



Mount Tarcoola Primary School



School Motto
"Reliability"

Newsletter

Term 2 Week 4 2016 No: 7

CONTACT DETAILS

Principal:

Mark Whisson

Deputy Principals:

Justin Harwood

Marlene Bevan

Manager Corporate Services:

Sharon Browning

Telephone:

School: 08 9921 4066

Kindy/Pre-primary: 08 9921 4310

Canteen: 08 9964 3162

Fax: 08 9921 4467

Email:

MountTarcoola.PS@education.wa.edu.au

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 19th May

Fundraiser—Eli Forrester

Friday 20th May

Lightning Carnival—Senior students

Friday 27th May

Parent Assembly Room 2

Year 6 Cake Stall

Tuesday 31st May

Faction Footy & Netball Finals—Senior students

Wednesday 1st June

Young Writers Workshop

Friday 3rd June

School Development Day—Students do not attend

Monday 6th June

West Australian Day Public Holiday

Friday 17th June

P&C Disco

Wednesday 22nd June

Western Power "Shockproof" Incursion

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.

Preparing Children & Teens For The 21st Century



Parents & Community are invited to an evening with **Dr Judy Willis** internationally renowned Neuroscientist & Educator

Designed by Jude

This is what Maggie Dent says:

"The opportunity to have an expert like Dr Judy Willis come to a community and show teachers, parents, students and others **HOW** to apply what we now know about the brain to improving the way we think, learn, process information, regulate our emotions and solve problems is invaluable."

Date: Wednesday 1st June

Venue: Geraldton Grammar School

Registrations: Via Scinapse <http://bit.ly/neur-ed>

Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Cost: \$10

Door ticket purchases: If you have not registered get there early at 5:00pm to purchase a ticket & secure a seat

Enquiries: Mt Tarcoola PS - 08 99214066

Book NOW!

Help children & teens

- ✓ achieve emotional regulation
- ✓ get started & stay on task
- ✓ keep track of things they need to do
- ✓ stick with tasks long enough to get them done
- ✓ plan long-term assignments
- ✓ improve attention
- ✓ follow instructions
- ✓ remember what they learned
- ✓ edit work
- ✓ keep their notebooks, lockers, and backpacks uncluttered and organized



Aspiced by John Willcock College & Geraldton Senior College P&C



This has been made possible by the State Government's Royalties for Regions Community Chest Fund & the Midwest development Commission.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

NAPLAN testing concluded last week and Mr Harwood, our Deputy Principal for this term, has been busy conducting "catch up" sessions for students who were absent during mainstream testing. It was pleasing to see that almost all of our students took the tests in their stride and did not stress too much over the ordeal which is a credit to you as parents and carers and to their teachers.

I know it seems a long way away but next year our Year 5 students will sit NAPLAN online for the first time. We have been reviewing our hardware requirements for this and have purchased about 60 devices to supplement the machines we already have in the computer lab. We will be ensuring that this year's Year 4 students are conversant with the machines and with the new NAPLAN format well before testing begins in May next year.

You will have noticed that the front cover of this Newsletter is an invitation for parents, carers and interested community members to attend a workshop run by Dr Judy Willis. Dr Willis is a world renowned teacher/neuroscientist and she will explain the role of neuroscience in education. This is a relatively new field of research in education and the workshops run by Dr Willis will be at the "cutting edge". I recommend that you attend this workshop to learn about the role of the brain in the day to day education of our students.

We are very proud of our neuroscience group, consisting of Kathy Taylor, Narelle Hughes, Roz Thompson, Andrea Johnston and ably led by Jude Tupman who were initially responsible for raising the funds required to bring Dr Willis to the Midwest. This group persevered through a number of setbacks and were eventually successful - well done!

Our school is conducting a fund raising event this Thursday for Eli Forrester. Eli is one of our Year 6 students who has a rare form of cancer and his mother has had to give up work to take care of Eli in Perth as he starts a new round of treatment. We are asking students for a gold coin donation and parents can donate as well.

Our sign writer Brian has completed the first stage of our "language wall" in the Reception area. Mrs English, one of our School Officers, has identified all the languages spoken by our families now and in the recent past. There are eight more languages to be added to the wall in the near future. The centre of the wall is "Welcome to Mount Tarcoola Primary School" with "Welcome" spelt out in the different languages around the centre. Mrs McAuliffe designed the poster which was then painted on to the wall and it certainly brings the front office to life. If you notice any mistakes in any of the languages please let Mrs English know and we will rectify any problems.

