



# Mount Tarcoola Primary School



School Motto  
"Reliability"

## Newsletter

Term 1 Week 8 2018 No: 4

### CONTACT DETAILS

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Paul Luxton

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday 21st March**

Young Writers

**Friday 30th March**

Good Friday—Public Holiday

**Monday 2nd April**

Easter Monday—Public Holiday

**Tuesday 3rd April**

Easter Tuesday — Students do not attend school

**Friday 6th April**

Rooms 11 & 13 Parent Assembly

**Friday 13th April**

Year 6 Challenge Day  
Last day of Term

**Tuesday 1st May**

Student commence Term 2

### 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:

#### Harmony Day

It was fantastic to see the school community come together for Harmony Day last Friday. I know that the Bollywood dancers engaged the children and they all learnt some new dance moves. The theme for Harmony Day this year was 'Everyone Belongs.' The theme was certainly evident across the day and it was great that a lot of children and staff dressed in orange or traditional dress for the day.

#### National Day of Action Against Bullying

Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> was also the National Day Of Action against Bullying and our school participated in this day. In the preceding week all class teachers were asked to engage their children in an activity around a central theme of 'Imagine what a world without bullying would look like.' Room 8 developed some thought bubbles and have come up with some very interesting and heartfelt responses. Room 6 designed a giant jigsaw with every piece different from the other which represents that fact that the children are all different but fit together to make a whole class. These are displayed in the front office foyer and in the Hall.

#### Cyber Safety Workshops

Unfortunately in today's technological world of social media and the immediacy of instant messaging cyber bullying is something that a lot of our children will come in contact with. Either as a victim or as a perpetrator. Over the next three weeks the Geraldton Family and Youth Support Service will be conducting Cyber Safety workshops in rooms 15, 16 & 17. These are life skills based workshops that the students in year 6 will participate in equipping them with skills and information to navigate the cyber world safely.

#### School Council

On Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> of March the School Council will be meeting for the first time this year. The School Council is a body that consists of parents and school staff and plays a significant role in the school community. The functions of councils are specified in the Education Act and the School Education Regulations 2000.

School councils: · Take part in:

- 1) Establishing and reviewing from time to time the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions.
- 2) The planning of financial arrangements necessary to fund those objectives, priorities and directions.
- 3) Evaluating the school's performance in achieving them.
- 4) Formulating codes of conduct for students at the school.
- 5) Determine, in consultation with students, their parents and staff a dress code for students when they are attending or representing the school.
- 6) Promote the school in the community.
- 7) Comply with written directions that the Deputy Director General may give to a council with respect to the performance of its functions.
- 8) Provide advice to the principal of the school on a general policy concerning the use in school activities of prayers, songs and material based on religious, spiritual or moral values being used in a school activity as part of religious education; and the implementation of special religious education.

Continued .....

- 9) Review and approve changes and contributions for the provision of certain materials, services and facilities, extra cost optional components of educational programs, items to be supplied by a student for personal use in an educational program.
- 10) Any agreements or arrangements for advertising or sponsorship in relation to the school.

Parent council members at Mount Tarcoola are Chairperson Dale Pearse, Ione Griffiths, Michelle Young, Alison Goode, Kelly Heseltine and Aboriginal Parent representative Elise Ronan.

#### Purple Day

Did you know Purple Day (26th March) is a global initiative dedicated to raising epilepsy awareness? Purple Day was founded in 2008, by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. Motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy, Cassidy started Purple Day in an effort to get people talking about the condition and to let those impacted by seizures know that they are not alone. She named the day Purple Day after the internationally recognised colour for epilepsy, lavender. We have children attending Mount Tarcoola Primary School who are affected by Epilepsy. We will support Epilepsy Action Australia this year by having a purple day (or free dress) on Monday March the 26<sup>th</sup>. For those parents that would like to support this cause a gold coin donation is required to allow your child/ren to wear free dress or the colour purple on this day. This donation will be collected from the classroom. More information can be found on the following website: <https://www.epilepsy.org.au/about-epilepsy/>

