



Tunable Falls Community School

117 Upper Tuntable Falls Road, Nimbin NSW 2480

www.tunablefallsschool.nsw.edu.au

tuntableschool@gmail.com 02 6689 1423

Tuesday 3rd March 2020, Newsletter 3, Term 1 Next issue due 17/03/20

School Calendar

Term 1 ends on Friday 3rd

April

Term 2 starts Tuesday 28th

April

Reminders:

NORPA Excursion Friday

6th March (Guruman and
Gooarnj classes)

10:00- 2:30

Sea Shepherd Fundraiser

Thursday 12th March 5pm

\$10 Dinner \$25 Family deal

Horse Ride Tuesday 24th

March (Buribi Class)

11:15 -12:45

Koinonia Camp (Guruman

Class) Monday 16th March

to Wednesday 18th March

(2 nights)

Flat Rock Camp (Gooarnj

Class) Wednesday 16th

March to Thursday 19th

March (1 night)

Circus with Simon 3:30pm

Thursdays after School at

Community Hall \$10.

Birthdays:

Alice, Taya, Ezekiel



From the Committee

We are at the halfway mark of the term already with so much fun stuff yet to come.

Speaking of fun, I took the opportunity to spend some time with Emmy and the Gooarnj class for science on Thursday, the children were clearly captivated from the moment they lined up at the start of class till the very end. Emmy provides space for them to learn about the wonder of science through an experiential, hands-on approach. Whilst they do this she gently introduces them to the language of science, such as the states of matter and density of substances. The school community feel grateful for Emmy's return to TFCS and the children are going to benefit enormously for her knowledge and skills.

The excursion for years 1-6 to Lismore for the NORPA performance of '91 Storey Tree House' is coming up this Friday the 6th of March. Don't forget to enough food for lunch and recess, water and a hat. The bus will be leaving school at 10am and returning at 2.30pm.



Class camps are also coming up in week 8, please ensure attendance slips are returned to the office by this Friday the 6th of March. We will be looking for parents to help with packing and unloading camping equipment both for departure and return to school. Year one parents will be needed for food preparation on the camp. If you are able to help with any of these roles, please talk to the teachers or a committee member.

Every morning the children have 'munch and crunch' time. This is a snack designed to boost children's energy or 'refuel and rehydrate' on vegetables and fruit. Please ensure your kids have healthy 'nude food' fruit and veg in their lunch box for this break time.

We would like to remind families that parking out the front of school is discouraged, this is not actually a school car park and is getting a little frantic with children walking to and from the bus. The school has an agreement with Tuntable co-op for families to park in the community car park and walk down to the school. Alternatively, you can park in the car park adjacent to the school. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

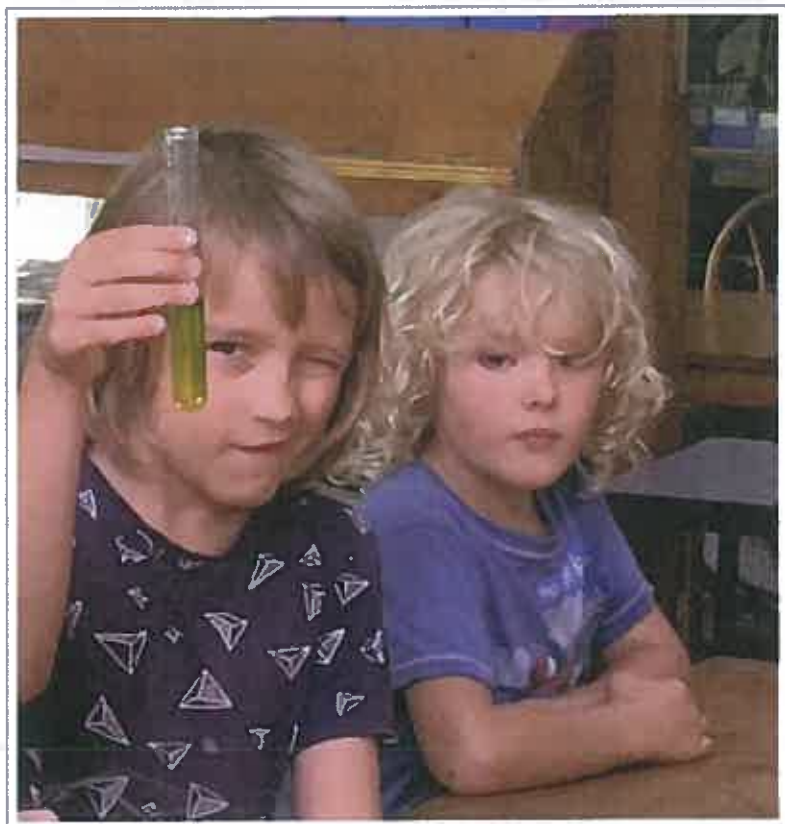
Our lovely teachers aid Heather Jessop will be leaving our school. The committee would like to wish her well with her new position. Our fabulous Freya Barber will be taking the teachers aid position, which means we are lucky to have her three days a week at the school.

