



Tunable Falls Community School

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25 Aug 2020, Term 3, Newsletter 11

Next issue due 8 Sept 2020

From the Committee:

It is so wonderful to have Dean, Petria and their mob back!! The school and wider community really missed their beautiful smiles and kind presence. River will be reconnecting with his Guruman buddies, whilst his little sister Lillybelle will be making her debut with Fiona and her Buribi joey's. Welcome back guys, your absence was deeply felt.

I was lucky enough to have some spare time on Saturday after soccer to drop in at the school and lend a hand to the team co-ordinating the **playground**. It re-invigorated the community spirit that has been flailing in me of late, due to COVID restrictions and the "busy" life I lead. I was reminded of how many learning opportunities there are in these collective working environments. It was great to see this project flourishing and I commend those who are dedicating their time and energy to this rewarding project. Walk around and have a peak at how the playground is developing when you're next at the school or get involved in the workdays that are happening. It's very heart-warming to get to be part of the playground process.

Book Week/Costume Parade is coming up on the 31st of August. The theme for this year is '*Curious Creatures and Wild Minds*'. Well, we certainly have a few of those around here! I love seeing how literature inspires children's spirit. It's going to take some creative crafting for that theme, can't wait to see what transpires. (Unfortunately due to COVID-19 restrictions we cannot invite the parents to attend the costume parade).

Our delicious **school lunches** are once again available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for the rest of Term 3. Thank you to the parents and carers who are preparing these nourishing meals for the kids. Helping out in the kitchen is a great way to do some regular roster days. Many hands make light work, so please contact Petria (0427 063 599) if you feel you would like to help out in the kitchen with food prepping, cooking, serving or clean up.

The staff have asked that the committee convey the message to parents that if they will be **late picking their children up from school**, they **MUST** ring and let René in the office know. The teachers use this after school time to prepare for the following day's lessons. If they are supervising children they miss out on this valuable time.

Happy August windy time everyone,
Cushla ☺

School Calendar:

- **Term 3 Ends**
Friday, 23rd Sept
- **Term 4 Begins**
Tuesday, 20th Oct

School Bell:

- School starts: 9:05
- Recess: 11:00-11:30
(Wed 10:30-11:00)
- Lunch: 13:00-13:45
(Wed 12:30-13:15)
- School ends: 14:45

Committee Meeting:

Friday, 28 Aug, 9:30am
Friday, 4 Sept, 9:30am

Drink Bottles:

All children to bring their own drink bottles as part of COVID hygiene measures. **Especially important on Wednesdays for CIRCUS.**

Reminders:

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

No toys, sweets, money or mobile phones are allowed to be brought to school or on the bus.

Important Notices:

Parent/Teacher Meetings:

Please book a time to meet with your child/ren's teacher this week or next week.

New COVID Precautions:

In addition to the hygiene and safety measures we have already put in place, the NSW Health have made the following recommendations to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission in NSW school communities

These measures will be effective as of Wednesday, **19 August 2020**.

NSW Health requires schools to:

- exclude students and staff with even mild symptoms of COVID-19
- encourage immediate testing for any symptomatic children or staff
- prohibit return to school for anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 until a negative COVID test result has been reported and they or are no longer symptomatic.

More information can be found at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/cho-advice-education.aspx>

General Reminder:

No toys, sweets, money or mobile phones are allowed to be brought to school or on the bus.



Spring garden day & annual Holi celebration

In the coming weeks we will be having a **Spring garden day**, however due to COVID-19 restrictions we unfortunately cannot invite the parent community.

Please can you send an **old plain white T-shirt** to school with your child's name on the tag for our annual Holi celebration.



BURIBI (Kindy class)

Hello Families,

We have been reading some wonderful stories in the classroom. The interesting characters have sparked imaginations and wonderful games are continuing to unravel! Next Week we are celebrating Book Week, we hope students can dress up as their favourite character from a book they have been enjoying- *(please see attached note)*.

The students love their Green Time up in the garden, and are seeing results of their efforts, instilling such valuable ownership and pride.