#### Fence Upgrade

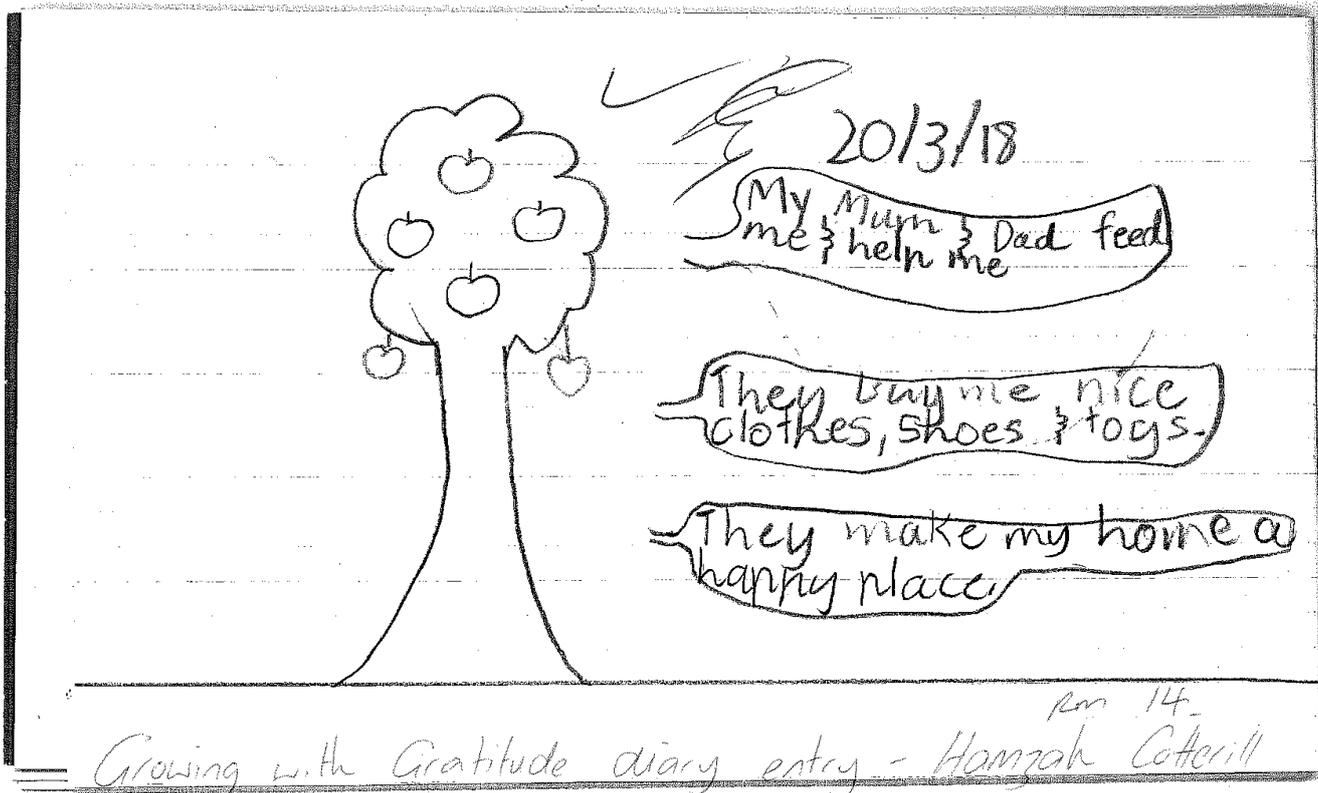
Over the term 1 school holidays the Early Childhood Centre will have a partial fence upgrade. The fence in the south eastern corner of the yard will be upgraded to be 1.8m chain link. This will make the centre much more safe and secure, especially since this part of the centre borders an open car parking area.

#### Easter Weekend

Due to the upcoming Easter weekend we will not have another newsletter until Week 11 - Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. In light of this I hope that the MTPS community has a safe and enjoyable Easter Weekend, the school will be closed on Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> of March for Good Friday and also Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of April for the Easter celebrations. School will resume on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of April.

PRINCIPAL  
Paul Luxton

#### WORK SAMPLE FROM ROOM 14



## WHEN KIDS EXPERIENCE PROBLEMS AT SCHOOL BY MICHAEL GROSE

*Every parent wants the best for their children, and that includes wanting them to have great experiences at school. By and large, Australian schools deliver on that expectation. They are generally safe places for kids, staffed by hard-working teachers who have the best interests of their students at heart. Achievement, discipline and student wellbeing are high on the list of priorities for most teachers.*

Nevertheless, despite the best teaching practices things do go wrong at school. Most kids experience learning difficulties from time to time. Conflict and peer rejection are a normal part of school life. The developmental nature of childhood means that there will always be some turbulence, particularly around key transition ages such as the start of adolescence. During these times young people frequently experience a dip in their learning as well as significant relationship difficulties. Kids will often come home from school with grievances, and call on their parents for assistance.

Your approach as a parent when your child has difficulty at school can make a huge difference to their resilience and to their future relationships with teachers and peers. This includes not only any advice you may give and the way you give it, but also the way you approach the school, if that becomes necessary. Unfortunately, anecdotal evidence suggests that there's been a significant increase in aggressive incidents at schools involving parents reacting to their children's grievances. This presents a danger to teachers, harms the all-important teacher-parent relationship, and sets a bad example to children about how to resolve differences.

