooms 9 & 10
Parent Helpers Morning Tea

SCHOOL WATCH ALERT

Our school is being subjected to increasing vandalism after school and on weekends. Please report any after hours visitors to the police on **9923 4555** or School Watch on **131 444**.

Please keep children out of the school grounds after hours.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

The P&C will be running a disco this Friday (21st October). There will be a session for Kindy and Pre-primary students from 4.30pm to 5.20pm, a session for Years 1 - 3 from 5.30pm - 6.50pm and a session for Years 4 - 6 from 7.00pm - 8.30pm. The discos are a major fundraiser for the P&C so please send your kids along on Friday night.

Parents have informed us that they cannot hear assemblies when they are positioned outside the undercover area under the shade. At considerable cost, our P&C have therefore funded the supply and installation of two speakers on the external wall of the undercover area which should alleviate this problem. With the End of Year Graduation and Prize-giving assembly fast approaching, the installation of the external speakers is timely.

At a recent meeting with personnel from Central Office we were informed that second-hand tyres are now classed as "hazardous waste" and cannot be used in schools. We have quite a number of tyres in the Kindy - Pre-primary area and we use tyres as garden beds at the front of the BER block (Rooms 15 - 18). All of these tyres will be removed.

Mr Ken Wallingford, our highly valued gardener, has announced his retirement and will leave us in late November. Ken goes above and beyond the expectations we have of a gardener and he will be greatly missed. Apart from completing his daily work at a very high standard, Ken has made himself available after hours when there are emergencies at school such as broken windows and taps being unscrewed, resulting in loss of water. He has made a real difference to our gardens and grounds in his six years at our school and his commitment to our school has been exemplary. Finding a replacement gardener with Kens level of knowledge, skills and commitment will be no easy task. Thank you for everything you have done for our school Ken and we wish you a long and productive retirement.

Our students will participate in In-term swimming starting next Monday and lasting over two weeks. Although In-term swimming is a little disruptive, we see it as a valuable addition to the education we provide at Mount Tarcoola.

We will have some staffing changes this term. Mr Rutter has won a fixed term position at our Regional Office and we are required to run a process to select a replacement Deputy Principal. His successor will be appointed by the end of this week. I am taking Long Service leave from the 27th October for the remainder of the year. Mrs Bevan will replace me as Principal and we will have to appoint a replacement Deputy Principal for her as well and then whoever is appointed will have to be replaced.

MARK WHISSON
PRINCIPAL

TEACHER LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Parents and carers have raised concerns about teachers taking Long Service Leave throughout this year and that their children are being taught by a relief teacher at various times. However, the Education Department has issued a directive to all teachers stating that all Long Service Leave accrued before June 30th 2014 has to be cleared by the end of this year. The Executive Director Workforce has instructed that there can be no exceptions (other than on medical grounds) to this directive. Although the class teacher may be absent, they are still responsible for the teaching, planning and assessment of the students and will prepare an appropriate programme for the relief teacher. If you are concerned about the effect this may have on your child or children please talk to their teacher. The teachers that we use to replace staff on Long Service Leave are very competent and I am certain that no students' education will suffer as a result of their teacher taking leave.

Marlene Bevan
Deputy Principal

INTERM SWIMMING LESSON

Swimming lessons for Pre-primary to Year 6 commence on Monday 24th October and run until Friday 4th November (10 lessons in total).

Please return permission slips and enrolment forms by tomorrow (18th October) to class teachers. Payment can be made up until Friday 21st October but it is imperative forms are returned.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS - Attending school every day is important.

Western Australian law stipulates that all school-aged children must go to and attend school every day.

Developing the habit of going to school every day is vital so children do not miss out on important ideas and skills they need for future learning. **Did you know:**

- missing half a day of school each week equates to one month of missed learning per year?
- the attendance habits set by children when they first start school continue throughout their school life?
- if your children miss half a day of school each week between Pre-primary and Year 10, they would miss almost one full year of learning?
- learning is cumulative? If your children miss a day, it is harder for them to catch up.

You can help by:

- Sending them to school every day.
- Arriving and collecting your children on time.
- Making sure they get nutritious meals and enough sleep.
- Making appointments with doctors, dentists and specialists out of school hours, if possible.
- Making holiday plans during school holidays and not during the school term.

If one of your children is unwell and unable to go to school let the school know as soon as possible by emailing MountTarcoola.PS@education.wa.edu.au, telephoning 99214066 or on your child's return to school letting your child's class teacher know the reason for the absence. If your child has missed a number of days of school it is important you talk with their teacher to find out how you can help them catch up.

Marlene Bevan
Deputy Principal

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS 2017

Years 1 to 6 Student Requirements for 2017 have been sent home via students today. Lists will also be posted onto our school website in the next few days.

