

# TOOTGAROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL'S NEWSLETTER



Term 1



Thursday 4th February,

NEWSLETTER

## Principal's Report



***Dear Tootgarook Families,***

### SCHOOL UPDATE

What a wonderful start we have had to the school year. It was so exciting to be able to welcome students and parents on-site last Friday and it was indeed impressive to see students embrace the return to school in such a positive and studious manner in their classrooms. Interestingly, we have begun the year with 203 students. This is about 20 students less than we had anticipated, due to an unexpected movement of families late last year due to no before school care and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst this unforeseen enrolment drop will place extra pressure on the school budgets, a small upside of this situation however is the lower than planned class sizes across many levels of the school and the introduction of before school care from 15<sup>th</sup> February.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

Upcoming School Council Elections All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students. Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging/engagement. Each year, approximately half of the school council retires to allow new members to become involved. To this end, we are now formally calling for nominations for the 2021/2022 Tootgarook PS School Council. Membership on the council is for a period of two years and regular meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. If you would like to know more about being a councillor, don't hesitate to give me a call.

In 2021, we have three parent vacancies and two teacher vacancy on School Council for a full period of two years. Nominations for School Council will close at 4.00pm on Wednesday 10th February. Please contact the office for a nomination form if you are interested. If we receive more nominations than positions available, an election process will follow in the coming weeks.

### WEARING OF MASKS UPDATE IN SCHOOLS

Following the Government's announcements regarding new statewide restrictions that came into effect at 11:59pm on Wednesday 3 February, there is new guidance for schools regarding the wearing of masks. People aged 12 and over must wear a fitted face mask when in public indoor spaces unless there is a lawful reason not to.

Students aged 12 or older must wear a face mask indoors when at school, unless they are attending a primary school, an Outside school hours care (OHSC) program or an exception applies.

Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school or attending an OHSC program are not required to wear face masks.

School staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching or caring, but those who wish to do so, can. Staff must wear face masks in indoor areas of the school when not teaching or caring.



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Visitors to school sites must also wear masks when indoors. Please ensure anyone on your school site is aware of the updated face mask requirements.

Further advice regarding these measures will be provided when available.

Thank You  
Wayne Whitworth  
Principal

## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families. Payment amounts this year are \$125.00 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 59852864 and ask for an application form. You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page. Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.



## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

### Glasses for Kids Program

The Glasses for Kids program provides free vision screening and testing and, if needed, free further testing and glasses for students in Prep to Year 3.

All forms need to be returned ASAP



### SUNSMART

Sun Smart Policy, please note that all students will now need a broad-brimmed hat in order to be able to play in the playgrounds during Term 1 as UV levels begin to rise. Please see the website for the daily UV reading. <https://www.tootps.vic.education.vic.gov.au>.



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### Library Books

Its come to our attention that there are 172 books outstanding from our library for 2020, we understand this may have happened due to remote learning if you have any books with Tootgarook Primary School stamped on it, could you please return them ASAP to the schools office.



# Book Club

A reminder that Book Club orders are due by February 9th, thank you.



**If your child has any medical condition such as Asthma/Allergy/ Anaphylaxis, please ensure our office has been supplied with an up to date plan so that we may care for them in the best possible way in the event of an emergency. If you took medication home during remote learning please ensure it is brought back to the school office as soon as possible. A reminder that Medical action Plans need to be updated annually. Thank you.**



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Guiding children's growth

Newsletter

## A warm welcome from Camp Australia

A very warm welcome to everyone, and a special welcome to families new to the school and to Camp Australia. For those who know us, Camp Australia may look a little different than you remember, but we are still here to provide a supportive **outside of school hours space** for children to play, connect, learn and grow through engaging experiences.



### Your OSHC.

Introducing *Your OSHC* by Camp Australia, our tailored Before School, After School and Pupil Free Day experiences. At *Your OSHC*, we aim to inspire your child to grow into who they want to be. They can enjoy intentional experiences guided by our engaged educators, so all children can learn, grow and have fun.



#### Welcome

#### Activities we're running over the next 2 weeks:

#### It's free to register

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at [pp.campaustalia.com.au](http://pp.campaustalia.com.au) or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.

#### What's on this term

- Rocketeers Launch
- Virtual Parent Information Sessions
- Handball Championships
- Plus more to come!

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# Welcome back to our students

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**Vision: Achieving personal excellence, empowering students in a supportive community.**



# Welcome back to our students







# RICH AWARDS

The following students were drawn out of the RICH mailbox by Mr Whitworth. The students will attend a morning tea tomorrow with the teachers at Recess on Friday.

Billy Garth  
Kelsie Hills  
Maya Verona  
Ziah White  
Stanley Strohfeldt  
Khloe Ledwidge  
Coraline Barker  
Ryan Hardy  
Cohen Sparrow  
Zoe Clark

Students are given RICH tickets when following the RICH School Values. These are Respect, Integrity, Celebration and Honesty.





**\$400 IN PRIZES**

**AGE GROUPS**

**11-12yrs | 13-14yrs | 15-17yrs**

To Register go to: <https://sorrentoartshow.com/kids-art-show/>



Project Sponsored by

**Rotary Club of Sorrento**



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