**Here's a seven point checklist to help you stay focused and be effective if your child experiences difficulty at school.**

### **1. Be empathetic first**

Kids, like adults, like to vent. They will often benefit simply from having told their side of a story to a trusted source. Often they just want their parents to understand what's happening, so your first response should be an empathetic one. That is, your child should feel you understand them and take them seriously. "That's awful. I'd be upset too if someone stole my lunch" is the sort of response kids want to hear when they are genuinely upset.

### **2. Stay calm and take your time**

It's natural as a parent to want to protect or defend your children, particularly when you think that they've come in for some unfair or poor treatment. But acting when you are full of emotion is not always smart as emotions make us prone to over-reaction and jumping to all sorts of possibly incorrect conclusions.

Rather than getting on the phone straight away to organise a meeting at school, take your time to think through how you might assist your child. Time generally provides greater perspective, which will likely lead to a better response from you.

### **3. Get the all facts**

Getting the facts about the situation can be really tricky. Kids are faulty observers and often only see one side of a story when there's a problem with a teacher or a fellow student. They sometimes can't see that perhaps they may have contributed inadvertently to a dispute at school, or perhaps said something that may have upset a teacher. It's your job to help your child or young person process what happened in an incident, so that all the facts emerge and you can fully understand their place in any problem. Keep asking questions to enable the complete story to unfold.

### **4. Assess whether to go to school or not**

Often problems can be dealt with at home, simply by talking through an issue and giving kids some common sense tips to help them cope. However, if your child has a recurring problem that he can't solve himself, or you think adult intervention may be needed to sort out a relationship issue with a teacher or peer, then consider meeting with your child's teacher or year-level coordinator.

### **5. Use the right channels if you take the issue to school**

Approach the school calmly, going through the school office or directly to your child's teacher if that is the usual protocol. If you have already established a relationship with the teacher concerned, then it's often easier to approach them directly.

### **6. Look for solutions rather than blame**

Parent-teacher meetings usually get nowhere when either party blames the other. State the problem as you see it and view your child's teacher as an ally, not a foe. "I'm really worried about Jeremy. He's been acting strangely lately and I need some help" is the type of approach that will elicit a helpful response. Talk about your concerns and keep the discussion focused firmly on what's best for your child. Listen to your teacher's viewpoint, valuing a different perspective.

### **7. Stay in touch**

Be realistic with your expectations, remembering that some problems can't be solved to your satisfaction, nor will they be resolved straight away. Be prepared to work alongside your child's teacher over the long-term, which means maintaining communication with each other.

Parenting is easy when things are going well, but testing when your children struggle or experience difficulty. Stepping back and taking a long-term, reflective view is often the best approach when your child experiences difficulty at school.

### WANTED: GOOD QUALITY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Have you got that box in the cupboard with extra boxes of crayons, spare checking pencils, surplus glue sticks, too many extra rulers that you will never use? Drop them into the uniform shop on Monday morning with Toni. We will make them into packs for students that need them. We are looking for: satchels, windups, coloured pencils, lead pencils, checking pencils, erasers, scrapbooks, textas, oil pastels, rulers, art smocks - anything at all really!

Thanks in advance from The Sustainability Committee (we love to re-use - better for the environment and the hip pocket!) PS Planting time in Geraldton is coming so keep your eyes and ears open for when it is time to start work in our garden in the sustainability hub - we will send out a note with the date next term.

### REMINDER — CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES 2018

Thank you to parents and guardians who have paid Contributions and P&C for 2018. 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 sent home earlier this term. 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.



Dear Parents/Carers,

### Wear Purple for Purple Day - Monday 26th March, 2018

On Monday 26th March students are invited to attend school in out of uniform clothes in support of Purple Day.

Schools around Australia will be going purple throughout the month of March to raise awareness of epilepsy within the school community, and raise funds to support the thousands of Australians around the country affected by the condition.

Children are asked to bring a gold coin donation to support the work of Epilepsy Action Australia.

Epilepsy Action Australia exists to ultimately save and improve the lives of those affected by epilepsy by delivering innovative services that increase understanding, raise awareness, develop skills and leverage research to enhance the lives of those living with the condition.

Thank you for your support

### REMINDERS

- **Uniform Shop** is open every Monday from 8.30am - 9.00am in the Art room. Any other times see Jodie in the canteen daily until 1:00pm.
- Hats, satchels and a small amount of stationary are available from the canteen daily.
- P&C Disco Friday 9th March
- P&C AGM Monday 19th March 7:00pm
- **Bookclub** — please place correct money with orders as change is not available
- Students **do not** attend school on Tuesday 3rd April

