



# Mount Tarcoola Primary School



School Motto  
"Reliability"

## Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2 2018 No: 1

### CONTACT DETAILS

**Principal:**

Paul Luxton

**Deputy Principals:**

Shane Rutter

Marlene Bevan

**Manager Corporate Services:**

Sharon Browning

**Telephone:**

School: 08 9968 1100

Kindy/Pre-primary: 08 9968 1100

Canteen: 08 9964 3162

**Email:**

[MountTarcoola.PS@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:MountTarcoola.PS@education.wa.edu.au)

**Website:** <http://mttarcoola.wa.edu.au/>

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday 8th February**

Parent Meetings  
Rooms 9, 10, 11, 12  
6 – 6:30pm

**Monday 12th February**

P&C Meeting 7:00pm in Staffroom  
Parent Meeting Room 2 – 5:30pm

**Tuesday 13th February**

Room 1 Parent Meeting—4:30 to 5:30pm

**Wednesday 14th February**

Welcome BBQ 6—7:30pm  
Parent Meetings  
Room 3, 8, 13, 14

**Tuesday 20th February**

Food Sensations Parent Workshop  
9:15—11:15am  
World of Maths Incursion

**Wednesday 21st February**

World of Maths Incursion  
Parent Meetings Room 15 & 16 5:30pm

**Friday 23rd February**

Rooms 6 & 8 Parent Assembly

**Monday 26th February**

Yr 6 Leadership Day

### 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:

Welcome to the 2018 school year. The start to the year has been very busy with last minute changes to class structures, new enrolments and many children getting used to new teachers and classes. I certainly appreciate the professionalism of the school staff in being so adaptable in the face of these changes. Also to the parents who have been affected by these last minute changes.

It has been fantastic to catch up with the children and to listen to their holiday stories and adventures. It certainly sounds like most people had a very busy holiday time and are looking forward to the routine that school brings.

We welcome school psychologist Ms Alana Bech who has been assigned to us after having worked with other Geraldton schools last year. Due to various leave and school requirements there have been positional changes for some teaching staff and the return of some casual teachers and Educational Assistants for Semester 1 this year.

Class teachers are in the process of organising parent meetings to introduce themselves and their teaching philosophies. I certainly encourage all parents to make use of this time. Parents who are unable to make these meeting are encouraged to make contact with their child's class teacher to make a meeting for another time. In conjunction with this, the Kids Matter team is busily planning our 'Welcome BBQ' which is planned for Wednesday 14th February 6:00—7:30pm, we hope to see as many parents and carers as possible at this function. By all reports it is a great event and one that I am looking forward to.

Our new Head Boy (Toby McMill) and Head Girl (Bailee Reed) along with student councillors Navaeh Hill, Joe Kennedy, Chayla Argent and Lucas Ronan have all proved to be very keen to begin their new roles. They have already orchestrated a meeting with Mr Rutter and begun their duties showing promising leadership qualities. The faction captain election process is underway, we will be able to announce these positions very soon.

This year (being my first at Mt Tarcoola PS) I have been very surprised by the number of requests and ultimatums from parents in regards to the placement of children in classes. So much so that across the course of the year we will develop for parents a Mount Tarcoola PS policy on the class placement process. This is to ensure that the process is clear and transparent for the whole school community.

Like all schools the class structures each year are determined by the number of students per year level who enrol at our school. Currently we have 423

*Continued next page*

students confirmed as enrolling at Mt Tarcoola PS in 2018. Composite or split grade classes are inevitable when funding and student numbers dictate the number of classes a school is able to have. Through the student centred funding model, we are provided with funding per student. It is not financially viable for Mt Tarcoola Primary School to have straight year levels throughout the school.

Some or all of the following criteria may be used to place students in classes:

- Academic performance
- Behaviour
- Social Development
- Gender balance
- Previous class placements (if applicable)
- School psychologist recommendations (if applicable)
- Written parent submissions regarding a student's educational needs

I have provided links to two articles regarding composite classes. The quality of teaching, combined with student interest and engagement, are considered more important than class structure, whatever form it may take. Mt Tarcoola PS aims to have highly effective teachers in each class who can best meet the needs of your child. I have personally had all of my 3 children in composite classes, which has not in any way affected their social emotional or academic performance.

MANY PARENTS DISLIKE COMPOSITE CLASSES BUT THE EVIDENCE DOES NOT SUPPORT THEIR ANXIETY.

