

THE TAYLOR TIMES



Newsletter No. 9, Week 8 - Term 2
 Date: 19 June 2015
 Taylor Primary School
 Marconi Crescent
 Kambah ACT 2902

School Contact Numbers

Phone 6142 3000 (Front Office) Email admin@taylorps.act.edu.au Website http://www.taylorps.act.edu.au Facebook 	Principal Simon Smith Deputy Alison Williams Executive John Muir Field Officer Jodi de Ligt Business Manager Roselyne Burge	Board Representative Board Chair Louise Newey Ph: 0412104147 Canteen 6142 3008 P&C President Melanie Selems
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS THIS FORTNIGHT

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
Friday 26 th June	Camp Payment 2: \$70	Year 5 /6 Students
Monday 29 th June	National Gallery Excursion	Year 5 /6 Students
Friday 26 th June	SRC Assembly	9.10am

Dear Parents and Carers,



It's that time of year again where teachers are busily preparing the semester report for parents. Reports will be sent home next week for your child. Enclosed in the report package will be information regarding teacher interview times for week 10. I would encourage you to make an appointment with your child's classroom teacher as soon as you receive this time sheet. It's a great opportunity to celebrate the growth of your child in the social and academic setting of school.

Our school report is an outcomes based report that provides information to parents about the level of skill development through a detailed checklist for each subject and a teacher comment. It is accompanied by a PIP report for kindergarten students and an A-E Report for students Year 1 -6.

The grades represent a student's progress against the Australian Curriculum achievement standards. I have included a description of what these grades mean below.

C – A C grade is what we expect students in a year group to achieve at the end of the year. It is an end of year outcome. A 'C' result is a good result.

A- If your child receives an A grade result it means that they are working well above the anticipated level for their cohort. At this level they would be provided with extension activities in class. An 'A' is an outstanding result.

B- Accordingly a 'B' grade means they are working above their cohort at a level higher than is expected for their year group. At this level students would also be given extension activities in class.

D- Accordingly the award of a 'D' grade means that your child is not yet working at their expected year level. They may require assistance to consolidate their understanding or skills. In older students it can sometimes mean that they are not applying themselves to their studies and that very little work is being produced for teachers to assess.

E- When a student receives an 'E' grade it means that they are just beginning to develop their skills and understanding in an area. Students at 'E' level require extra assistance to make academic gain. It can also mean that there is very limited work being produced and assessment is very difficult.

My key message to you at this time of reporting is that a 'C' is a good result- especially for a mid - year report. Preschool and Kindergarten students do not receive an 'A-E' report.

Please ensure you make an appointment with your child's teacher during interview week where any questions or concerns can be answered and celebrate your child's success and gains in whatever areas they are achieving. I would encourage you to take up this opportunity as a positive way of developing the important links between school and home. For our students who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander this meeting is also an opportunity to create a personalised learning plan and set goals for learning.

This week also saw the milestone of our Breakfast Club celebrating a first birthday. Thank you to our parent volunteers who continue to facilitate this program for our community. I would also like to thank Kambah Village Woolworths for their ongoing support of the program. How lucky we are to have this community partnership with such a supportive connection.

Our Preschool Parent Association timed things perfectly with Wednesday being a great day for a lovely warm soup lunch. Families enjoyed the delicious social event in between Wednesday's morning and afternoon session. Thank you to everyone who prepared soup for the event and for organising another successful social occasion for our preschool families.

It was nice to finally see the sun today- a week of inside play doesn't make for a lot of fun at school (for students and staff) and students were thrilled to be able to get outside and have a good run to end their week. Hopefully the sunshine will continue into the weekend for everyone.

Have a good weekend,

Alison

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to all the students who have a birthday coming up this fortnight!!!

Preschool – Caden, Evelyn, Ava, Timothy **Kindergarten** – Alice, Aren, Zane

3 / 4 – Chelsea, PJ, Lensang, Benny, Sarah, Andy, Seth **5 / 6** – Latisha-Lee

Taylor Primary P&C Update

Hope everyone has been keeping warm and dry! Thank you to those families who have already picked up a box of chocolates from the front office. For those who haven't, there are still some boxes available! The money raised will help support the ongoing viability of our canteen and its facilities. The P&C are committed to providing a quality canteen for our children.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 22 June at 7.30pm to 9.00pm in the Boardroom. Everyone is welcome to come along!

Kind Regards
Melanie



Don't forget to pick up your box of chocolates from the front office to help support the P&C!

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Raise only-children to be smart and social

Only-children have an image problem. It seems they, or at least their parents, always have to explain their 'singleness'. This is a throwback to the days when families were typically large and a small family usually indicated medical, social or personal problems.

These days having just one child is often simply a matter of choice.

One thing is certain. If school achievement and self-esteem are used as measures of a well-adjusted child, most parents would stop at one. Only-children repeatedly do well on these measures, presumably due to the hothouse effect in which they are more heavily exposed to adult language and concepts in the critical early years than children in a larger brood.