Lilybelle has returned and we are so happy to have her in The Buribi Class. Welcome back to our Chickens too who have been getting all the best attention.



For the last few weeks our class have been developing handwriting skills and simple sentence dictation. We are learning more and more words and how to write them. We are powering through our 'Fast Maths' and have been solving equal quantity sharing problems (division/multiplication). Over the next weeks, we will be investigating data and area while we work on our number formation and counting to 30 forwards and backwards.

Twice a week, we become busy artists! We have been experimenting with Marbling, shapes and colours. We are working towards our first canvas paintings, inspired by artists such as Miro, Kandinsky, Chagall and many others. We have been playing with percussion instruments and singing familiar songs to our combined beats! It has been really fun, the children always want to play with their puppets, so they often appear in the playground at lunchtime too, but don't worry they are all friendly!

Please contact me soon to arrange a meeting so we can discuss how your child's learning journey is going and how we can best support them.

Much Love,
Fiona



2021 KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS: Due to COVID restrictions we are unable to have our usual Open Day for prospective Kindergarten students of 2021. Please contact the school to arrange a meeting where you can ask any questions and visit our lovely classroom and exciting school grounds. I look forward to meeting you and your child soon. Fiona



GOOARNJ (Middle class)

Hi families,

This fortnight we have definitely felt the shift into Spring. Our classroom windows have been open, we've been enjoying the garden, the sunshine, and the chickens being back.

Your kids have been finishing off the draft writing of their wonderful stories, ready for publishing and illustrating in the next fortnight. These stories will be bound into simple books to leave a copy at school or take home.



They have finished off their clay building, where they've made bowls, birds, snakes and dinosaurs. These clay works will be decorated and then fired in the paper kilns that will be made and fired by the Guruman class in week 8.

Next week we will start building our diorama landscapes (thanks to everyone for bringing in a small box for your child), which will form the setting for their next story. I can't wait to see what stories the kids come up with next!

For the rest of the term we will also be learning about the body and its different systems.

If any of you would like to meet with me to discuss your child's learning, now that you've received their mid-year reports, please get in touch to make a time.

Up we Grow,
Ishta

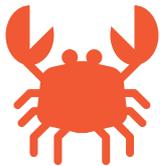




Guruman (Upper class)

Last week was Science Week, and the theme this year is *Deep Blue: innovations for the future of our oceans*. Guruman watched the first in an ABC series *Deep Dive Into Australia's Ocean Odyssey*. What follows is their musings on the presentation:

Symbiotic Anemones.



Anemones have a symbiotic relationship with Clown fish and if they did not have each other they would both perish. Watching baby turtles die is like a horror movie and I think seagulls are pretty cool. Turtles can live up to a hundred but most Turtles don't make it to adulthood.): – *Alice*

Scientists think that there might be up to 1 million species of animals or more, but they are not sure because there are no reliable submarines to safely go that deep. We don't even know how deep the ocean is. – *Aron*

After watching a video for science week, I realised most things in the reef definitely have a symbiotic relationship with other colourful animals or things in the ocean. – *River*

When Nemo isn't living peacefully in a shiny fishbowl, he lives in an anemone with his dad Marlin under the sea. – *Ava*

As there might be a chance that humongous megalodons still exist, scientists are trying their best and working so hard to find out more about the ocean. Think about this. Seventy percent of the world is covered in water, that means all of that water is undiscovered until now. We have now explored 10 percent of 70 percent, but everyone still asks questions. This is one of the questions that I want to know the answer to: what lives in the Mariana trench? – *Malaika*



Nemo symbiotically lives in a sea anemone in the glistening ocean with his kind dad Marlin, because he needs a place to live. – *Eden*



Because so much of the sea is totally inaccessible, some smart scientists think there are tens of millions of sea creatures that we haven't discovered. – *Amelia*

Because seagulls eat baby turtles, the mother sea turtle carefully lays her slimy eggs in a hole in the sand. – *Nala*

Guruman class please bring a set of old clothes to wear during Science activities on Thursdays. You will be getting wet and grubby!