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/many-parents-dislike-composite-classes-but-the-evidence-does-not-support-their-anxiety-20150413-1mk4g9.html>

Read the full article by clicking on the link above or typing it into your web browser.

ARE MIXED-GRADE CLASSES ANY BETTER OR WORSE FOR LEARNING?

<http://theconversation.com/are-mixed-grade-classes-any-better-or-worse-for-learning-38856>

Click on the article above to read the full article or type it into your web browser.

Unfortunately over the holiday period our school was persistently targeted by vandals and we had several break-ins and classrooms being damaged. Can I please implore parents and community members not to let their children play in the school grounds afterschool and to report to the police if they see anyone on school grounds. It is an offence to be on school grounds after (or during) school hours without permission from the school.

Another thing of concern is the number of high school students that walk through the school on their way to and from John Willcock College or when getting off school buses. Some of these children have been observed, using the drink fountains and toilet on their way through, this can at times be quite intimidating to younger students, parents and school staff. They have no reason to be on school grounds and we have begun requesting that they walk around the school instead of through it.

Paul Luxton  
Principal

### CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES 2018

A Voluntary Contributions and P&C Advice will be sent home by Friday 16th February for each child via their classroom teacher. Parents have the opportunity to pay Contributions and P&C by Direct Deposit into the school's bank account—details will be on the bottom of the advice sheet. Credit Cards, cash and cheques will still be accepted—payment to be made at the office. Charges for In-term Swimming, Incursions/Excursions, Graduation etc will be **pay as you go**. Class teachers will provide details of incursions/excursions and costs, payment to be made to class teacher (cash or cheque).

Credit card payment (at bottom of advice sheet) is only available for Contributions and P&C. The school **does not** have EFTPOS.

**Contributions and P&C** are voluntary and are used by the school to provide materials, services and facilities for the educational program of students. **Charges and other optional costs** are for the participation of students in events such as excursions, performances, in-term swimming and sporting events. Students cannot participate in these events unless the charges have been paid.

### PARENT MEETINGS

Class teachers will be conducting Parent Meetings in Weeks 2 & 3 to inform parents of the operational procedures for their class. Parents will receive a note home regarding the day and time for their child's class meeting.



### WELCOME BARBECUE

**On Wednesday the 14th February 2018** Mount Tarcoola Primary School will be holding a Barbecue/sausage sizzle to welcome all families to our school.

We invite all parents/guardians with children from Kindergarten to Year 6 to attend and enjoy an evening where you can meet the staff and other families. Sausages, bread etc will be provided by the school's P&C at no cost to parents/caregivers. Halal sausages will be available.

The sausage sizzle will start at approximately 6.00pm. Families will need to bring their own salads and drinks, please be aware this is a smoke and alcohol free event. A barbecue will also be available if you wish to cook other meat. The sausage sizzle will be located outside rooms 7 and 8 so that children can access the lawn area behind the Library and the playground. All children must be accompanied by an adult and if riding a bike or scooter they are to be left and locked at the bike racks.

**When: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2017**  
**6.00pm – 7.30pm**

### PARENT NEWSLETTER DELIVERY METHOD – IMPORTANT

Please indicate on the slip below your preferred method to receive our newsletter. If an additional person requires the newsletter to be emailed please supply their details as well e.g grandparent, split families. Place completed slip in box provided in office foyer by **FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY, 2018**. If a slip is **not returned** you will receive a hard copy via eldest child.

We have also had a few instances where mail has been returned to the school or phone numbers disconnected. If home/mailling addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts have changed please come into the office and complete a change of details form.

✂

### PARENT NEWSLETTER DELIVERY METHOD

Eldest Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Room: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ HARD COPY

☐ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional person Contact's Name (if required): \_\_\_\_\_

☐ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ POSTED

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## SHAPING LITTLE HUMANS BY MICHAEL GROSE

I've long had a fascination with the nature versus nurture debate. Is it nature (what kids are born with) or is it nurture (how the human environment shapes kids)?

Some experts go with percentages. Many twins studies (often used to measure the impact of genetics) suggest that it's approximately 50% nature and 50% nurture. That's a little too neat for my liking.

Another way to view the debate is to view nature as human potential and nurture as human influence. That is, our biology lays out possible pathways for children along the lines of gender, temperament and intelligence. That is, boys' and girls' brains develop differently; children are born with individual temperaments that don't change very much over time; and children have special gifts and intelligence in different areas (some like to write, some are more verbal, artistic, sporty and the like. It can be argued that biology impacts on kids' pathways but it only presents possibilities rather than fait accompli.