With a heavy sigh I would like to inform families that Jessica McCaul will be leaving TFCS at the end of this term. She has brought such warmth and joy to our school, ensuring our Buribi class was nestled into their schooling years. She is going to be greatly missed, especially her enthusiastic involvement on Minjerribah.

On a happy note beautiful Fiona Campbell will be stepping in to Jessica's role as the Buribi teacher. Fiona is a qualified primary school teacher who is excited to get back to the classroom. She has previous experience and passion for kindergarten teaching, she will bring her nurturing soul, creativity and professionalism to this role. Fiona's passion for our school has become evident to the committee and we are excited to support her in this transition.

I Hope you all enjoyed the garden celebration..... Happy Autumn

Cushla





Buribi Class (Kindy)

If you have been trying to figure out what a 'Focus Child' is, it's simply a system I use in Kindergarten to ensure I spend quality time with individual children throughout the week. For children, it means reading the timetable, making decisions for the class, collecting the class role and being listened to for longer.

As we talk about different qualities of a leader, the children get to discuss, observe and share the position of class leader. We also talk about how we can all be a leader by thinking for ourself, looking after our peers and helping others. Children have the opportunity to try the position of Leader for a whole week to develop an understanding of expectations and routines.

Quiz Question (for parents to ask their child/Home Learning ideas): Show me how you can write your name. Show me how you can write numbers (1...2...3...). Show me your pencil grip!

Tracing, copying and regular name/number writing at home will support your child's learning at school – especially if you remind them about their pencil grip.





Gooarnj Class (middle)

Hello Families,

This fortnight in the Gooarnj calss we are learning about Verbs and quotation marks through reading the book "Big Rain Coming". The class did a great job of finding the verbs after the first read and later in the week will be writing thought clouds and speech bubbles for a page from the story.

In spelling we are looking at the sounds 'e' as in egg, and 'd' as in duck and paddle.

In math the kids have been learning about place value, making and reading numbers in the hundreds and thousands; and using number lines to add and subtract.

Next week we will be reading 'Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge', and on Wednesday 11th the kids need to bring in a special item/toy from home to present to the class, telling us why its's special to them.



In art in the Guruman class we have also been exploring land art and the kids have started their big projects this week. The whole class choosing to do more practical inspired works such as cubbys, tree houses and directing water. On completion the young artists will photograph their work for the Nimbin Autumn Art Fair

In art we have been experimenting with land art down at the creek. The class made some magical leaf, rock and stick art.

Up we grow,

Ishta





Guruman Class (upper)



In these last two weeks, our text focus in English has moved on to the advertising in our local Nimbin Good Times. From the information given in the ad, students have created a very convincing collection of radio ads, using all their persuasive writing techniques and their abilities to build on key words. Music has been fun but also a lot of hard work in the lead up to our Garden Day performances. Some students are developing their keyboard / piano skills and others are focusing on guitar techniques. One of the big challenges is learning to sing harmonies to a main melody, which is proving to take a lot of concentration.



