13th March, 2013

We Want Your Opinion About Homework

This term we are revising the school’s homework policy and we would like your input. Homework is one of those areas where we can’t please everyone. No matter what we set, some parents will think that it is too much and others will think that it is not enough. Some parents relish the opportunity to work on school projects with their kids while others dread the arrival of a project to be done at home. For some, homework is difficult to fit in amongst all the other after-school commitments while, for others, it gives children something to focus on while dinner is being prepared.

The jury is still out on the effectiveness of homework as a learning tool. Many studies have been done with a huge variety of results. The highly respected educator and researcher, John Hattie, rates homework as fairly low on his list of things which have an effect on student learning.

If you have an opinion about homework, we would be grateful if you would spend a minute completing the short survey in this newsletter and returning it to school by Wednesday of next week. We will use you responses to help guide the revised policy.

Volunteer Needed

We need a parent who can spare an hour or so a few times a week to help us help a Year 5 student who requires some individual assistance with classwork. No experience is necessary - just a desire to help someone who needs a bit of a boost. Please contact me through the school office if you think that you might be able to assist.

Fundraising Dinner

On the evening of Friday, May 17th, there will be a fundraising dinner for the Blue Dragon Children’s Foundation at Sapa Restaurant, Wamberal. The dinner will be a Vietnamese banquet (including wine) and is $65 per person. Blue Dragon founder and CEO, Michael Brosowski, will speak about the problem of child trafficking and what Blue Dragon is doing about it. There will be raffles and an auction as well to support this great cause.

If you would like to organise a table of 4 or more, please contact me at the school. We are limiting the evening to 45 people so if you are interested, get in quickly.
Welcome Disco a Success

It was a beautiful evening for the ‘Welcome’ Disco and Barbecue last Friday and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. I’d like to convey a big thanks to Mel Laver for organising the event and to all the mums, dads and teachers who volunteered their time to help make the night a success.

Evan Campbell
Principal

COMING EVENTS

Thursday 14th March          Selective High School Test
Friday 22nd March            School Photos
Wednesday 27th March        Start Smart Banking Lessons
                             Easter Raffle Draw
Thursday 28th March          Easter Hat Parade - K-2
Friday 29th March             Good Friday Holiday
Monday 1st April             Easter Monday Holiday
Wednesday 3rd April          Cake Stall
Thursday 4th April           Girrakool Excursion - Year 4
Thursday 11th April          Girrakool Excursion - Year 3
Friday 12th April             Anzac Service
                             Last day of Term 1

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KBlue</th>
<th>Paul &amp; Noah</th>
<th>KRed</th>
<th>Jack &amp; Riley</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KYellow</td>
<td>Matthew &amp; Declan</td>
<td>K/1P</td>
<td>Jarrod &amp; Marnie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Kyle &amp; Jay-Be</td>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Tyson &amp; Chelsea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Allee &amp; Austin</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td>Reiley &amp; Emily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Charlotte &amp; Drew</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Georja &amp; Kye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3M</td>
<td>Thomas &amp; Taylah</td>
<td>3P</td>
<td>Jeremy &amp; Jazmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4L</td>
<td>Muskan &amp; Milly</td>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Kaylee &amp; Nyah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4H</td>
<td>Renee &amp; Pranav</td>
<td>5TK</td>
<td>Harper &amp; Tash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5W</td>
<td>Bailey &amp; Noah</td>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Kingi &amp; Shayla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6T</td>
<td>Han &amp; Madison</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

K - 2 KLA AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KBlue</th>
<th>Kaleigh</th>
<th>KRed</th>
<th>Caleb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KYellow</td>
<td>Owen</td>
<td>K/1P</td>
<td>Trenton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Layla</td>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Sean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Melanie</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td>Fred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Tayla</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Abbey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next week’s assembly will be run by 1/2B.
2W’S THOUGHTS ON PEER SUPPORT