On the other hand, children within the same family who have obvious biological differences (e.g. highly strung temperament vs easy-going) frequently share many similarities. It's the similarities between children within an environment that demonstrate the impact of nature. When all children in a family share a trait, characteristic or value (such as tolerance, persistence, Independence, kindness) then you can safely attribute this to the impact of parents or carers. It's quite clearly upbringing rather than nature that causes the similarities.

### How parents shape children

If parenting is the art of shaping little humans then it's useful to consider the tools we have at our disposal to influence children.

**Modelling** is perhaps the most powerful way to shape little humans. The parent-child relationship is an intimate one. Kids see our quirks and foibles first hand so it's little wonder many children conduct relationships in similar ways to their parents including how they resolve or avoid conflict. US psychologist Martin Seligman's research into optimism and pessimism found most children's explanatory style closely resembles that of the parent they spend most time around. Seligman's work suggests that adults need to be aware of how they speak about themselves and the world as the sponge-like nature of kids mean that they will soak up their optimism and/or pessimism.

The **messages** that parents give through our **language** and **behaviour** on a daily basis also shape the humans that we are raising. Tell a child he's capable; back this up by treating him as if he is capable and you'll be sending a powerful message along the lines of: 'I really believe you can do this'. Actions speak louder than words when it comes to the messages we give to kids.

The traits and characteristics that parents **value** have a massive impact on children. If, for example, you value persistence then you'll more than likely foster this in each child but in different ways. You may throw your eyes up in despair when your child fights tooth and nail to stay up longer each night but secretly, you may welcome the fact that you have a child can stay the course when it matters to them. If you value persistence you'll push your child to go a little harder at a homework conundrum rather than allow him to give in too easily. Your values will be shown through the things you stand up for and frequently fight over with your kids.

The **lifestyle** you lead also helps to shape the humans that you are raising. "All work and no fun" is a lifestyle that stressed out parents present to their kids. Your lifestyle impacts on your stress levels and well-being which also impacts on kids. But more importantly, your lifestyle is a template for the life that your kids are likely to lead as adults. Okay, your child won't lead exactly the same life as you do, but the lifestyle imprint is significant enough to leave residual guilt and lead to potential conflict should your children take a 180 degree opposite lifestyle direction from yours.

Shaping little humans. It's what parents do every day. It may sound a little spooky, even a little controlling. But it's not.

It's the socialisation process that we all experienced on the way to our own adulthood. In fact, it's the socialisation process that is at the heart of great parenting. And it truly makes us human.

## RANGEWAY DENTAL CLINIC

The School dental service provides free dental care for all school children, from the age of 5, until the end of year 11, or the age of 17. If you are new to the school, you will receive some enrolment forms shortly. Please fill out and return to school if you wish your child to participate. A reminder for all parents, if your address has changed, please inform the clinic, as all appointments are sent to your home address.



## REMINDERS

- Send in money for **World of Maths Incursion** by Friday 16th February to class teacher.
- **Welcome BBQ note** - Please send in notes as soon as possible to help organise catering for sausages, bread etc.
- **Uniform Shop** is open every Monday from 8.30am - 9.00am in the Artroom. Any other times see Jodie in the canteen.
- **New Uniform Orders** due into Canteen by Friday 2nd March.
- Hats, satchels and a small amount of stationary are available from the canteen daily.
- **P & C Meeting** Monday 12th February 7:00pm in Staffroom

## COMMUNITY NEWS



## Have FUN & warm up before school

### A great introduction into tennis, Years 2-6.

- Fun games, prizes, certificates and modified match play
- 8 week program • FREE ANZ Tennis Hot Shots T-shirt upon registration

### MT TARCOOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Commencing - Thursday 8 February
- 7:45am - 8:30am
- \$122.00 - 8 weeks
- Mt Tarcoola Primary School
- Online Registration at [www.bataviatennis.com.au](http://www.bataviatennis.com.au)



[www.bataviatennis.com.au](http://www.bataviatennis.com.au)