Instructions for ordering are on the front page of the lists. Parents are not obligated to order through Staples and can purchase the required items at a place of their choosing.

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub Issue 7 (Years 1- 6) orders are due back by Monday 24th October. Please place order and payment in an envelope ensuring child's name and room number are written on the front.

BANDANNA DAY

Next Friday 28th October is National Bandanna Day. Mount Tarcoola will be supporting young people living with Cancer by selling Bandannas for \$4.00. Peer Mediators will be selling them outside Room 19.



Term 4 Disco

Friday, October 21st

*****NOTE NEW TIMES FOR 2016**

Kindy/ Pre-Primary 4.30-5.20pm

Junior (Years 1-3) 5.30pm-6.50pm

Senior (Years 4-6) 7.00pm-8.30pm

\$5.00 entry

Dancing, music, games, prizes.

Hot food, snacks, drinks & glow sticks on sale.

Teachers and parents supervising.
No senior students at junior disco.
Students to be collected by an adult at the side door promptly, please!

Parents please note: Any children with medical conditions must advise the disco coordinators prior to the disco night.

Contact: Rhonda Kennedy: 0408 647 630 Kyra Ingle: 0419 201 206



STUDENTS LEAVING MOUNT TARCOOLA PS IN 2016 — Return to school office

If your child/ren are currently in Kindy to Year 5 and will not be returning to Mount Tarcoola PS in 2017 please complete the section below and return it to the school office by Thursday 1st December, 2016.

My child/ren _____
will not be returning to Mount Tarcoola PS in 2017.

Current Year/s: _____ Room Number/s: _____

Date Leaving: _____ Destination School: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

COMMUNITY NEWS

PARENTING WA—Spalding Family Centre, 75 Mitchell St

Circle of Security Parenting

Wednesday 19th October to Wednesday 7th December, 9:30—11:30am

Circle of Security Parenting is a six to eight session program for parents with children aged zero to four years. The program is designed to enhance the bond and sense of security for both parents and their children. Learn more about:

- understanding children and their emotional development
- understanding parenting influences
- helping children to feel safe in their world
- identifying and enhancing parenting strengths

A crèche will be available free of charge—must be booked in advance.

Tuning in to Teens

Thursday 20th October to Sunday 27th November, 9:30—11:30am

Tuning in to Teens is a six session program for parents with children aged 10 to 16 years. The program provides parents with a greater understanding of their teen's emotional experiences. It also explores specific skills that help parents be supportive, empathic and stay connected with their teen. Learn more about:

- understanding teenage development
- supporting teens to manage difficult emotions
- promoting positive behaviour
- supporting teens to maintain friendships and deal with conflict.

No crèche available

Protective Behaviours

Monday 14th November, 10:00am —1:00pm

Protective Behaviours is based on the premise that every child has the right to feel safe at all times. This one session workshop provides knowledge and practical skills that parents can use with their children to help them keep safe. Learn more about.

- talking to children about personal safety
- supporting children to develop strategies that help them feel safe
- recognising types of abuse and unsafe situations

Please enquire regarding crèche availability

For further information please contact Karen Higgs on 9923 1125 or email Karen.higgs@dlgc.wa.gov.au



The logo for VACSWIM SUMMER 2017 features the Department of Education logo on the left, which includes the text 'Department of Education' and 'Public education A world of opportunities'. To the right, the text 'VACSWIM SUMMER 2017' is displayed in large, bold, white letters on a blue background.

Enrol your children for swimming lessons in the summer school holidays



Give your child the opportunity to learn vital swimming and water safety skills. Enrolments are now open for children from five to 17 years old. Simply select a program and enrol online.

Program 1	40 minute lessons Every week day from Tuesday 3 to Friday 13 January 2017 Enrolments close Monday 28 November 2016	Short program	35 minute lessons Every day from Monday 9 to Friday 13 January 2017 Enrolments close Monday 28 November 2016
Program 2	45 minute lessons Every week day from Monday 16 to Wednesday 25 January 2017 Enrolments close Monday 5 December 2016	Early start program (limited Wheatbelt centres)	45 minute lessons Every day from Saturday 17 to Friday 23 December 2016 Enrolments close Monday 14 November 2016

Find out more and enrol online at education.wa.edu.au/swimming or telephone 9402 6412

MID WEST SURF SCHOOL

Midwest Surf School will be running Weet-Bix Surf Groms during Term 4 from next week. Book at www.surfgroms.com. Adult and Teen classes also available. Call Keith on **0419 988 756** for further information.

HELP WITH READING

Do you wish you could read a story to your little ones or help your child with reading or homework? Read Write Now! offers you a free service for adults for help with reading, writing or basic maths. Help with improving English is also available. Please phone freecall: 1800 018 802 for more information.