

# Toolamba PS

## “Striving for Excellence”

Values: Respectful, Trustworthy and Inclusive



Dear Parents and Families,

### TUTOR PROGRAM FUNDING

It was exciting to learn that we will receive Tutor Program funding from the Victorian Government in 2021. This is to support students, who, despite staff and parents' combined best efforts, may have fallen behind in their learning because of the disruption caused by COVID-19. This money will enable us to provide intensive Literacy or Numeracy support to identified students for the 2021 year.

Since our resumption to onsite learning, we have been running an Intervention Program where identified students have been receiving small group and one on one instruction linked to their areas off need, several times a week.

### GRADE 6 GRADUATION

At this stage, Graduation will go ahead in a modified form on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December commencing at 5pm. According to the Operational Guidelines Year 6 graduations are permitted face to face in Victorian schools.

Unfortunately, parents/carers and other family members or friends cannot attend in person but will have the opportunity to participate in an online capacity.

Unlike previous years, we will not be having a Graduation Dinner due to COVID restrictions. Instead, the Grade 6 students will have a special excursion on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

### FAUNA PARK

After seeking advice from the Department our normal Grade 1 / 2 Tea and Sleep over could not go ahead. So that the students did not entirely miss out, staff organised a fantastic day at the Fauna Park in Kyabram. The students had a very hands on experience!





## **ORIENTATION DAY**

On Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> December, we will have our Orientation Day for grades for 2021. Fortunately, our Foundation students for 2021 will be able to visit from 9am-1pm. Students will be met in the car park by staff and shown into the classroom. All other students will move into their classes for 2021. As usual, those Grade 5 students who wish to apply for leadership positions in 2021 will have the opportunity to address sections of the school on the day. Classes will also be voting for their Junior School Council representative.

## **YEAR 7 ORIENTATION DAY**

Students attending:

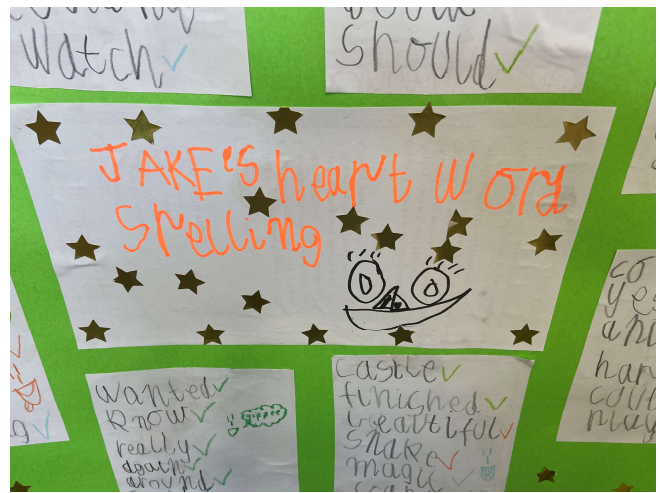
- Notre Dame in 2021 will not have an Orientation Day.



- St Anne's will not have an Orientation Day.
- St Augustine's will not have an Orientation Day.
- Goulburn Valley Grammar will have an Orientation Day.
- Greater Shepparton College will have an Orientation Day.
- The Christian College will have an Orientation Day.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Jake has certainly mastered the spelling and reading of his "Heart Words." Hard work and persistence certainly pays off!



### GRADE 5/6 CAMP

Grade 5 /6 students are heading off to Queenscliff next week for their camp. I am sure they will have a fantastic time.

### FOUND ON CLEMENT BUS

A pair of burgundy coloured glasses have been found on the Clements (Blue) bus. Please contact the office if you recognise them.



Have a lovely weekend ahead,

Regards Heather



## THIS WEEK IN BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

Creative play and construction were popular activities.



### GRADE 3/4

It has been a busy two weeks in the Grade 3 /4 classrooms.

Handwriting is a major focus in the classroom at the moment. This week we have been working on forming clockwise letters (m, n, h, r, k, p, z & x) correctly on the dotted thirds line. Students have been practising these letters while using correct pencil grip and posture in their chairs.

In Reading, we have been focusing on visualising while reading. To do this, students have been listening closely



to texts and using adjectives to help sketch what they have visualised.

We have been working on Tier 2 (wow words) and Tier 3 (technical terms) to support our explanation writing. Students have identified features of these text types through reading 'The Life Cycle of a Moth' and are now working on their own. Grade 3 last week explored 'How a Stapler Works.'

Grade 4 students have continued their Foundation Buddies. Last week we had our final celebration of NAIDOC week by creating dot paintings together. First on black paper, to practise the technique with cotton tips, then transferred these skills on to painting on a stone. Students had a lot of fun trying to keep their work on the table due to the wind.

## **MAKING A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Going to Secondary School is both exciting and scary for many kids. There is excitement about new friends, teachers and ventures, but this can be overshadowed by anxiety and stress. The sheer size of a high school building can be overwhelming to the uninitiated. The potential loss of status when moving from big fish in a small pond to tiny minnow in a large ocean can be hard to swallow for some. Add the increased number of teachers and the hormonal changes that accompany puberty and drive emotional and cognitive development and it is little wonder the first year of secondary school often sees a plateauing in learning. Most kids are flat out making new friends and getting used to how secondary school works, so learning takes a back seat for a time. While it's easier for those who

have a brother or sister already there who can pass on some tips about how to survive secondary school, many don't have that luxury. Fortunately, there are a number of strategies parents can use to make the transition to secondary school easier.

Know the school space

Familiarity helps reduce anxiety. Most secondary schools have familiarisation programs for incoming students but it helps to reinforce with your young person where the key spaces are - such as administration, toilets, the tuck shop and drinking taps.

