



NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 12th November 2013

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 14th November

Kinder Orientation Day
9.30 - 11.30

Wednesday 27th November

School Council 6 pm
P & C 7 pm

Thursday 5th December

Kinder Orientation Teddy Bears Picnic
12.30 - 1.30

Thursday 12th December

Presentation Evening 7 pm

Monday 16th December

Year 6 Farewell (Yrs 5 & 6)

Tuesday 17th December

Whole School Disco

Wednesday 18th December

Last Day of Term
Mufti Day

2014 Dates

Tuesday 28th January

Staff Development Day

Wednesday 29th January

Students Years 1 to 6 return

Thursday 30th January

Kindergarten students start

Friday 14th February

Small Schools Swimming Carnival

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Ninety-five years ago, at 11am on the 11th of November 1918, the guns of World war one fell silent. The Armistice was signed, ending four years of war. Over 300,000 young Australians had volunteered to serve their country during this terrible conflict and unfortunately, many thousands of those would never return home. Our school marked this significant occasion yesterday, as did schools and communities across the nation, with a special Remembrance Day ceremony. Our Year 6 Leaders conducted the ceremony, allowing our students an opportunity to pay their respects to all soldiers who have fought and died in war. Our School Captains, Bella and Bair, also represented our school at the Albury Remembrance Day ceremony in town, laying a beautiful wreath of flowers as a mark of respect. Thank you to the many families who donated flowers, to Mrs Scott, Mrs Livermore, Mrs Edwards and students Bella and Kelsey for designing and making the wreaths and to Lou Bull for transporting our captains to and from the Albury ceremony.

Lest we forget



Kinder 2014 Orientation

The students joining our 2014 Kindergarten class will visit our school for their next transition this Thursday morning. They will meet their Year 5 buddy and participate in fun activities designed to help them to settle into their new learning environment.

School Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons are going along swimmingly! There has been wonderful improvement in every child's swimming confidence and ability. The classes, held at Gould Swimming Academy, will conclude this Friday.

School Assembly

Apologies for those who had planned to attend our school assembly last week. Due to the timings of the swimming classes, our usual assembly could not be held. There will be no assembly this week. Our next assembly will be held on Friday 22nd November from 2.30pm. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Borella House Christmas Carols

Our school has been invited to sing Christmas carols to the residents of Borella House in Albury on the 6th December. Students will be learning a selection of carols and songs in the lead up to this important community event.

Selective High School Application for 2015

Selective High Schools applications for Year 7 placement in 2015 are now available. Paper applications are available at school, however, applicants seeking placement in a selective high school in 2014 with access to the internet should submit an online application. