



# Mount Tarcoola Primary School



School Motto  
"Reliability"

## Newsletter

Term 1 Week 4 2018 No: 2

### CONTACT DETAILS

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Paul Luxton

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Wednesday 21st February

World of Maths Incursion

Parent Meetings Room 15 & 16 5:30pm

#### Monday 26th February

Yr 6 Leadership Day

#### Tuesday 27th February

Food Sensations Parent Workshop

9:15 – 11:15am

#### Friday 2nd March

Rooms 6 & 8 Parent Assembly

#### Monday 5th March

Public Holiday

#### Tuesday 6th March

Food Sensations Parent Workshop

9:15 – 11:15am

#### Tuesday 13th March

Food Sensations Parent Workshop

9:15 – 11:15am

#### Friday 16th March

Harmony Day

Singh Sisters Incursion

#### Friday 23rd March

Rooms 11 & 13 Parent Assembly

### 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 BBQ

Many thanks to all the families that were able to attend the Welcome Barbeque last Wednesday afternoon. It was great to see so many families able to make it, the vibe and feeling was fantastic. Thanks also to the Kids Matter team for organising the BBQ, Bakers Delight for the bread, Mr Dogood from Harvey Norman for donating the sausages which were supplied by Batavia Coast Butchery and to Mr Giles for his DJ work and then singing up a storm right up until the last person left! It has also been fantastic to see the number of parents that have been able to attend their child's parent/teacher meetings. This is really important and reinforces to us the importance of working together to educate your children.

#### Languages

This year Mount Tarcoola has become a Teacher Development School (TDS) in languages for regional schools. This means that Ibu Tiana will be coordinating professional learning opportunities and providing support to schools throughout the region for teachers of the Indonesian language. This is fantastic recognition of Ibu Tiana's great skills and passion for language teaching. This has meant that we have had to rearrange Ibu Tiana's teaching load. Mrs Jane Clarke will be teaching Indonesian to Rooms 1 & 2 this year. Ibu Tiana is supporting Mrs Clarke in the delivery of the Ketawa program which has been developed for non-native speaking language teachers. Mrs Clarke is enjoying using her Indonesian skills with the children and is benefiting greatly from Ibu Tiana's support in her TDS Coordinators role.

#### Assembly

A reminder to the Mount Tarcoola PS school community that the whole school assembly that was scheduled for this Friday (23<sup>rd</sup> February) has been shifted to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. This has been done due to time constraints and several incursions impacting on the organisation of the assembly.

#### World of Maths

Today and tomorrow we are looking forward to the World of Maths Incursion. We especially like this style of incursion as it has a direct benefit to the children and their numeracy skills. Numeracy is one of our priority areas and the activities that the children will participate in will be great for their basic facts recall and problem solving skills.

#### Food Sensations

Today we have the first in a series of parent workshops that have been designed to assist parents in preparing healthy meals for their families and in particular easy and creative lunch boxes. These workshops will be running every Tuesday for the next three weeks.

#### Bicycle

One of our junior students left his bike in the bike racks over the weekend. Unfortunately someone has seen this and has come in and taken it. If anyone finds a small (16inch) black spray painted boys bike can they please return it to school and we will see that it gets back to its rightful owner.

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### **High School Students**

Parents who have been picking their children up from the Northern end of the school at the end of the school day will have noticed that we have been patrolling that area and asking the High School children from John Willcock to walk around the school instead of through it. I apologise to the parents that have heard some of the language that has been directed at us from several of these children. The police will be assisting me with these children in the near future. Thank you to the vast majority of high school students who have done as they have been asked and now walk around the school.

Paul Luxton  
Principal

### **MOVING BEYOND CYBER SAFETY FOR HAPPY, RESILIENT DIGITAL KIDS BY MARTINE OGLETHORPE**

As digital devices becoming increasingly immersed into our lives, it is certainly clear they will continue to play a major role in the education, learning, entertainment and socialization of our children's lives.