FROM GINGER

Spring is nearly here and it's certainly a warm welcome.

Green time has provided a good opportunity for the children to warm up and engage with their gardens at the start of the day. We welcomed our lovely chickens back with lots of cuddles.

The Buribi class has been working on forces, exploring forces that push and pull or do both and building an understanding of how to design using natural materials. We also built on our sound knowledge by playing a sound treasure hunt in the garden which they loved and will continue to practice.

The Gooyarnj class have begun to explore sacred places within Australia and their significance to certain groups. They are presenting their learnt knowledge in the form of a group project with beautiful pictures and written information.



The Guruman class deepened their understanding of sustainable farming practices during their recent excursion to the 7 Sibley Street's aquaponics, the hemp farm and the Mad Goat grow tunnels. It was very interesting to learn about the different ways we can grow food and use fibres like hemp for clothing, building, medicines and much more. They are currently working on building prototypes of their favourite sustainable farming practices to set up in our school. They have also been building more bird boxes to attract native birds around the school.

Peace, love and aquaponics,
Ginger
SEE Teacher



FROM LISA

I am always reflecting on how special the community is at Tutable: the way the teachers nurture the students and each other, the relationships parents have with each other and the school community, and the relationship each child has with the environment and the animals.

Last week, I went to put the chickens away. Marshall and Theo (chicken whisperers) came with me and as I was ushering a chook into the house, Marshall said “pick it up and hold it like this - hold it against your heart”. I will never forget it. This metaphor for how Tutable kids live with and in nature made me so happy. Nurturing these relationships is everything. I am so glad I can see this part of children’s personalities because of the unique and beautiful setting our school is.



We’ve just seen report cards come home and are reminded of how well the teachers know the children. However, teachers value your input as parents so much. Teachers appreciate information from parents about children and, when parents communicate effectively with teachers about family life, can adapt and empathise when children need a little bit of extra support or freedom. Don’t miss the opportunity to talk to your children’s teacher if you can. And feel free to ask questions about your child at school as teachers see your child in a different environment to home and have valuable insights to share. The benefits of good communication and partnerships are huge!

As teachers we are always aiming to communicate well with students: to model effective communication and conversational skills and show students we value their opinions and judgements. In this way, teachers learn so much about who students are and all of the amazing things they know – I will always remember to hold the chicken close to my heart.

I am at school on Tuesdays if you’d like to touch base with me.

Take care,
Lisa

Learning and Support Teacher

Please be aware that the school may need to go back into lockdown due to a rise in COVID-19 cases in NSW and QLD.

Should this happen, staff will provide assistance and learning materials to support your child's learning at home.

COVID-19: What we are doing to address Health & Safety at school

Our Daily COVID-19 Hygiene Procedures:

1. As usual a major clean is done after the school week by our lovely cleaner Mel, but we have extended the length of time now to include more surface cleaning.
2. TFCS has also employed Sky to sanitise and wipe down all classrooms and publicly shared areas at the end of each day.
3. Staff are wiping down classrooms at recess and lunch.
4. Hand sanitiser dispensers are available in all classrooms and public areas.
5. Children are washing their hands before eating and before entering and leaving the classrooms.
6. Teachers are making hygiene education part of daily activities and are reminding children of good hygiene practices and explaining why it is important.
7. Students are maintaining social distancing in classrooms and outdoors.
8. To ensure safe play time, staff are providing active supervision during recess and lunch.
9. Any staff member or child who displays any cold or flu like symptoms are being instructed to please stay home and will be sent home if deemed unwell.

We ask you to help us by:

1. trying to make the settling in process as quick as possible so as to avoid too many people in the school. To help us limit the number of children and adults in the school setting, please don't hang around and try to avoid bringing other members with you.
2. not allowing your child to bring in toys from home.
3. ensuring you are packing a water bottle and enough food for the day. Students have fruit at munch and crunch, a recess and a lunch. It is preferred that the bubblers are not used.
4. on arriving home, getting your child/ren wash their hands and change their clothes to avoid spreading anything to your family.

**Please contact staff or a committee member if you have any questions or concerns.*