# COMMUNITY NEWS



## "OLYMPIC FC" - JUNIOR SOCCER 2018 WINTER SEASON SIGN UP!!

Olympic FC Junior Soccer Club would like to invite anyone from the ages of 5 through to 16 to join us for the 2018 soccer season. Soccer is great for young children because they learn co-ordination, balance, sportsmanship and most importantly make new friends and have fun!!! All this is achieved in a non-contact and safe environment. At Olympic FC, we take pride in giving all our players the opportunity to fully participate in the games, and we welcome new and former players. So choose us when you register online. Details of how to register are as follows:

**Registration:** To register your child, please visit <https://live.myfootballclub.com.au>

**Cost:** U5 and U7 - \$145 for full season program

U9 to U16 - \$160 for full season program

**Age groups:**

- Under 5** - Born 2013
- Under 7** - Born 2011 & 2012
- Under 9** - Born 2009 & 2010
- Under 11** - Born 2007 & 2008
- Under 13** - Born 2005 & 2006
- Under 16** - Born 2002, 2003 & 2004

Female players are eligible to play down one year i.e. Born 2010 can play Under 7, born 2008 can play Under 9, etc.

**Kids 5 years** and under will play in a program coordinated by the GJSA. Enquiries should be directed to Tanya Amazzini at [tanya.amazzini@sportshouse.net.au](mailto:tanya.amazzini@sportshouse.net.au).

**Queries:** Chris Dzoma - 0447 577 822 or [kiridzoma@gmail.com](mailto:kiridzoma@gmail.com)

Nicole Wing - 0439 383 530 or [nicolewing14@gmail.com](mailto:nicolewing14@gmail.com)

**Equipment:** Our royal blue socks and shorts are available from SportsPower with a 10% club discount. To assist SportsPower, please request the discount to ensure you receive it.

**Why not arrange a few friends and join together in the same team!!**

## HOCKEY



### 2018 Sub-Junior Hockey Season Term 2 & 3

Registrations are now open.

Children can be involved at various levels, according to their age, skill levels and experience.

#### Sub-Junior Div 1 and Div 2

Boys and girls. Grades 3 - 7. Played Sat 8.30am / 9.30am / 10.30am/11.30am.

#### Sub-junior Half-Field.

Girls & boys. Grades Preprimary, Year 1 and 2. Modified rules. Played on Saturdays at 11.30am.

Further enquiries:

*Gemma Warburton*  
0409884813  
[gemmy2379@gmail.com](mailto:gemmy2379@gmail.com)

*Mt Tarcoola Primary Hockey Co-ordinator*





# 2018 PERTH WILDCATS REGIONAL TOUR

The Perth Wildcats are on tour again and we are very excited to be visiting regional towns in WA including Geraldton!

Don't miss the rare opportunity to meet some of the Perth Wildcats and get involved in basketball clinics run by the players and coaches themselves.



**Tuesday 24 April 2018**

9am to 11am

Activewest Stadium

6 to 12 year olds

\$65

(includes Perth Wildcats basketball, drink bottle and poster)



**PLACES ARE LIMITED!**

**BOOK NOW!**

**GERALDTON**



The Perth Wildcats are on tour again and we are very excited to be visiting regional towns in WA including Geraldton!

**Geraldton Junior clinic details:**

**Time:** 9.00am to 11.00am

**Date:** Tuesday 24th April

**Venue:** Activewest Stadium,  
238 Eighth Street, Wonthella

**Age:** 6 to 12 year olds

**Price:** \$65.00 (includes Perth Wildcats basketball, drink bottle and poster)

The clinic will consist of skills sessions, games plus exciting giveaways.

Don't miss the rare opportunity to meet some of the Perth Wildcats and get involved in basketball clinics run by the players and coaches themselves.

Places are limited so make sure you get in quickly to confirm your bookings.

We look forward to seeing you at the Perth Wildcats Geraldton Junior regional clinic #1.

**Registrations will close at 12:00pm on Friday 20th April, 2018.**

**Book online at:**

<https://secure.ticketdesq.com/book/index.cfm?fuseaction=main&TicketDesqID=2242&OrgID=5295>



Is your son or daughter interested in playing AFL football in 2018? Would you like them to play with a junior football club that is totally independent of any of the Great Northern League Football clubs and is run by a group of family orientated football mums and dads?

We put our children first and strive to develop the social side of the sport as well as the physical football development side.

St Pats Football Club has vacancies for children wishing to play in each of its U/8, U/10, U/12, U/14 and U/16 teams.

Please register your child's interest by applying online through:

<https://membership.sportstg.com/regofrm.cgi?aID=5794&formID=36056&cID=89997&nfEntityID=89997&nfEntityTypeID=3>

Or through <https://play.afl/> and typing in your postcode then scrolling through the clubs until you get to St Pats Football Club.



Check out our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Pats-Football-Club-Geraldton-536181203071580/>

Contact Game Registrar Kim Keefe through the Facebook page for more information. Junior AFL Football in Geraldton commences on the first week back at school after the term 1 school holidays.