We very happily celebrated the final step in a Guruman long term project, the creation of a Winter themed mosaic for the Garden Classroom, which was begun last Winter with the expert guidance of Siggy. We have now finally had the mosaic mounted on the Western side of the classroom (Thank you Dave) and it is well worth a trip up to the garden to check it out, especially on a hot day, as the frostiness of the images is nicely cooling. Thank you very much, Siggy, for your very talented tuition.

In PDHPE this last week, we have had some very interesting discussions on a range of health and safety issues pertinent to growing up. As a general measure of how we get along

with each other, we looked at the importance of Empathy, Inclusion and Respect, and how these qualities can create a strong safe community. With that in mind, we talked about cyberspace, and the dangers and vulnerabilities in such a public space, especially with the awareness that sometimes people are not what they seem. Many students are very aware of the safety precautions that need to be considered if choosing to engage with "Social" media platforms. We also discussed the advantages of healthy eating and the negative effects of sugar on emotional stability...and teeth. As a general reminder, we talked about how our Munch and Crunch sessions need to be fresh fruit, vegetables and nuts. The students are presenting their learning in a variety of formats ranging from informative posters to educational hip-hop songs.



From the Garden

What a glorious time of year to be learning outside. All the classes have been working hard to plan out their own vegetable gardens. They selected a variety of autumn vegetables, herbs and flowers which now full the garden with colour, smells and flavours. They have been working really well with other group members and learning how to problem solve and compromise. They are very excited to show all the parents next Tuesday for our autumn garden day. Come along and join in with the garden, cooking or music groups followed by the autumn feast, performance and garden tour. It's a fantastic way to get a snapshot of our school and get to know all the children and teachers.

Buribi class have begun to share their ancestry stories and develop an understanding of how things have changed since when their grandparents and relatives were young. Where they came from, how they lived and how they travelled to Australia a long time ago.

Gooyarnj class have been conducting experiments on different types of soil. Identifying the differences between humus, clay, Loam and sand and gravel. They have enjoyed problem solving in the wild maths lessons in the garden and developing thinking skills by making patterns, using ten frames in nature and using natural materials as mathematical tools.

Guruman class have been immersed in wild maths whilst preparing their garden, EBT and community orchard. Their understanding of measurement and area is becoming second nature as they work in small groups to problem solve to find solutions. They have begun to dig deeper into soil and have conducted a science investigation to test the impacts on severe weather (fire, flood, drought) on our endemic species. Over the rest of the term regular observations on the plants health will be measured and recorded.

Message From Lisa



Hello families,

This newsletter I'd like to briefly discuss learning to read and write.

Do you remember learning to read and write? Most of us won't remember these complex processes.

When we begin to read and write we rely heavily on our memory, and the knowledge of letters and words we have, to embark on a process of decoding. As we become more proficient readers and writers, the process begins to become easier and we can ask ourselves helpful questions while we read and write using all of the things we know about language and how the world works. This is when reading and writing begin to become more enjoyable.

Some children (and adults) have difficulty with reading and writing for many different reasons. Often they have missed vital learning and therefore struggle to make vital connections in the process.

Within a classroom context, children who are experiencing difficulty will not accelerate in their ability to meet their peers without some intervention work from a trained professional.

However, there are some things we can do every day to help children with their reading and writing. Did you know that 100 words make up approximately 80% of all we read and write? Helping children to learn these words vastly improves their reading and writing. Teachers often call these words "Sight words" and can provide you with them if you'd like them for your own reference or to look at with your child/ren.

Reading and writing are active processes. Children will not learn by passively listening or looking. They need to "do".

If you want more information feel free to chat with me when you see me!

I hope you have a wonderful week

Lisa

