Principal Message

Teachers have received new guidelines about attendance that come into effect immediately. When your child is absent from school for any reason we need to receive a written note, phone call or email within 7 days. If your child is going to be away for more than 2 days it is a good idea to call the school and let us know. If we do not receive any contact within 7 days the absence will be recorded as unexplained. We cannot change this record after that 7 days has passed as we use electronic rolls that cannot be altered.

Recently our SRC members initiated a discussion at our weekly meeting about the use of bikes, scooters, skateboards and roller shoes. A number of students have brought scooters and skateboards to school and our SRC members have noticed they are often being used unsafely. As a result we have decided as a school to bring back the previous decision to ban the use of skateboards and scooters for travel to and from school. We do not have a safe place to store these items and students have been riding them on roads and footpaths without helmets or protective clothing. Some students have also been riding them in the playground before and after school.

Any student who rides a bike to school must wear a helmet and make sure their bike has brakes and tyres in good working order. Their helmet should be strapped firmly under their chin and they must walk their bike once they come through the school gates. If your child has roller shoes please remove the wheels if they are wearing them to school. We have had a few “near misses” in the playground!

One last rather concerning matter needs to be discussed in every Toormina household. It has been brought to my attention that someone has recently set up an Instagram account in the name of one of our students. This account has NOT been set up by this child and her parents are very concerned as other students may think that this account is real and true. I can only reiterate the advice of the Police. Primary school children should not be using social media at all. I know that many students have Facebook, Instagram etc accounts and while it is not illegal to have these accounts many problems (including some quite scary things) can occur. Students need to be closely supervised when using any device that accesses the Internet or telephone services. It is a good idea while they are young to keep these devices in the main part of your house so it is easier for you to monitor their use.

Thank you,
Judy Burns
Relieving Principal

Up Coming Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Yarn Up (2.15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Harmony Day - Anti Bullying Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Night Disco - Stage 1 (K-2) 5.30 - 6.30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stage 2 &amp; 3 (Yrs 3 - 6) 6.45 - 8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th</td>
<td>Legends 7’s Footy</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th</td>
<td>Toormi Tea Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st</td>
<td>Stage 3 (Yrs 5 &amp; 6) Dorrigo Excursion</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
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BEING A LEARNER

Are you being a learner?
To make sure you don’t miss out on important learning, Toormi Kids make sure they pack a healthy lunch box! Children need a sandwich, fruit and or vegetable snack, water and a recess snack everyday. This will make sure your body has the energy it needs to learn all day.
School is really good and fun. I love it. We have good people here at school and are lucky to have so many great facilities like the basketball court, oval and play equipment. I have tonnes of new friends this year. Coming from a small school (Crossmaglen) at the start of last year, it took time to make new friends but now, in my class, there are my friends from last year plus a whole lot of new kids who have joined the class this year.

In class we are doing autobiographies. Because I did one on myself last year, this year I get to do one on a character. It is good putting that together.

I love baseball. I am about to start my fourth season playing. We play Saturdays during Winter and are starting up again soon. I used to play for the Sawtell/Toormina Dodgers but the numbers of kids playing has grown so much that they are starting a new team and I will be in that one.

It is really great to be one of the school leaders and I enjoy the extra responsibilities of raising the flag with Liam, organising assemblies and being available to help students when they need it.

If I could change anything about school it would definitely be - no handwriting.

**Lego Club**

Lego Club has started this term for 25 students in stage 2 and 3. It runs 2nd half of lunch on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The aim of Lego Club is to teach students cooperative social skills for playing with others.

Students have to work together in pairs to build a structure. 1 Student is the “engineer” and their role is to use the instructions to coach their partner in what Lego blocks they need and how to put them together. The other student is the “builder” and has to put the Lego together. Students swap roles the next day.

A HUGE THANK YOU needs to go to the P & C who donated $250 so we could purchase 4 Lego sets and tubes. Another HUGE THANK YOU needs to go to Kmart who donated a $50 voucher towards the Lego.

Finally, THANK YOU to Mrs Paff, Mrs Brady and Kate Howarth who come in to work with the Lego Club, we couldn’t do it without your support.

Harmonie Dal-Bon

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**Canteen News**

Due to the time constraint in the Canteen, late lunch orders (after 10am) will not be able to be hot. Students will have to order a sandwich.

Thank you,
April Ingram

**Bookclub News**

All student orders for bookclub to be paid by Friday 13th March. Orders can be handed to the office or Mrs Glyde. Thanks.

**University of NSW Academic Competitions**

Each year the University of NSW conducts academic competitions for students across Australia. Many students from Toormina Public School have achieved outstanding results in these competitions in past years.

If you would like your son or daughter to enter all or some of these competitions please complete the form below and return it with the appropriate entry fees to Mrs Burns by Friday, 27th March. Thankyou.

Mrs Judy Burns

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**University of NSW Academic Competitions**

Name of Student ____________________ Class ________

Please circle the money amount for the competitions your son or daughter would like to enter

- English $ 8.00
- Mathematics $ 8.00
- Computer $ 8.00
- Science $ 8.00
- Spelling $11.00
- Writing $17.00

Amount enclosed $___________

Signed (Parent/ Guardian) _________________________

Date _________________

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**Canteen Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>16.3.15</td>
<td>Scott Mills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>17.3.15</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>18.3.15</td>
<td>Jodie Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>19.3.15</td>
<td>Kelli Loader/Vashti Broadbent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>20.3.15</td>
<td>Janelle Sinclair/Paul Jones</td>
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Assembly News
The week 7 assembly once again saw many special efforts both in the classroom and the playground rewarded through our merit system. We had feedback from SRC meetings with particular attention paid to the method used to travel to school and whether it was safe or not. We also recognised many of our athletes, several of which have progressed to the MNC level in AFL, which is a fantastic achievement. Next week we look forward to the first of our class assembly items with a performance from 3/4 Indigo.

The Award winners for this week are as follows:
- Environment Award: 6 Emerald
- Class of the Week Award: 6 Emerald
- Captains Award: Miranda Crawford

Mr Pike

Easter Raffle
A big thank-you to everyone who has already dropped in their donations to our front office and have been busy selling their raffle tickets. We will have 20 plus prizes this year including delicious Hot Cross Buns from Bakers Delight - Toormina Gardens. All tickets are due back on Monday 30th March and our raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 1st April. GOOD LUCK!!

Receive a free loaf from our Healthy Loafstyles’ range when you buy a 6-pack of Hot Cross Buns.