I thought Peer Support was fun because I met new people. - Emily R.
I thought Peer Support was interesting because I liked meeting new people. - Charlotte
At Peer Support we talked about ourselves. - Angel
I thought Peer Support was fantastic because you can learn and play games. - Jacob
I thought it was fun because you get to meet new people. - Macayla
Peer Support is fun because it helps us to learn and we get to play games. - Isaac
Yesterday at Peer Support it was fun meeting new friends and new leaders. - Kira
I like Peer Support because we get to play games and do drawing. - Ethan
Peer Support is awesome because it makes me learn new thing. - Reiley
I like Peer support because it is interesting and fun. - Mason
At Peer Support it was awesome because we met new people. - Roxanne
Peer Support is fun because we play games and we get to meet new people. - Janessa
At Peer Support it was very exciting because I met new friends. - Ryan
Yesterday at Peer Support we made a name tag because our leader needed to know our names. - Rhiannon
I like my leader because he is funny. - Fred
I thought Peer Support was fun because we meet new people and get new friends. - Max
Peer Support is fun because it’s fun and you get to meet new friends. - Paige
I think that Peer Support was fun because we know new kids. - Brianna
I think Peer Support is interesting because you get to learn about bullying and playing new games. - Emily B.
I thought Peer Support was interesting and exciting. - Samantha
When everyone was in my group I was nervous. At the end I won a prize and it was a new texta. - Lily
I really liked it in Peer Support because there are lots of fun things to learn. - Kyson

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

Congratulations to Callum of class 6D whose School Contribution envelope was drawn from the barrel on Friday. Callum has won a free lunch at the canteen. That was the last draw. The response to the School Contributions has been very pleasing. If you haven’t yet sent yours in, please do so as soon as possible.
PBL - UNIFORM REVIEW

Through recent discussions with students, staff and parents our PBL committee decided to audit the wearing of school uniform by students across the span of a week. Each classroom teacher audited how many students were in full school uniform and recording the data. The PBL committee has collated the data and the findings are presented below along with suggested strategies for parents/caregivers to assist the school in implementing the school uniform policy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Percentage in full school uniform</th>
<th>Percentage out of full school uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Stage 1 (Kindy)</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1 (Yrs 1 &amp; 2)</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2 (Yrs 3 &amp; 4)</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3 (Yrs 5 &amp; 6)</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School Population</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>83.5%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Suggested strategies to assist implementation of correct school uniform across the school:

- Ensure correct shoes are worn everyday (black covered shoes with black shoelaces). Coloured laces are not part of the school uniform. Students may wear coloured sports shoes on their designated sports day.
- Sport day uniforms include royal blue shorts, skirts and skorts - NOT black. Please provide your child with the correct colour sports uniform on their designated sports day.
- Girls have the options of skirts and skorts on sports days - Black 3/4 tights and small boy leg tights are not appropriate.
- Jewellery - studs or sleeper earrings, a signet ring, a necklace (worn under uniform) and wrist watch may be worn.
- Hair ties, scrunchies and ribbons are to be royal blue or the same material as the girls' tunic design pattern. These are available for purchase at the Uniform Shop.
- The wide brim royal blue school hat with the Tuggerah PS logo on the front is the only hat to be worn at school. Students wearing caps will be asked to put them in their bags and will be required to play under the COLA as per our Sun Protection Policy.
- Socks must be worn with shoes on all days for health and hygiene reasons. Please ensure your child has socks on every day.

We will be conducting an audit again on the uniform being worn in the school during an unnamed week later this term to see if our intervention and communication to parents has improved this issue. The results of this evaluative audit will be communicated to you through a future newsletter.


The School Uniform Shop also have a page on our website where you can download the latest price list of available items and ensure that your child is being provided with the highest quality clothing within our school dress code guidelines. [http://www.tuggerah.ps.education.nsw.gov.au/uniformShop.html](http://www.tuggerah.ps.education.nsw.gov.au/uniformShop.html)

We appreciate your co-operation and assistance in reinforcing our school uniform. We feel that our uniform is neat and tidy, engenders a sense of pride and belonging and unites students equally under the banner of Tuggerah PS. Many thanks for your support.
**CANTEEN**

Well we were very lucky with the weather for the Welcome Disco - it was perfect!! Thank you for all coming, I hope you all had a fun family night. We raised over $2,000 which was given to the P&C on Monday night to use towards the children during the year. A huge thanks to all the wonderful parent volunteers who helped out on the BBQ, in the canteen, on the glow and entry tables, packing away and cleaning up - we couldn’t do it without you all! Much appreciation to the teachers and staff who stayed back to help out and supervise. Special thanks to our Awesome DJ Mark Johnson, Carnival extraordinaires Danny and Michelle Harrington and their children from Piccolos Parties and Gary Brady with his super snow cones and coffee van who all made generous donations to the school. We are very lucky to have such fab parents at our school and all are available for parties, functions etc.