COLIN THOMPSON - Sun Smart Tennis Development Officer, Midwest Zone  
Office: (08) 9956 2182 Mobile: 0427 449 240  
Dept Sport & Recreation, Level 1, 268-270 Foreshore Drive  
PO Box 135 Geraldton 6531 WA  
Email: [colin.thompson@sportshouse.net.au](mailto:colin.thompson@sportshouse.net.au)



# WINNING EDGE™

- ACADEMY -

## CSBP COUNTRY FOOTBALL CAMPS MID-WEST



**GERALDTON**  
APRIL HOLIDAYS  
MON 16 & TUES 17  
RAILWAYS FOOTBALL CLUB



**SHANE WOEWODIN**



**DONGARA**  
APRIL HOLIDAYS  
WED 18 & THURS 19  
IRWIN RECREATION CENTRE

**BROWNLOW MEDALIST**  
200 AFL GAMES (MELB & COLL)  
BRISBANE LIONS ASST COACH 2011-16  
EAST FREMANTLE WAFL COACH 2008-10

SSWA STATE 12's ASSISTANT COACH  
**LUKE CUNNINGHAM**

F1-MELB-FREM-CARL (AFL) WAFL PREMIERSHIP PLAYER  
**TROY LONGMUIR**

SUBIACO FOOTBALL CLUB 16's DEVELOPMENT HEAD COACH  
**THOMAS LOWNDES**

10am-1pm Daily  
\$100 for 2 Days  
**CAMP SQUADS**  
• 7-11 Years • 12-16 Years  
\*\$90 Discounted Price for CSBP Customers\*

 Like us on Facebook!



ONLINE REGISTRATION  
[WWW.WINNINGEDGEACADEMY.COM.AU](http://WWW.WINNINGEDGEACADEMY.COM.AU)

## Let's play HOCKEY!

### JUNIOR HOCKEY REGISTRATION

**WEDNESDAY**  
**21st FEBRUARY 2018**  
**3.30pm to 4.30pm**



**Mitchell & Brown Hockey Stadium - Eighth Street, Wonthella**  
(East end of Eighth St - between Wonthella Bowling Club and Towns Football Club)

If you can't make it on the day you can contact the Geraldton Hockey Association on 90562185 / 0429 528 794 to register or email form to [mw.hockey@sportshouse.net.au](mailto:mw.hockey@sportshouse.net.au)

Registrations for **ALL GRADES** can be done on the same day.

*Half Field - typically children in Pre-Primary to Year 3.*

*Sub-Juniors - Year 3 to Year 6 Boys and Girls.*

*J7/9 - year 7, 8 and 9 Boys and Girls playing in club teams.*

*J10/12 - year 10, 11 and 12 Boys and Girls playing in club teams.*

*Why not bring along a friend to join our great game.*

*If you are not with a club yet don't worry, a team can be found for you.*

**HOCKEY season will commence in term 2 of school 2018**



# GERALDTON GOLF CLUB

PRESENTS

## 8 SESSION JUNIOR PROGRAM TERM 1



JUST  
\$88

Have fun with your friends and  
make some new ones

Learn golf skills with the help  
Of a PGA Golf Pro

Learn through games that are fun.  
Team based and inclusive

8 weeks total with the final  
Tuesday being an exciting  
3 holes on the course & BBQ

Use of club facilities & clubs  
provided where necessary

Tuesdays 3.30- 4.15pm  
From February 6- March 27, 2018

**JASON DAY**  
2015 US PGA WINNER  
MYGOLF AMBASSADOR

GET INTO  
GOLF

To Register or further information Ph: Geraldton Pro Shop  
9964 1911 or register at mygolf.com.au

# SunCity Tennis Academy

## Term 1 2018 Mothers Group Morning Coach & Play Tennis Sessions

Get out of the house, exercise &  
make new friends!

The session includes 60min on-court  
coaching with 30min game play &  
open to all Standards!

Sessions commence Wednesday 7th  
February 2018 9am-10:30am  
8 week program

**ONLY \$20 a session!**

To register please contact us via:

SMS/Call - 0409 485 117

Email - jarronk@hotmail.com

**Bookings Essential!**



Fully enclosed  
Playground &  
undercover area



**FREE  
crèche!**

Rackets  
available to  
borrow



Find us on  
**Facebook**



[www.suncitytennisacademy.com.au](http://www.suncitytennisacademy.com.au)

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[www.suncitytennisacademy.com.au](http://www.suncitytennisacademy.com.au)

## Before School

## Tennis Coaching!

## SunCity Tennis Academy

Is offering an 8 week before School program for the  
Students & Families of Mt Tarcoola Primary School



**Starts Friday 9/02/18**

**Ends Friday 6/04/18**

**\$96.00 for 8 weeks - 7:45-8:30am**

This session will be held at the Tarcoola Park Tennis Club  
& the Students will be escorted to School by the Coach.

