



Mount Tarcoola Primary School



School Motto
"Reliability"



Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2 2021 No:1

CONTACT DETAILS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 15th February
P&C Meeting @ 7:00pm

Tuesday 23rd February
Parent Newsletter

Monday 1st March
Labour Day Holiday

Tuesday 9th March
Parent Newsletter

Friday 19th March
Cricket Carnival

Monday 22nd March
P&C AGM @ 7:00pm

Friday 26th March
Harmony Day

Tuesday 30th March
Parent Newsletter

Thursday 1st April
End of Term 1

Friday 2nd April
Good Friday

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 Back

A very big and warm welcome to the Mount Tarcoola Primary School community for 2021. It has been an amazing start to the year. The first day of school last week saw us record our best ever day one attendance. We had 96% of our students attend which was simply amazing and a credit to all our parents for getting their children ready and off to school. With the Covid lockdown in Perth and some uncertainty around what was happening this is even more remarkable. We had intense heat to start with and then rain on the next day - what a week! Congratulations and well done to everyone!



Corona Virus

It was a huge shock to everyone how quickly things happen in regards to Corona virus and the sudden lockdown of Perth and parts of the South West. The Education Department follows the advice from the Government and Health departments and we react and follow accordingly. As information comes to schools we will pass this on to parents as soon as we are able. If parents have any concerns in regards to the virus, the latest advice can be sourced from the WA Health Department website, <https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus>.

Road safety

With school going back there are obviously more people on the roads and footpaths heading to the various schools. It is very important that parents take the time to reinforce to their children road safety especially if walking, riding or scooting to and from school. One particular hot spot for us is the rise over Ackland Rd heading into Marinula St and also Forden St. Children need to take great care crossing here as on the west side of the brow of the hill it forms a blind spot for cars that are heading to and from the highway.

Eat Up

Mount Tarcoola has signed up to the Eat Up program which is being run at the Rangeway Child and Parent Centre in Hovea St. This is a program that is supported by charities and donations from businesses and the public. Its main purpose is to provide lunches to those children who for whatever reason come to school without. We took our first delivery of sandwiches last week. So if for whatever reason a child does not have lunch, all they need to do is find a quiet time to tell their class teacher and they will be provided with a sandwich no questions asked. The canteen has also been supplied and children can ask at the canteen for a sandwich as well. More information can be found at <https://eatup.org.au/>. Additionally if parents have any spare time I am sure that Jennifer Pritchard at the Child and Parent centre would appreciate assistance with the making of the sandwiches once a month. Jennifer can be contacted on 9921 6814.

Works and Moves

Over the holidays we had some works completed. We have installed a new barrier fence on the oval and installed in front of that a set of football goals. This now means we have three sets of goals on the oval and we can spread out the children, particularly during football season when there is a lot of congestion on the oval. We have a new classroom. Room 18 in the BER block is now a regular classroom complete with a new entrance door and this year is housing the Year 4/5 class which is being taught by Mrs Walsh. This room used to be the LOTE room which has now moved to the old junior primary science room. Junior Primary Science is now being taught in our newly refurbished Science Lab by Mr Giles. The canteen has also had a face lift. Jody and Marilyn are stoked with their new pantry and flash stainless steel benches.

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Welcome Barbeque

Due to the continued threat of Covid 19 and the fact that we are still in Phase 4 restrictions we will not be holding our Welcome BBQ this year. We are still reinforcing good hygiene habits with our children in terms of hand washing, physical distancing and not sharing food. Unfortunately this also still applies to birthday cakes and celebrations.

Parent Meetings

Every class will be organising a parent meeting to introduce parents to their new teacher and classroom. These meetings are usually short and will be held after school. These meetings form part of the schools reporting to parents' process. The meetings will be scheduled across the next two or three weeks so as to allow parents with more than one child to attend each meeting and to meet Covid requirements. We encourage all parents to take advantage of these meetings as it is very important to establish lines of communication with class teachers early and to keep them open. The school apologises in advance to those parents who will need to come in more than once due to having children in more than one class. We will try and accommodate classes with siblings but it is not always possible.

See Saw

The school is continuing to use the Seesaw App as a communication tool between teachers, students and parents. In the case of a Covid lockdown this does become our major communication tool so it is important as many parents as possible are signed up to it. Parents are encouraged to enquire to their child's class teacher for more information.

Student Census

The annual student census is being conducted this Friday in all schools across the state. On this day all students are officially counted and the number of children we have enrolled and attending are then used to calculate our funding for the year. It is for this reason that it is absolutely crucial that all children who are eligible to attend school are enrolled and present. Children who then subsequently enrol after this date are not funded by the Education Department for the year.