### **Make the leap with friends**

Negotiating new friendships can be stressful so it helps to identify some friends from primary school or outside school that your child can travel with or meet up before school, at lunch breaks and during times when classes aren't scheduled. This will give them the opportunity to share and compare experiences, which is therapeutic for kids who are experiencing change.

### **Help with planning and organisation**

Some students can be overwhelmed by the organisational demands of secondary school. If your child fits this category, be prepared to be on hand to coach your young person in the finer arts of being on time to class, organising work in folders, planning homework time, handing in multiple assignments and filling out forms.

Set up a designated study space in the home

Now that your young person has hit the big time it's important that they have a study space to call their own. Keep this outside the bedroom if possible - the

bedroom is a space for sleeping and relaxing. Use any area that is reasonably quiet and well lit. Set up a desk with a computer, if possible, along with stationery items.

### **Establish a work schedule**

If your child's primary school homework was given inconsistently then be prepared for a change. Most secondary schools try to coordinate homework between different teachers but there will be more times than not when your child will come home with multiple homework assignments to complete. Build the homework habit early and choose a regular time that allows for breaks. Encourage them to work quickly so that work does not drag on and become demotivating.

### **HEALTH REMINDER**

#### COVID-19 Update

It is important that we all continue to monitor our own and the health of our children daily during this time. If you or your child develops any symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath:

- Stay at home and do not attend school
- Seek medical advice
- Call the school to let us know of any important outcomes
- If you or your child has a health condition or complex health needs, please discuss this with your medical specialist.

- Information about coronavirus (COVID-19) is available on the DHHS.

Our school is continuing to promote and implement on a daily basis both Covid-safe behaviours and practices across our school community. Thank you for your support with the guidelines and, as always, I am proud to belong to such a caring and supportive school community.

### **GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL**

Council currently has almost 100 6-month positions available right now, thanks to the Working for Victoria program funded by the State Government.

These roles range from tree planting, sports ground maintenance, painting to building refurbishment and more.

We have had some feedback that the program isn't currently well-known in our small towns, so it would be great if you could please pass this information through your group when you get a chance.

More information, including step by step guides on how to apply for these roles (in seven languages if needed), can be found here: <https://greatershepparton.com.au/council/employment>

Jobseekers will be asked to sign up with the Sidekicker platform. Once they are signed up, we now have a streamlined process where Council and Sidekicker work together to find a suitable Council role for the applicant.



If you have residents looking for work who have previously had trouble with Sidekicker, or haven't tried Sidekicker yet but want some guidance, please feel free to just send through contact details to [mick.mattingly@shepparton.vic.gov.au](mailto:mick.mattingly@shepparton.vic.gov.au), and we can follow up and get the process moving.

For more information or to register with Sidekicker: [www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria](http://www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria) and <https://www.getsidekicker.com/create-sidekick-account?source=vic-gov-marketplace>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mick Mattingly 58329537:

[mick.mattingly@shepparton.vic.gov.au](mailto:mick.mattingly@shepparton.vic.gov.au)

### **STREET TREES FOR TOOLAMBA**

The Toolamba Town Planning Group in conjunction with the Greater Shepparton City Council are planning to start a scheme to plant suitable trees in the township of Toolamba. Trees will be sourced and funded by the Council and watering in the initial stages of establishment will be undertaken by the Toolamba CFA. Tree height near powerlines and placement near drains will be considered.

It has been decided that trees should be exotic and deciduous to give contrast with the surrounding native bush as is the case with Bright. Native trees do not make good street trees and their considerable leaf and other debris they drop throughout the year makes their upkeep difficult.

It is planned to start planting in Autumn in selected parts of the town. Where trees are to be planted outside a resident's property, they will be notified. No action will be taken if a resident does not want to participate.

Treeing towns is now considered important and has become known as the urban forest project. Canopy cover is a measure of how much area is shaded by trees. It is considered the most efficient (and cheapest) method for reducing the heat in towns.

Keith Bryant

For the Toolamba Planning Group

### **TOOLAMBA LIONS CLUB**

The Lions Club would like to invite you to decorate your letterbox for Christmas. The Lions Club are running a competition for the best decorated letterbox with prizes to be won.

The judging will be carried out Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Prizes will be vouchers from the Coles Group.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - \$50

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - \$30

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - \$20

### **LADIES SOCIAL TWILIGHT TENNIS**

Join us for a hit and giggle in a relaxed and friendly environment. All abilities welcome.

When : Thursday nights, 6.30pm

Starts : 22 October

Cost : \$60 per person (2020/21)

## HOT SHOTS – COMMUNITY PLAY

At this stage we plan on running a Hot Shots program in Term 1 next year.

For any enquiries, please contact:

Mel Calleja on 0488 004 004

## CALENDAR

Thur 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	School Council 6pm
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	} Grade 5 / 6 Camp
Nov - Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	
Tue 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Grade 6 Graduation <b>(Note change of date)</b>
Thur 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Day Students <b>(Note change of date)</b>
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Curriculum Day (No Students)

## ADVERTISEMENTS




Physio & Podiatry

E: [admin@gvsportscare.com.au](mailto:admin@gvsportscare.com.au)  
PH: 0417600532  
W: [111.gvsportscare.com.au](http://111.gvsportscare.com.au)

Physiotherapist, Sophie Woodhouse enjoys treating a mix of sports and spinal injuries.

Tom Davey is a biomechanical and sports focused Podiatrist, who is also skilled in general nail and diabetic care.

Sophie and Tom are excited to move back to Shepparton and work in the Goulburn Valley!



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