A similar effect can be seen in first-born children, who are generally fully exposed to their parent's language and thoughts (and hang-ups) for the first few years of their lives. Middle children, by comparison, probably hear more sibling language than parent language in their early years.

In a book by Michel Grose [Why first borns rule the world and last borns want to change it](#) he wrote that only-children never experience the ignominy of dethronement so they get 100 per cent of both parental attention and parental expectations. They get equal measures of pampering and pressure!

Single children don't have to wait in line to use the bathroom, pass the peas to a sibling at the kitchen table, or duck and weave when a bored or irritated sibling wants to take a shot at them.

It's often thought that children, especially only-children, who spend a great deal of time alone aren't socially able. But the research doesn't stack up in support of this notion. While some only-children are flummoxed by teasing at school, others are so confident and vocabulary rich that other children won't dare bait them.

In some ways only-children have a big advantage over other children: by spending more time alone they are able to feel comfortable in their own skins. This self containment and ability to go deeper into their imaginations is quite a plus for many only-children. It may be also be why most only-children are more than happy with their 'single' status.

Parents of only-children are often very aware of the potential deficits of the situation so they compensate by making sure their child has plenty of sleepovers; that the child is socially active through involvement in sports and interest groups; and that they create situations in which the child is able to learn that the world doesn't revolve around them.

I suspect the notion of being comfortable (in their own skins) and having parents and teachers who compensate (for any deficits) lies at the heart of successfully raising kids without siblings.

Here some practical ways to help only children become smart and social:

1. Help them wait their turn: Make a concentrated effort not to spoil or over-indulge your only child. Parents of singles are frequently in a better position than parents of large families to grant them their every wish. Often single children learn for the first time when they go to school that they can't have everything they want when they want, which comes as a shock. So get in the habit of waiting until their birthday or Christmas until they get big ticket item such as a bikes as would occur in a large family. Also limit treats so they learn to patience and restraint. Resist the temptation to always give your single what they want just because you can.
2. Encourage your single child to mix with other children regularly: Single children don't have the same opportunities to share their time and space with others nor care for someone else in the family. Ensure your child spends time with other children so they can develop the important social skill of sharing and also teach how families with siblings function.
3. Make sure they keep pets: Single children generally don't have the chance to care for others so keeping a pet is one practical opportunity for them to learn to look after something or someone other than themselves. Later in life they can also struggle as parents as they haven't learned to care for anyone but themselves as children. Looking after their own pets, or tending the family pooch, helps them develop the trait of reliability and develop the skills of nurturance, both essential for successful future adult relationships.

By Michael Grose

Preschool News.

Well, we are almost half way there. The children have grown so much since they began way back in February. As we write our reports we have been able to reflect on the wonderful changes that have taken place with each child. We hope you enjoy reading them when you receive them next week. We will also include a brief survey which we would love to have some feedback about the reports. Interviews will also be available in week 10 for families who wish to discuss their child's progress. Either speak to staff or ring Maree at the front office and she will allocate you a time. (61423000)

The STARS have enjoyed continuing to learn about clouds and the weather. We have been able to see how many sunny days we've had and this week enjoyed using our rainy day stickers on our weather charts. They have also enjoyed turning the home play area into a 'secret cubby house'.

The COMETS are continuing to enjoy the Hairdressing Salon and finding more information about transport. The children loved making their planes and helicopters and watching them fly and will be looking at what makes things float next week.

The RAINBOWS have welcomed Annemarie back with much enthusiasm. They have been investigating what makes a windy day and watching their seeds grow that Helen had helped them plant. They enjoyed watching their year 1 / 2 buddies present at the Assembly last week.

Our wonderful Parent Association committee organised a very successful Soup Lunch for families on Wednesday. It was a wonderful opportunity to get all our families together. The children and parents thoroughly enjoyed the soups provided. It was lovely to see the children from across the 3 groups playing together. It was a perfect rainy day for soup so we were all pleased.



KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The Kindergarten children would like to thank Miss Nedic for teaching them some wonderful lessons. We all wish her well as she continues her studies.

The school canteen is open every Thursday and Friday. We have noticed that many children are having lunch orders and money to spend on the same day. The lunch orders are quite large and the children are so excited about going to the canteen that food is being wasted. A suggestion is to have a lunch order one day and money to spend the other day.

Thank you for your continued help with the home reading program. It really does reap benefits for the children.

Lost property: Ruby from KH has lost a pink library bag with the book inside. Tyson from KH has lost a Taylor jumper. Could you please return to KH if found?

Zane went to Sydney to visit Uzair and his family.



Regards Angela Arblaster and Kathryn Hope.

YEAR 1 / 2

Year 1/2 have been lucky enough to have three pre-service teachers working in our classrooms. We would like to welcome, Luke Thompson, Madison Miller and Kelsey Burns to the 1/2 team.

