



# Tyalla Primary School

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We acknowledge the Gumbayngirr Peoples as the traditional custodians of our School lands

## NEWSLETTER No. 13 - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2009

Dear Parents,

For many of our parents, the information below may not be relevant. Your children may be too young yet to be dealing with the issue of mobile phones. It won't be long though before the real world sets in and your awareness of issues will need to be heightened.

You may be aware of recent media, on the use of mobile phones to send provocative images. This is an issue of concern particularly for parents of adolescents. Parents are urged to warn children about the dangers of 'sexting' as it is known - the growing trend for young people to send provocative images of themselves to their friends via mobile phones. Once photos are sent, it is an almost instant push of the button to forward them or load them onto the internet. These pictures then become part of a young person's 'digital footprint', lasting forever and potentially damaging future career prospects or relationships.

Images sent by mobile phone can easily fall into the wrong hands, and once they are in cyberspace it is impossible to remove them or control who sees them. More and more young people seem to be distributing highly suggestive or even sexually explicit photos of themselves to their friends, often without a real understanding of the consequences. The easy availability of new technologies and social networking sites can turn what can seem an innocent joke or flirtatious fun into a potentially devastating experience - with young girls most at risk.

Sexting can lead to public humiliation, cyberbullying, or even sexual assault. The message to young people is - don't post images of yourself and don't distribute any sent to you.

It is illegal to take sexual photos of children and young people and it is also an offence to pass them on. Parents are encouraged to get advice on sexting through the 24-hr parenting advice line, Parent Line 1300 1300 52. The line is staffed by highly trained and experienced counsellors.

Parents can learn about how technology is used in their child's life by visiting the Education Department's website [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/technology/index.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/technology/index.php).

### Tips for parents

- Warn your children about the consequences of sexting.
- Remind children to think before they act.
- Tell children that sending or possessing child pornography is illegal.
- Warn them about sexual predators.
- Parents should learn how to use and monitor their children's mobile phones.
- Parents should check photo galleries on their children's Facebook and MySpace accounts.
- Give your children clear rules on what they can and can't do with their mobile phone.

Isn't technology a wonderful thing? Stay alert and keep your child safe.

This week's quote: *'Fairness is a minimal starting point for an acceptable outcome.'*

Enjoy your week.

Sue Mackay - Principal

*A Great School in a Great Environment*

## School Calendar 2009

### TERM 1

Student Term  
Commences 28/1  
Concludes 9/4

### TERM 2

Student Term  
Commences 29/4  
Concludes 10/7

### TERM 3

Student Term  
Commences 28/7  
Concludes 2/10

### TERM 4

Student Term  
Commences 19/10  
Concludes 16/12

## IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 7/5: School Cross Country  
Friday 6/5: Mothers' Day Stall  
Tuesday 12/5: Naplan Tests commence.  
Wednesday 13/5: Naplan Day 2  
Thursday 14/5: Naplan Day 3  
Otitis Media Hearing Checks  
Friday 15/5: Otitis Media Hearing Checks  
Tuesday 19/5: Canteen Committee Meeting  
In staffroom - 2.30pm  
Monday 25/5: P&C Meeting at 7pm.

**LIBRARY NEWS** - May is National Family Month.

To celebrate, we are making a display of photos of

**"FAMILIES READING TOGETHER"**

**"at the beach - in bed - on the lounge - in the garden"  
are just a few ideas.**

Be adventurous! Send in your photos by 21<sup>st</sup> May (Next Friday).

Join in the fun! - all entries will receive a prize!

Kids who read succeed

Julie Morgan

Teacher/Librarian



## WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY - FRIDAY 15TH MAY



National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is a day to promote & raise awareness about the importance of physical activity and health. With over 25% of Australian children being overweight or obese, it is vital that physical activity be part of their everyday routine. An excellent way for children to enjoy physical activity is walking with a parent/caregiver to school or walking to the bus stop or driving some of the way to school & walking the rest of the way together. Even if you make it once a week - i.e Walking Wednesdays - you & your child will benefit. For further details about WSTSD go to the website [www.walk.com.au](http://www.walk.com.au).

**SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY** - The school cross country event will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> May on the school oval. Races for students who are 5, 6, and 7 years of age will commence at 12 noon and races for students who are 8, 9, 10, 11, 12/13yrs will commence at 1.50pm.

