



Tunable Falls Community School

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117 Upper Tuntable Falls Road Nimbin NSW 2480

February 4th 2020 Newsletter 1

Term 1

Next Issue Due 18.03.20

From the Committee

Just like that the 2020 school year has begun!! I trust you all had a fun filled holiday's and are well rested for the year to come. It has been great to see all the familiar faces of returning families and exciting to see new families who have chosen Tuntable Falls Community School.

I'd like to welcome and introduce our new Buribi families, Stafford and Lorraine with their son Azariah, Phoebe and Dave with their son's Romulus and Haan (Gooarnj class), Trevor and Nicole with their daughter Sibella, Sigrid and Phillip with their daughter Djuna, Jaz and Nick with their daughter Gypsi. Joining the Guruman class this year, a big welcome also to Amelia and her parents Simon and Janneke.



Returning parents maybe wondering what happened to the playground? For those new to the school, we were successful in winning a \$75,000 grant for a fabulous new playground. The plan was to get this underway over the Christmas holidays however due to further documentation requirements the funds are yet to be released. Our aim is to get construction underway through the coming holidays. In the mean time a subcommittee has been formed to help with final details. If

you would like to be involved in this exciting project, please see a committee member and they will point you in the right direction.

Thank you to all those who attended the workday on Saturday. If you struggle getting in on a Saturday yet would like to complete your workday, come and see a committee member and we can organise an alternate day, there is always stuff to be done. These work days and parent roster days are an integral part of Tuntable falls community school. They not only help to keep our school safe and beautiful, but they provide a platform for social interaction, encouraging interconnectedness between the school environment and families, this is part of what makes our school unique. We encourage families to get involved as much as they can in roster days. If you have a particular skill that you would like to share please see a teacher or a committee member about how you could integrate this. If you would like to help in the garden please speak with Ginger, she would be thrilled to have some regular support. We are always looking for people to help with lunches in the kitchen, the more hands the merrier. if you are interested in helping in the kitchen, Speak with Jaz or Cushla. Once again welcome to all our new families, I hope you love the school as much as we do.

School calendar

Term 1 Ends:
Friday 3rd April

Term 2 Begins:
Tuesday 28th April

Parent Teacher Interviews commence:
Weeks 3,4 and 5

Garden Day:
Tuesday 3rd March

Sea Shepherd Dinner:
Thursday 12th March

Fashion Show:
Saturday 29th March

School Camps:
Week 8
(More information about camps coming)

Reminders:

Please Find attached:
Term 1 Calendar, Class Timetables and a Family Contact List.

We are a Nude Food School. Please avoid using plastic wraps or packaged items in school lunches.

Contact a Committee Member if you'd like to get involved with the school.

Committee Meeting:
Friday 7th Feb *(Agenda is on the School Noticeboard)*

Parent Meeting:
Tuesday 25th February
(3:30pm Undercover area, agenda on Noticeboard) -All Parents Welcome- There will be Nibbles!!!

Parent Work Days: The first Week back of every Term on a Saturday (Next Term Saturday 2nd May)

Buribi Class (Kindy)



Romi, Gypsi, Taya, Sibella, Djuna and Azariah are our Kindies for 2020. Welcome to you and your families! The Kindy Class (also known as The Buribi Class – Bundjalung for Koala) runs 4 days a week (Monday-Thursday) 9:05-2:45, with Circus Class on Wednesday morning and a whole lot of fun in between (see weekly timetable attached). Note that holidays in between school terms are 3 weeks long.

The Buribi Class have been learning about their school environment and getting to know each other although it seems like they are already very familiar with their surroundings!

Attached you will find an overview of our learning for the term and some dates to remember.

Family involvement in our children's learning is encouraged at Tuntable Falls Community School. Please let us know how you would like to contribute or what your interests/skills are during Parent-Teacher Meetings in Week 3. This gives our children time to settle into their new routine and you time to figure out what would work best for you.

Tips for a great start to Kindy:

*Make lunchbox food that's easy to eat e.g. bite size (healthy food and no packaging is emphasised at Tuntable Falls Community School)

*Routines at home – preparing clothes the night before; early bed-times and quiet afternoons/weekends may help with your child's exhaustion in the first few weeks of school



*Leave toys at home

*Pack spare clothes and underwear for swimming or toileting accidents

*Meet and introduce yourself to other Kindy families

Jessica

Gooarng Class (Middle)



Hello Families,

Welcome back for another year of learning fun! In the Gooarng class we're all pretty excited about our new room. It feels fresh, airy and spacious, please come and check it out if you haven't already.

This year I'll be sharing the teaching of the class with Ginger. I'll be teaching Monday to Thursday and Ginger will teach on Fridays. Please consult the timetable for more detail.

This term we are focusing on the theme of "Our Place", exploring our ways of belonging and connection to place.

The kids will learn about and discuss indigenous connection to country and the importance of the acknowledgment of country. In exploring the history of place, the kids will interview people who have known the school in the past and develop a picture of how the school has grown and changed over time, and it's meaning to people in the community and themselves.

In art we will have creative fun in the EBT and at the creek creating site specific land art inspired by looking and responding to the art of Andy Goldsworthy. The kids will also contribute to creating the classroom space by making a pompom curtain for the classroom reading nook.

