



Tyalla Primary School

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

NEWSLETTER No. 6 - 4th March 2009

Dear Parents,

I am hoping the students have been talking at home about our efforts over the last week to ensure that the playground and classroom are calm and supportive places for all students. All of our efforts at school can only be successful when we have the support and backing of parents and carers. In order to support our behaviour code, staff have been focussing attention on the small things - simple expectations of behaviour which set the tone for the larger issues.

Please remind children of the following rules, in place for the safety and welfare of all:

- students are expected to wear a hat as part of our school uniform. It is not an optional extra.
- students are expected to speak politely to each other and to school staff.
- students are expected to follow the safety rules relating to areas which are out of bounds.
- students are expected to move around the school in a safe manner.
- behaviour which interferes with the safety and well being of others is not acceptable.

The school motto for Tyalla is RESPECT - respect for each other, respect for our school and respect for oneself. The great kids of Tyalla need to be congratulated for their efforts over the last week to ensure a positive school tone and culture.

Many parents comment with interest on the article extracts which are often published in the newsletter. Today's comes from a website put up by Michael Grose. I hope it gives you some food for thought.

Have a terrific week,
Sue Mackay
Principal.

Religious Education Policy

Students at Tyalla receive General religious Instruction each week for 40 minutes. This is a non denominational scripture lesson conducted by trained scripture teacher volunteers. The school co-ordinator/liason for the program is Diane Blevin. Parents need to have indicated that their child is not to attend General Religious Instruction for them to be excused from the lesson. Parents need to object to lessons because of 'conscientious objections on religious grounds'. If your child is seeking an exemption, please complete the form at the end of the Newsletter and return it to the Office within the next few days.

Religious Education Exemption

Student name: _____ Class: _____

I wish to apply for exemption from religious Education for my child on the basis of conscientious objection on religious grounds.

Parent signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

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

THE ART OF ENCOURAGEMENT - extract by Michael Grose

Do you praise your child when he goes to the bathroom? Do you praise your child for obeying the laws of gravity? Do you give praise for simple socialisation procedures that your child practises every day? No, you say. Have you ever praised your child for finishing all his meal, for staying on his bike or perhaps staying vertical on roller-blades? Or praised a toddler for their terrific smile and fantastic manners?

In the last few decades parents in many parts of the world, including the US, UK and Australia, have enthusiastically followed the positive parenting teachings. For some parents, praise for a job well done has become like a nervous tic.

"You finished your meal. What a guy!"

"That's the best work I've ever seen!"

"You are such a clever little swimming girl."

"You used the toilet. Let's ring grandma and tell her what a clever girl you are!"

Sound familiar? Yes, most parents are well aware of the notion of praise but are we going too far?

Children gain their self-esteem from the messages that they receive and through their interactions with the world. The main developmental tasks for children under ten are to work out what they can do and how they fit into the world. Am I a chump or champ? - a question that concerns many children. Praise has been promoted as the predominant parental tool to boost children's self esteem. But like any tool it can be misused and indeed overused so that it becomes ineffective. There are concerns expressed about praise as a successful parenting strategy. Yes, it can be overused. Too much praise can be demotivating.

If a child is told everything he does is FANTASTIC then how will he ever really know when he has done something that really is FANTASTIC. Sometimes mediocrity needs to be recognised for what it is – mediocre - rather than boosted to another level.

Encouragement is a far more powerful esteem-building tool than praise and it doesn't have the adverse side effects. The differences are slim but important. Encouragement focuses on the process of what a child does whereas praise focuses on the end result. Encouraging comments focus on effort, improvement, involvement, enjoyment, contribution or displays confidence whereas praise concerns itself with good results. An encouraging parent gives children feedback about their performance but they ensure the feedback is realistic and they work from positives rather than negatives. An encouraging parent will note a child's efforts and recognise that mistakes are part of the learning process.