All students are expected to participate. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

Students who are placed in the top 10 positions will be invited to attend the District Cross Country event to be held at Woolgoolga on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

PLEASE NOTE: Children who use an asthma puffer or medication will need to have it available at school tomorrow for the running of the Cross Country.

D Blevin - Event Coordinator



## RELAY FOR LIFE

**"TYALLA TRAILBLAZERS"** - This is the fantastic team of Tyalla personalities who will represent the school at this year's Relay for Life on May 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup>.

They will be running a HANDICRAFT STALL at the relay and will need your help. If you are "arty crafty" and would like to donate some of your work for sale at the relay, we would really appreciate it.

Relay for Life raises money to continue the fight against cancer and to support those who battle this hideous disease.

At some point in our lives, almost everyone will know someone, or be affected in some way, by cancer.

We need to do all we can to fight this

disease. If you would like to make a donation of items to sell at the relay, or a cash donation to sponsor the Tyalla team, please leave these at the school office or, alternatively, contact Mrs Rayner at school. Your help and support will be very much appreciated. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.  
Thank you for your support - Anne Rayner - Coordinator

**PSSA RUGBY LEAGUE TRIALS** - Congratulations to Luke Metcalf and Marshall Kondratiew who were recently successful in being selected for the Mid North Coast team.  
Good luck for their next selection game for the North Coast teams at Grafton on Friday.

**REMINDER, REMINDER - UNSW SCIENCE EXAMS** - Earlier in Term 1 students in Years 3 to 6 brought home a note regarding University of New South Wales Exams for 2009. For over 20 years these exams have been on offer to schools in Australia, New Zealand and Asia. These tests assess the skills that students require to address the curriculum of each of the subject areas, at their appropriate grade level. Every student entering will receive a certificate acknowledging participation as well as informative diagnostic paper, identifying individual students' strengths and weaknesses. Students who achieve a Credit or higher, will receive a medal at our End of Year School Presentation Assemblies in Term 4, kindly sponsored by Dr and Mrs Cross.

Just a reminder that entry for the **UNSW Science Exam closes next Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May**. If you are interested in participating in this exam, please forward an entry fee of \$6.00 to Mrs Ward (6RW) by that date.

**CANTEEN NEWS** - This week (Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>) the canteen is offering great Meal Deals -  
Recess Deal:  $\frac{1}{2}$  Pizza Bread and a Juice cup for \$1.50  
Lunch Deal: Pizza, Chocolate or Strawberry Milk and a Frozen Moosie for \$5.00

PLEASE NOTE: The only milk we now have available is the 300ml Chocolate and Strawberry flavours at \$2.30 each.

As soon as we are able to source a new supplier of the 250ml size, we will notify through the Newsletter.

**TYALLA BREAKFAST CLUB - CALLING ALL PARENTS!**



If you are free in the morning from 8.15am to 9am, and want to become involved in our school community in a social and worthwhile way, then come along and help out at our Breaky Club!

Training is provided and your assistance would be much appreciated.

If you can help, please contact Brigitte Hagan at Tyalla for more information.

This is a great way to help ensure that all students attending our school will start the day off with a nourishing, healthy breakfast for as little as 20c cost.

If your child attends the Breakfast Club, please support this initiative by

sending along a 20c donation to cover breakfast. Thank you.

**THE P&C MOTHERS' DAY STALL will be held at school this Friday, 8<sup>TH</sup> May.**

A beautiful selection of gifts for Mums will be available for purchase at a cost of \$4 each.

Please send along the \$4 to your child's class teacher if you wish your child to participate.

**BOOK CLUB** - Book Club orders close on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Orders can be deposited at any time before then, in the collection box on the office counter.

**SYDNEY EXCURSION** - Just a reminder that deposits are to be paid by this Friday (8<sup>th</sup> May) for your child to be included in this wonderful experience for Stage 3 students. Please contact Ms Ryan if there is a problem.

**CANTEEN COMMITTEE MEETING** - School Staffroom at 2pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Make a note on your calendar, come along and have a say in how our canteen operates. All welcome.

**BEGINNERS GROUP TENNIS COACHING** - Allan Pade at Westside Tennis Club suggests that the best way to introduce your children to the wonderful world of tennis, is with a Tennis Australia Coach Member (like Allan), which means that you can be sure that your children will receive quality, fun, coaching at a great venue. Enrol now as a new student will receive 50% off their first term fees (save \$45).

Contact Allan on 0419655437 or at the Clubhouse on 6652 7694.



# Tyalla Primary School

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