This year we are introducing a new spelling program, Sound Waves, which will guide the kids through the different spelling sounds and strategies in a structured and supported way. Guided reading will be an important daily focus, and in writing the kids will be encouraged to work as independently as possible. The focus being on becoming confident in their own abilities, understanding that mistakes are an integral part of the learning journey, and that writing is a creative, and sometimes messy, process.

Math will continue to build on the kids' foundation knowledge of number, exploring patterns and making connections. Ginger will be taking math into the bush with her Wild Math program, and in the STEAM program the kids will explore math through experimentation and engineering with Emmy.

In week 8 (18th-19th March) we will be heading to Flat Rock for a night on our class camp. Please note that students in year 1 will need an accompanying parent or carer (with a current Working with Children Check). Keep your eyes out for further details in the next newsletter.

Please come and see me in the next week to make an appointment (for week 3 or 4) to discuss your child's learning and any other questions or concerns you may have.

I'm looking forward to a creative and fun learning year.

Up We Grow!
Ishta



If you would like your child to receive regular home readers and homework please let me know.



Guruman Class (Upper)



Guruman have started the new school year with a Bang! on a variety of percussion instruments that the school has recently purchased. They are developing their ability to play in time as a music ensemble and being able to hear something that doesn't always have a sound, the Beat.

They will move from this onto the whole range of roles within music creation. Investigating the Beat, and how it is subdivided and accented to make rhythms, is drawing on the students' mathematical knowledge of fractions, measurement and whole numbers.

As a text for analysis in English this term, students are starting on reading the Nimbin Good Times with a focus on what it takes to make a newspaper. As they gain more awareness and skills in journalism, they will move towards writing their own newspaper, with informative news articles (some of it possible fake news), persuasive opinion articles, enticing advertisements and even a puzzle page.

Friday afternoon Team Sports started well with some excellent volleyball skills demonstrated in a very exciting match that was suspenseful all the way to the final point that could have gone either way. Circus was equally as spectacular with some great moves in tumbling and acrobalance.

As part of the PDHPE course, students will be discussing and creating clear guidelines for our school learning culture, with a focus on empathy, inclusion, respect and what this looks like, sounds like and feels like.

But the biggest event for this term is the Gooraman Camp Koinonia excursion, booked for March 16-18 at Evans Head, with activities such as canoeing, rock climbing, the big swing, paddle boarding and beach games. We will need a couple of parents to help with transport and catering.

So welcome back to a fun term and a fun year ahead. Joe



From The Garden

Welcome back everyone!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday period with your families.

In the Buribi class: This unit of work will encourage students to delve into their past by exploring who the people in their family are, where they were born and raised and how they are related to each other.

The students will inquire into their past through parents, grandparents, older siblings ect and pose questions as to where they're ancestors came from and why? They begin to understand how the past is different to the present and how different peoples perspectives change the way stories and history is told. The students will create a timeline of the stages in their lives, a family tree, collect stories, photographs, special objects and share the stories associated with them with the wider class group. They will research the birdwing butterfly and create a special place in the school that will help this endangered creature be safe and supported in our school.

The Gooarnj class are exploring soils and the layers and characteristics of healthy soil. Based on these experiments the students will create a whole school compost system and biodynamic compost and worm farm. The students will work with a partner in the garden preparing, plantings, caring for and weeding their own garden bed, noticing changes in the soil and what natural 'remedies' they can provide for the soil.

Another new and exciting aspect of the Gooarnj and Guruman class' SEE program is the creation of our Wild Maths program. These lessons will run for 1.5 hours per week with each class and explore maths through hands on maths investigations in the environment. The students will build, create and make their 'on the go maths backpacks' which will come on our wild maths adventures to investigate different maths problems that need problem solving! They will be using these kits to measure their individual garden bed and practice problem solving skills to measure the length and width using a wide range of measuring devices (leaves, rocks, sticks, measuring tapes, rulers, hands, feet ect)

The Guraman class will also be exploring soil, with an emphasis on how important healthy soil is as a defence against erosion from floods and fires. The students will investigate what endemic plant species withstand the impact of fire and floods and how we can use the results of this investigation to better prepare our community for more severe and frequent weather patterns.

Ginger

Message from Lisa:

Hello all!

My name is Lisa Boyd. I am the Learning and Support teacher at Tuntable Falls Community School. It has been lovely to see some known faces and meet new people in the last week.

This year I will work with your child, teachers and assistant teachers, and with parents to support our students in their learning.

I am passionate about ensuring curriculum is accessible and relevant, so school feels like a safe and successful place for all kids.

I am school on Tuesdays this year and look forward to seeing you. Feel free to chat to me about your child's learning or questions

Take care

Lisa



Ahoy parents and guardians of the galaxy.

Firstly, I would like to say thanks to all the parents, kids and staff at our wonderful school for the support and great company I've experienced working here. I am opting for the smaller commitment of after school classes in eight week blocks, rather than the full year commitment required for school.

I am also wondering if there is interest in after school classes in any of the following;

-UNICYCLE, *chin balancing, hat tricks*

-DRAMA, *games, mime, puppetry ect, possibly leading to film*

-MUSIC, *basic techniques, jamming and composition*

Wednesdays at the Tuntable hall

\$80 per eight week block or \$15 per class drop in
Please text me if you (open to doing adult classes) or your child are interested and I will look at numbers and hall availability

Cheers, Leif

0457299549



Message From Leif