**What's on offer @ SCTA Tarcoola Park Tennis Club**

Class Type	Time	Cost	Students	Ages
Tiny Takers Red Hotshots	45mins	\$12.00	max 8	3-4yrs
Orange Hotshots	1 hour	\$15.00	max 8	5-7 yrs
Green/General Group	1 hour	\$15.00	max 8	8-16yrs
Performance Program	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Adult Class	1 hour	\$10.00	max 8	Adult
Adult Class	1.5 hours	\$15.00	max 8	Adult
Private Lesson	30mins	\$30.00	max 2	6+yrs
Private Lesson	1 hour	\$50.00	max 2	10+yrs
CardioTennis*	1 hour	\$15.00	max 8	12+yrs
Before School*	45mins	\$12.00	N/A	5+yrs

\*Programs are subject to enrolment numbers. Classes may be combined or cancelled.  
\*Enrolments are on 1st in best booked basis. \*Rackets are available to borrow

**Bookings Essential**

For all bookings & enquiries please contact us at:

[jarronk@hotmail.com](mailto:jarronk@hotmail.com) 0409485117 (sms acceptable)

Please include Child/Adult Name, Day/s, Guardians Name & Contact number

- Payments to be made on the 1<sup>st</sup> day
- EFTPOS & Credit Card facilities available
- Cash, Direct Deposit or Cheque accepted



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**SunCity Tennis Academy**

[www.suncitytennisacademy.com.au](http://www.suncitytennisacademy.com.au)

[www.tarcoolaparktennisclub.org](http://www.tarcoolaparktennisclub.org)





**FOR ADULTS**

Come along to Food Sensations for a FREE hands-on nutrition and cooking experience.

Over 4 weekly sessions conducted on a Tuesday morning, you will learn about a variety of nutrition topics and learn to cook some easy, tasty recipes.

Please book your place early by contacting the school on 99681100 or email [shane.rutter@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:shane.rutter@education.wa.edu.au)

**HEALTHY EATING**

**FOOD SAFETY, PREPARATION & COOKING**

**4 CORE TOPICS**

**LABEL READING AND FOOD SELECTION**

**MEAL PLANNING AND BUDGETING**

## **SESSIONS:**

**LOCATION:**

Mount Tarcoola Primary School

**DATES & TIMES:**

9.15am - 11.15am

**Tuesdays;**

**Feb 20 and 27**

**March 6 and 13, 2018**



**Food Sensations for Adults** is funded by the Department of Health.

# PARENT PLANNER TERM 1 2018

WEEK	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	29 <b>SDD</b>	30 <b>SDD</b>	<b>31 JAN</b> Students commence	<b>1 FEB</b>	2
2	5	6	7	8 Parent mtgs rooms 9,10,11,12 6-6.30pm	9
3	12 Parent Meeting Room 2 5:30pm	13 Parent Meeting Room 1 4:30— 5:30pm	14 Welcome BBQ Parent mtgs Rooms 3,8,13,14	15	16
4	19	20 Food Sensations parent workshop 9.15-11.15  World of Maths Inc Pp – Yr 6	21 World of Maths Inc Pp – Yr 6  Parent Mtg Rms 15 & 16—5:30pm	22	23 Rooms 6 and 8 Assembly
5	26 Yr 6 Leadership Day – Bluff Point Camp School	27 Food Sensations parent workshop 9.15-11.15	28	<b>1 MAR</b>	2
6	5 <b>LABOUR DAY</b>	6 Food Sensations parent workshop 9.15-11.15	7	8	9
7	12	13 Food Sensations parent workshop 9.15-11.15	14	15	16 Harmony Day Incursion SINGH SISTERS
8	19	20	21	22	23 Rooms 11 and 13 Assembly
9	26	27	28	29	30 <b>Good Friday</b>
10	<b>2 APRIL</b>	<b>3</b>	4	5	6
11	<b>9</b>	10	11	12 ANZAC assembly TBC	13 Year 6 Challenge Day  Last Day of Term
H	16	17	18	19	20
H	23	24	25 ANZAC DAY	26	27