Heart Kids

This term we are supporting the HeartKids bracelet fundraiser. We are raising awareness of congenital and childhood acquired heart disease. Both conditions affect many people at the most vulnerable stage of their lives - as infants and young children. We are selling bracelets for \$5.00 from the canteen to raise funds and awareness of this condition. More information can be found at <https://www.heartkids.org.au/> Also don't miss the HeartKids Charity Golf Day fundraiser at the Geraldton Golf Club on the 28th of March.

School Council

Mount Tarcoola has a very active School Council that regularly meets across the course of the year (usually once per term). School Council members are provided with a very good understanding of how the school operates. They ratify the schools finances and are kept regularly informed of the schools progress both financially and academically. School Council members can also represent enquiries from parents for discussion at meetings. This year we have vacancies that need to be filled from the parent community. If any parents are interested in being on the School Council, please fill out the form that is available on the School Stream App or from the front office. Forms can be returned to the front office.

PAUL LUXTON
PRINCIPAL

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. If a slip is **not returned** you will receive a **hard copy via eldest child**.

PARENT NEWSLETTER DELIVERY METHOD 2021

Eldest Student's Name: _____ Room: _____

Contact's Name: _____

HARD COPY

OR

EMAIL: _____

Or

I WILL ACCESS FROM WEBSITE OR SCHOOL STREAM

Only if required — Additional person

Contact's Name _____

EMAIL: _____

POSTED

ADDRESS: _____



Notification to Disclose Personal Information to Third Party Services

Dear Parents,/Carers,

The Education Department requires the School to notify you of the applications and online sites we use as part of our ongoing programs and where student accounts may be created. These are known as third party services.

The following third party services are being used in our school.

Please contact the school if you have any queries.

Please note that MTPS does not provide any identifying information other than first names only.

Name of Service	Type of Service	What Do I Need to Know?	Further Information
Chatterpix	IOS Application	Used to create talking puppets	https://apps.apple.com/au/app/chatterpix-kids/id734046126
Code Combat	Website	Python Coding tool	https://codecombat.com/
code.org	Website	Levelled coding tools for primary students.	https://code.org/
Codespark Academy	IOS Application	Coding for Junior Primary	https://codespark.com/how-itworks
Comic Life	IOS Application & Web	Upper primary - used to create comic book style narrative.	http://plasq.com/apps/comiclife/macwin/
Dash & Dot-Wonder/Blockly	IOS Application	Tutorials to code Dash and Dot Robots	https://apps.apple.com/au/app/wonder-for-dash-and-dot-robots/id1033035498
Edu Puppets/Shadow Puppets	IOS Application	KPP & Jr Primary - create puppets and stories.	https://apps.apple.com/au/app/shadow-puppet-edu/id888504640
Epic	IOS Application	Cloud based library with books suitable for primary students.	https://www.getepic.com/educators
Explain Everything	IOS Application	Upper school tool for presentation	https://explaineverything.com/
Gamestar Mechanic	Website	Game based design and construction tool.	https://gamestarmechanic.com/

Grok	Website	Australian Computer Academy Coding Tools	https://groklearning.com/
IXL	Website	Maths Homework Practise	https://au.ixl.com/
Kahoot	Web & IOS	Fun quiz site for reviewing content.	https://kahoot.com/
Kidspiration	IOS Application	Concept mapping	https://learningworksforkids.com/apps/kidspiration/
Kodable	IOS Application	Yr 1 Coding Tools	https://www.kodable.com/
Kodu	Website	Upper school coding and game design	http://www.kodugamelab.com/
Makers Empire	Website and App	3D Design and Print	https://www.makersempire.com/
Pic Collage	IOS Application	Picture presentations	https://piccollage.com/
Prodigy	Website/IOS Application	Maths Homework practise	https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/
Scratch - online	Website	Block based coding	https://scratch.mit.edu/
Seesaw	Website and IOS Application	Journal communication for school and home	https://web.seesaw.me/
Sploder	Website	Platform game design	http://www.sploder.com/parents-teachers.php
Study Ladder	Website	Practise quizzes cover all learning areas	https://www.studyladder.com.au/
Tynker	IOS Application	Jr Coding App	https://www.tynker.com/

BOOKCLUB

A reminder that all orders for **Bookclub** are now done online. New catalogues have been given out through your child's classroom. Last ordering date is Thursday 18th February 2021.

No late orders can be accepted. If you are new to Bookclub ordering, the office has a step by step guide.