This can be a scary prospect for a parent today as we are saturated with news about predators, pornography, cyber-bullying and sexting. And certainly these are real concerns, as is the safety of our children on these devices.

But these devices are not going anywhere and so we need to be smarter when it comes to helping our kids navigate this world. And for me, that means moving away from a fear based approach, toward one that helps our kids get the skills, behaviours and thinking to become not only safe, but happy and resilient users of digital technologies.

Our kids are getting pretty good at keeping their passwords safe, not sharing private information, and thinking about talking to strangers online. All important lessons we need to continue to teach.

But being immersed in this world requires skills and behaviours well beyond safety measures. It needs to be an ongoing lesson in critical thinking, resilience, self-esteem, empathy and the promotion of good habits that they can carry with them throughout life.

#### **Digital Resilience**

The online world opens us up to comments, judgements and even abuse from people known and unknown, all coming from different backgrounds and situations, all with different beliefs, and all with a little extra keyboard courage or anonymity. Whilst we would like to be promoting kindness and respect online, this is not always the reality. We need our kids to be able to recognize and move on from the people whose opinions do not matter. The greater audience and the permanence of the online world also means the effects of mistakes are magnified. They need to be able to withstand the very permanent and public nature of this world. There may always be a party they are not invited to, or a sleepover they were excluded from, so how will they deal with the constant flow of images appearing in their social media feeds?

#### **Self esteem away from the screens**

There will always be comparison online. With access to so much and so many, there will always be someone prettier, smarter, skinnier, with more friends, more likes or more followers. We need to be constantly working on the self esteem of our kids, both online and off. Conversations about our self worth, where that comes from, whose opinion matters, what success and happiness really looks like. These all need to form part of the equation, not just how many likes you get on your latest selfie.

#### **Digital skills**

Our kids need skills to know how to handle different situations that arise online. Do they know how to abort a conversation that is going badly? How do they speak up in a group chat when someone is being excluded or spoken about in a nasty way? How do they deal with unwanted attention online? Do they have the words to respond to a nasty comment? Should they respond? As so much of their social life and connection to others will be based around online conversations, these are just some of the skills our kids need to have in order to keep those interactions positive.

#### **Good habits**

The earlier we start with good habits, the greater chance we have of them becoming behaviours they adopt throughout adolescents and beyond. So start out with your own rules to ensure these habits are formed. Maybe it is no devices an hour before bed, no devices in the bedroom, no devices at the dinner table, asking permission before sharing pictures of others. Making sure there is plenty of time for friends, extra curricula activities, outside play, chores, homework and good sleep. These all help us be in charge of our time management and the control we have over our devices, so they don't end up controlling us.

#### **Critical thinking**

There is so much content online, so our kids need to be really good at determining that which is real, fake, relevant, helpful and worthwhile. This can be a difficult task (even for adults), but a crucial skill. Critical thinking must be an ongoing process every time they watch a video, look at a photo, read an article or connect with someone. Why was this written or produced? Is the language bias? Are they trying to sell me something? Is there research to back up their claims? Would this video have a warning if it was on TV? Is this worth my time? These are just some of the critical thinking questions kids need to be asking of themselves every time they consume content online.

So whilst keeping our kids safe and giving them the skills to do this is of utmost importance, there is so much more to cyber safety than avoiding predators. The emotional and social well-being of our kids and the ability for them to be in the best position possible to learn, grow and thrive are imperative, and will help them become resilient and happy both online and off.

### PEER MEDIATORS 2018

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected Peer Mediators for 2018.

Bailee Reed, Tennesse Forrester, Aminah Azman, Nevaeh Hill, Jenna Butson, Samaia Friesen, Hannah Muchamore, Chelsea Bradley, Kaylee Johnson, Ruby Varley, Toby McMill, George Goforth, Cooper Booth, Robert Bonney, Jonathan Black, Joe Kennedy, Riaz Mohammad, Griffin Shane, Raymon Bonney and Samuel Wilson.