Encouragement recognises that a child is participating and enjoying a game while praise focuses on winning or a fine performance. Praise is about control and encouragement is about influence. The use of encouragement, like praise, requires some moderation and restraint for it to be effective. Just as a child who gorges himself on lollies will soon lose interest in something that was once a treat, a child who is praised for every little deed will eventually need a veritable phrase book of positives to get him motivated.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRAISE AND ENCOURAGEMENT:

Praise	Encouragement
Conditional on results	Unconditional
Parental judgment	Trust children's judgement
Competitive child	Co-operative child
Result-focused	Process-focused
Parent evaluates	Child evaluates
Child learns to achieve to please others	Child learns to set own standards
Gain approval of others	Self approval

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 6/3	Year 3 Family Breakfast - 7.45am
	Stage 1 Assembly - 11.35am - 1RC
Tuesday 10/3	Nth Coast Swimming at Kempsey
Friday 13/3	Year 2 Breakfast - 7.45am

EASTER IS COMING!

TYALLA'S

HUGE EASTER RAFFLE

is on the way!



We are asking for donations of Easter eggs, fluffy chickens and rabbits, sweets, baskets, etc, etc, to be brought in to the office so that prize baskets can be made up for our big raffle. Tickets will be sent home soon.

TYALLA'S PIZZA DAY FUNDRAISER

on Tuesday was voted a great success, with \$266.50 being raised to assist with the Stage 2 excursion to Cascade Environmental Centre later in the year. Many thanks to all who participated.

SCHOOL CANTEEN MEAL DEAL - Thursday 5th to Wednesday 11th March - includes:

- Ham sandwich
- Bottle of water
- Lickstick

ALL FOR \$3.00!

What a SUPER bargain!

ACADEMIC AWARDS last week were awarded to:

- 3DG - Dana Saunders
- 4DB - Emma Soo
- 5SR - Evan Hazel-Pickering
- 6RW - Kyle Lawson

CONGRATULATIONS!

PSSA CRICKET - During our recent wet weather, 3 students tried out for the MNC Cricket Team Trials. They were Marshall Kondratiew, Gurpreet Singh and Laura Young.

All played well, with Marshall and Laura going on to the next level. Well done!

STAGE 3 MAJOR EXCURSION FOR 2009

Arrangements are well under way for this great experience for Stage 3 students. The trip this year will be to Sydney, with some wonderful venues planned.

An information note and "Expression of Interest" form have been sent home with all Stage 3 students. Please complete and return the slip as quickly as possible so that planning can continue.

HARMONY DAY MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

Community News

WANTED - Rugby League Players for The Orara Valley Tomahawks.

Under 7's, 8's, 9's (players must be 5 years old to play) Under 10's, 11's, 13's, 14's (if you turn that age during this calendar year). Come and represent the Tomahawks in 2009.

Sign on at training - from 4pm to 5pm every Tuesday and Thursday -(Cost \$60 per player) at Orara High School Football Fields, cnr. Bray and Joyce Streets, Coffs Harbour.

New players will need Birth Certificate or Passport. Phn 66569037 or 66587100 for more information.

Harmony Day provides an opportunity for us to celebrate our success as a culturally diverse society and re-commit ourselves to harmony and mutual respect.

This year's Multicultural Harmony Day Festival is to be held at the Botanic Gardens on Sunday 22nd March from 11.30am to 4pm. An exciting event is being planned with an Aussie BBQ, multicultural foods for sale, or bring your own picnic lunch.

There'll be music, entertainment, exhibitions and performances showcasing the community's cultural diversity and creating a colourful vibrant atmosphere.

Everyone is welcome! Entrance is FREE. Come and celebrate! Bring the family! Enjoy the atmosphere and embrace Harmony Day 2009 in the beautiful surroundings of the Botanic Gardens. For more details contact Susan Clarke, Special Projects Officer, Coffs Harbour City Council on 6648 4833.

'LEARNER' GUITAR LESSONS available - please contact Mrs Rayner at school.



Don't forget to pop in a few extra Easter Goodies next time you're shopping, and send them along to school to fill those baskets. Your donations will be much appreciated.





Tyalla Primary School

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