Finally, this is a reminder that there is a Football and Netball lightning carnival for Year 5 and 6 students this Friday. Netball will be held at the Eighth Street complex and football at the GBSC (Eadon Clarke) oval. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.

MARK WHISSON
PRINCIPAL

ATTENDANCE MATTERS - IT'S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY

One of the most important things a parent can do for their child is to make sure they go to school every day. The more your child attends the more likely they are to have success at school. On the other hand, children who are regularly absent from school are at a high risk of falling behind their peers academically. The Department of Education considers anything less than regular attendance will impact on learning outcomes. "Regular" is 90% attendance, which is missing less than 5 days in a term, on average, unless there is good reason.

Although most parents are aware of this, absenteeism is a growing problem in our school. It is now commonplace for some students at our school to have days off for reasons such as birthdays, going shopping, long weekends, to spend time with visiting relatives and for family vacations during school term. The Department of Education does not consider these as acceptable reasons for being absent.

We realise that there are times when children are sick or when there are extenuating family circumstances which means your children can't attend. In these cases you need to notify your child's teacher and explain the reason for the absence. You should do this as soon as possible.

If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school or if there is anything I can do to assist you in encouraging and maintaining your child's attendance, please let me know.

MARLENE BEVAN
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

FUNDRAISER

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I am writing to you regarding one of our Year 6 students, Eli Forrester. Eli has been battling a rare form of childhood cancer called Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma for more than half of his life. He has undergone nearly 4 years of various chemo protocols and 68 sessions of radiation. Despite his disease responding in an encouraging manner throughout each course of treatment his cancer continually returns.

He has recently commenced an intense and invasive course of treatment at Princess Margaret Hospital involving stem cell transfusion. Due to the intensity of this treatment his mother needs to be with him in Perth for the next 3-4 months. This extended period away from home, during which his mother is unable to work, impacts on the family's financial situation greatly.

As a school community we would like to show our support to Eli and his family. This Thursday 19th May the school will be having a special event to raise funds. In the morning we plan to draw the outline of the Cancer Council logo and write a message for Eli on the pavement which we will ask the children to fill up with gold coins. If you wish to make a larger donation, we will also find a spot for notes and cheques! Students are encouraged to wear yellow on the day e.g. a yellow ribbon, flower or a pair of yellow socks.

Please give generously to this very worthwhile cause. If you would like any further information about the event please contact me on 9921 4066.

Yours sincerely



Marlene Bevan
Deputy Principal

16 May 2016



Keep Smiling Eli

FACTION FOOTBALL AND NETBALL

Lunchtime Faction Football and Netball has been running this term. Games are held at lunchtime with all umpiring and scoring being done by students. With one week to go Air is leading the Football and Fire is at the top of the Netball ladder.

2017 KINDY to YEAR 6 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS – NEW TO SCHOOL ONLY



Applications for enrolment for children **NEW** to Mt Tarcoola PS entering Kindergarten to Year 6 in the 2017 school year will open on **Monday 23rd May 2016**. Application Forms will be available from the school office.

All applications must be completed, signed and submitted with copies of child's Birth Certificate, ACIR Immunisation Record and Proof of Residential Address (Rental Agreement, recent utility/rates bill etc). If you are on a Visa, a copy of visa documentation and passport is required at time of application.

*Students **currently** attending our Kindergarten Program are not required to re-apply for Pre-primary unless they are **living outside** our local intake area.*

Parents/persons responsible are encouraged to submit their application before the end of Term 2.

CYCLING - LET'S RIDE

MTPS is applying for funding to bring a cycling program to school in Term 3. The program, run by qualified and experienced instructors equips cyclists with the skills and knowledge to safely navigate the streets on a bike. More information will be given to students once funding has been confirmed. Thank you to those who expressed an interest for their child to be involved in this program in Term 2, your details will be kept and you will be notified when the program will be up and running.

STAFF CAR PARK

Parents are reminded not to use our Staff car park to drop off or pick up students

COMMUNITY NEWS

CHILD AND PARENT CENTRE RANGEWAY

The Centre has numerous programs and resources to assist parents and children e.g. Yoga for Kids, Playgroups, Counselling, Mini Maestros Music, Child Health Nurse visits and much more.

If you would like to view what is happening in Term 2 or to sign up for their monthly E-newsletter visit: <http://edcentre.wa.edu.au/child-and-parent-centre-rangeway/> or go to their Facebook page.