The canteen will be having a special Easter order day on Wednesday 25th March which for a change is for recess. The order form is in today’s newsletter please return with money as soon as possible with the last day being Tuesday morning 24th March unfortunately no late orders can be taken after this day. Please see me for any special dietary needs.

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**Canteen Roster for Thursday 14th March to Wednesday 20th March, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday 14/03/13</th>
<th>Friday 15/03/13</th>
<th>Monday 18/03/13</th>
<th>Tuesday 19/03/13</th>
<th>Wednesday 20/03/13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mel Laver</td>
<td>Mel Laver</td>
<td>Mel Laver</td>
<td>Mel Laver</td>
<td>Mel Laver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toni Smith</td>
<td>Cassey Parker</td>
<td>Donna Cunningham</td>
<td>Karen Hamilton</td>
<td>Cassey Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Erickson</td>
<td>Annette Daly</td>
<td>Sam McClure</td>
<td>Hanna Mulder</td>
<td>Toni Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Macri</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robyn Sutcliffe</td>
<td>Heather Stewart</td>
<td>Sharon Jacobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Cook</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**YEAR 6 POLO SHIRTS**

All year 6 students have tried sample sizes and been given an order form for the Year 6 Polo shirt.

The sample shirts are available in Mrs Duke’s room until Friday March 15th if parents would like to view them. Orders must be placed by March 22nd at the latest.

Thank you, Mrs Duke

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**LIBRARY HELP NEEDED**

Currently we have some books that need covering. Are you able to help please? Plastic and sticky tape is provided as well as a demonstration if you like. You can also do the covering at home. Please ring or call in to the library if you can help.

Margaret O’Neill
HOMEWORK REVIEW SURVEY

Due to recent research and current publications in the media the practice of homework has come under review in all aspects of schooling. Whilst there are arguments for and against homework, it seems that research points to some key features of homework:

- Homework can be good for revision of curriculum content studied in the classroom
- Homework provides responsibility for students
- Homework can cause stress in some families
- Homework demands time which is not always available in many households

We as educators believe that each of the above statements hold true for homework in our school, however we are very interested in your thoughts and feelings on the current processes and practice of homework from Kindergarten to Year 6. We are intending to review our current policy and value your opinion. Please read the following survey questions and take the time to complete the survey and return to school by Wednesday, 20th March. We appreciate your cooperation and assistance.

Homework Survey – please return to school by Wednesday 20th March

1. Please list details of your children attending Tuggerah Public School:
   - Child 1: M/F (Circle) Grade: ___________
   - Child 2: M/F (Circle) Grade: ___________
   - Child 3: M/F (Circle) Grade: ___________

2. Does your child regularly complete homework?  
   - Yes / No

3. On average, how long do your children spend working on homework (including Projects) each week? Please circle
   - Child 1: 0-30 mins 30-60 mins 60-90 mins 90–120 mins
   - Child 2: 0-30 mins 30-60 mins 60-90 mins 90–120 mins
   - Child 3: 0-30 mins 30-60 mins 60-90 mins 90–120 mins

4. On average how much time do you spend helping your children with homework each week?  
   - 0-30 mins 30-60 mins 60-90 mins 90–120 mins More than 2 hours

5. Do you feel that homework reinforces classroom learning and curriculum?  
   - Yes / No

6. Do you think that homework would be more beneficial if it incorporated life skills and home tasks? (eg, making bed, preparing meals, looking after the pet………………..)  
   - Yes / No

7. Would you like to see homework (in any form) continue at Tuggerah PS?  
   - Yes / No

8. a. Please list any extra curricular activities your children do after school, (e.g. dance, karate, sport)
   - Activity ___________________________ Time spent per week: ___________
   - Activity ___________________________ Time spent per week: ___________
   - Activity ___________________________ Time spent per week: ___________

   b. Do these activities make it difficult for your child to complete homework  
   - Yes/No/Not Applicable

Please add any other comments on the issue of homework that may be valuable in this survey.

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Welcome to PBL News for this week.