### STUDENT SMARTRIDER CARD

Student SmartRider Cards are available to order online. The advantages of ordering online are:

- Monitor WA receives the card order straight away. Every order placed before 9:00am will be processed and dispatched that same day.
- There will be no need for students/parents to purchase a bank cheque/ money order, envelope or stamp as payment is made online using a credit card, saving time and money.
- No delays waiting for Australia Post to deliver a Manual Application to Monitor WA.
- And for Department of Education (DOE) schools there is less involvement required by the school as student details are automatically checked against doe enrolment records, which automatically determines whether a student is eligible for a SmartRider Card.

**Student concession SmartRider card**  
Buy online at: [www.monitorwa.com.au](http://www.monitorwa.com.au)  
or  
Scan the QR below for quick access.

**SAVE** no money order  
**SAVE** money on travel  
**FAST** process time

(08) 9240 4777  
[www.monitorwa.com.au](http://www.monitorwa.com.au) | [sales@monitorwa.com.au](mailto:sales@monitorwa.com.au)

### 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/mailing 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MTPS FOOTY TIPPING



Footy tipping time again. Help raise funds for the school and have some fun.

\$50 entry.

1st Prize - \$200

2nd Prize - \$150

3rd Prize - \$100

Last year we purchased a new sound system. Project for 2018 is to repaint the target on the wall outside Room 10. Entry fee and email to Jodie in the canteen. Competition is completely online.



## REMINDERS

- **Uniform Shop** is open every Monday from 8.30am - 9.00am in the Artroom. Any other times see Jodie in the canteen daily until 1:00pm.
- **New Uniform Orders** due into Canteen by Friday 2nd March.
- Hats, satchels and a small amount of stationary are available from the canteen daily.
- **Parent Assembly Rooms 6 & 8** – change of date from Friday 23rd February to Friday 2nd March.

## FOUND

Found within the school grounds at the start of school year:

- 1 x Motorcycle helmet
- 2 x gold bracelets (1 male and 1 female) linked together

If you think they may belong to you please come to the school office and give a description of the item.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

"The reason there aren't more women computer scientists is because there aren't more women computer scientists"  
-Jocelyn Goldfein, a director of engineering at Facebook



**GEMS**  
GIRLS EMPOWERED BY MATHS AND SCIENCE

**JOHN WILLCOCK COLLEGE INVITES YOUR DAUGHTER TO GEMS**

GEMS is an activity based program for girls in Years 4-6 conducted at the JWC Makerspace (Mu2). The program runs 3:30-4:30pm each Thursday during the school term. Each week students will be involved with a different STEM activity or challenge.

**FIRST GEMS SESSION THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY - PARENTS WELCOME TO SESSION ONE**

CONTACT US ON 0899 658 300 TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE  
WWW.JOHNWILLCOCK.WA.EDU.AU

## AQUARENA SWIM SCHOOL TERM 1 2018

Is your Child Ready for their swimming carnival?

No better time to enrol your child into swimming lessons than in Term 1

**Swim and Survive** - Royal Life Saving Society's Learn to Swim Program for Water Safety and Skill Development Stages 1-15

**Super Sharks** - Competitive strokes classes. Practice drills to gain speed and endurance. For children Stage 5+

**Torpedoes** - Squad style training, working on endurance and strokes for the more Advanced Swimmer. Stage 8+

**Junior Lifeguard Club** - Gain Swimming and Lifesaving Knowledge. Perfect for the child who wants more than a swimming lesson Age 9+

**Private Lessons** - One-on-one lessons for a personal and individualised experience

*Mention this article when you enrol and receive 20% off any pair of goggles\**

Open 7 Days

Geraldton Aquarena 1 Pass St Geraldton

W: [www.aquarena.ccg.wa.gov.au](http://www.aquarena.ccg.wa.gov.au)

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\*Valid until 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018