Money! Money! Money! The children have been learning about coins and notes and their value. We have been discussing how we spend and save money. The children have been dreaming about how they would spend a million dollars. Here are a few suggestions:

I would spend my money on Zani Land and no parents would be allowed. There would be lollies everywhere. (Zani).

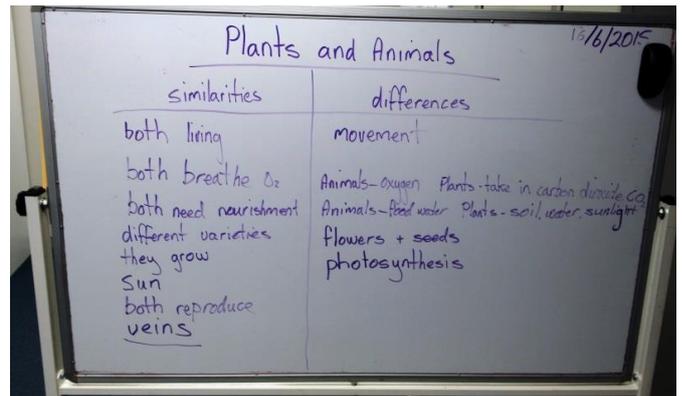
I would buy a Ferrari because they are fast. (Tommy).

I would buy a limo and travel around the countryside. (Owen).

I would buy a mansion with a swimming pool and I would pay someone to carry me around. (Teegan).

The last day for library borrowing will be Thursday week 9. Please return all library books to the library for collating. As the weather gets colder children are bringing in a variety of warm clothing. Please remember to label all jumpers and coats to ensure misplaced items can be returned.

YEAR 3 / 4



Students in the 3/4 unit are really enjoying our science unit about *Living Things*. We have been learning about ecosystems and the living things that rely on each other and their habitat to survive, among many other interesting things. The photographs above show the students investigating the complexity of Antarctica's food chain and our brainstorm on the differences and similarities between plants and animals. The photographs below show the students experiment with plants to see how their 'veins' transport nutrients throughout it and tracking it with food dye.



From Lee-Anne, Steph and the 3/4 Unit

SCHOOL NOTICE BOARD

ON-LINE PAYMENTS

On-line payment facilities are available at Taylor for the payment of excursions, camps and contributions then send an email to admin@taylorps.act.edu.au

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

BSB: 032-777
Account no: 001818
Reference no: Student name, Class



NO NUTS AT TAYLOR ALLERGY FRIENDLY SCHOOL

Please be aware that we have students in our school who have extreme life threatening allergy to nuts and nut products. We therefore ask you to not send your child to school with peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches and any other snacks that contain nuts. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

**CANTEEN
OPEN
THURSDAYS AND
FRIDAYS**

Breakfast Club

**Come have breakfast
with your friends every
Wednesday morning.
8.15 – 8.50am
Gold Coin Donation**

WANTED

**YEAR 1 / 2
WOULD LIKE
ALL YOUR OLD
SHIRTS AND
NEWSPAPERS
FOR ART.**

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Media Assistant; Results Manager

We need your help to make sure this football festival is
a success!

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- Event Uniform
- Meals during the week
- Access to various social events
- Valuable experience in running one of CBR's largest events
- Event Certificate

Click [HERE](#) to register your interest

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Expert Panel **Students with Complex Needs and Challenging Behaviour**

Professor Anthony Shaddock | Dr Sue Packer | Mr Alasdair Roy

Does your child need support to manage their behaviour so that they can learn at school?

The Expert Panel has been appointed by the Minister to review policy and practice for supporting and teaching students with complex needs and challenging behaviours in ACT public, independent and Catholic schools.



Public consultation

Students with Complex Needs and Challenging Behaviours
A review of policy and practice in ACT schools

We want to hear from you

The Expert Panel would like to hear from families and students about your experiences at ACT schools.

We are also interested in your suggestions for improving policy and practice in ACT schools for children with complex needs and challenging behaviours.

How to contact us

Written comments can be provided to the Expert Panel by email: expert.panel@act.gov.au

by mail: Expert Panel
GPO Box 730
Canberra ACT 2601

Submissions will be kept confidential but may be quoted without names or identifying information in the Panel's Final Report.

If you would like to speak with the Expert Panel please call us on 0457 631 184.

Submissions are due by 31 July 2015.

Are you the parent/carer of a child with a disability commencing primary (kindergarten) school in 2016?

The Education and Training Directorate is holding information sessions for parents/carers of children with a disability who are commencing primary school in 2016.

Hedley Beare
Centre for Teaching and Learning
Fremantle Drive, Stirling

Monday 29 June
1.00-2.30pm
or
Tuesday 30 June
6.00-7.30pm

The session will cover the following topics:

- The types of Disability Education programs available
- Transition to primary school
- The application process
- The Student Centred Appraisal of Need process

To RSVP or for further information contact:
Jean.walker@act.gov.au or on 6205 7903