Congratulations to the Great Mates from Week 7:
Monday – Janessa M (2W)
Tuesday – No Winner
Wednesday – James P (6T)
Thursday – Samantha P (4H)
Friday – No Winner

This week the assembly focus is: **Straight Lines**. Remember, the mystery teacher is always watching.

Melinda Sheargold (PBL committee member)

**REMINDER YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION**

The expression of interest and deposit of $70 to reserve a place for your child on the Year 6 trip to Canberra is due this Friday March 15th. It is vital that you indicate your intentions by this date so that we confirm our bookings at the many attractions we plan to visit. A copy of the permission slip is attached below.

PLEASE SEND MONEY AND NOTE WITH IN A SEALED ENVELOPE WITH NAME AND AMOUNT ON THE FRONT TO GIVE TO THE CLASS TEACHER.
* NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT MUST BE PAID BY Friday March 15th *

☐ I have enclosed $70.00 as a deposit.
FUNDRAISING NEWS

Easter Egg Raffle - LAST TWO WEEKS AND WE NEED MORE EGGS!!
If anyone has any baskets, Easter themed gift bags or cellophane to donate for the raffle, please leave them with the office. Again this year, we are asking for families to donate Easter Eggs for the Easter Raffle. **Each child who donates an egg will be given a free ticket in the raffle.**

ALL TICKETS (sold or unsold) AND MONIES TO BE RETURNED BY 22ND MARCH. The price per ticket is $1.00. The raffle will be drawn on the Wednesday 27th March and remember the more eggs donated the more prizes there will be to win!!

Please see the office ladies if you require additional raffle tickets to sell.

Footy Tipping - LAST FEW WEEKS

ENTRY FEE - $20 PER PERSON. $10 from the entry fee will be the fundraising component - The remaining $10 will be prize money. Entry fee is to be paid in one lump sum. The fee is to be paid in cash only and sent to school in an envelope. Please include your name & your footy tips name (if different) and also your child’s name and class.
The competition runs from 7th MARCH. Money is due in by 28TH MARCH

All rules and prize money information can be found on the competition page. How to Join:
1. Go to oztips - au.oztips.yahoo.com
2. Select register button on the homepage and set up a logon if you don’t already have one.
3. Once you have successfully registered a username & password, click “join a comp” button. You will be asked for an oztips competition number and password.

**Competition Number - 290035 ~ Password -tuggps ~ Name of the competition is TPS NRL TIPPING**

Any problems or questions please contact Jenny (0403027477)

Prize Pool:
As most of you are aware we have a themed A-thon and vary of raffles throughout the year. We depend on community businesses donations to make these events a success. These donations range from retail vouchers, fuel vouchers, zoo & park passes, car care products and lots more.
If we all could ask our employers or anyone of interest for a kind donation it would be highly appreciative. If you require further information such as a formal letter of request than please email Kylie on Fundraising.tps@gmail.com. If you do receive a kind donation please place it in a clearly marked envelope ‘fundraising prize pool’ and leave it with the ladies at the office. Please remember we **cannot** accept cash, all prizes need to be in a form of a product or a voucher.
In advance, thank you for your assistance.

Thank you, Fundraising Team.
SPECIAL EASTER RECESS ORDER DAY

To celebrate Easter we will be having something different - a special Easter recess order day. It will be on Wednesday 27th March. All orders and money need to be in to the canteen by Tuesday 26th March. If there are any special dietary requirements please see me. Please attach orders to a lunch bag. All children that order will go into the draw for a chance to win some prizes.

Happy Easter,
Mel

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THE EASTER BUNNY PACK  -  $3.00

Name_________________________________ Class ________________

A bun of your choice  -  Please tick one bun

Fruit hot cross bun    □    Fruit- less hot cross bun    □
Chocolate hot cross bun □    Finger bun    □
   Buttered □    No Butter □

With a Drink  -  Please tick one drink

Chocolate Moove □    Orange Juice □
Strawberry Moove □    Apple Juice □
Banana Moove □    Bottle of Water □

Plus Easter Treat

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THE EASTER BUNNY PACK  -  $3.00

Name_________________________________ Class ________________

A bun of your choice  -  Please tick one bun

Fruit hot cross bun    □    Fruit- less hot cross bun    □
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Strawberry Moove □    Apple Juice □
Banana Moove □    Bottle of Water □

Plus Easter Treat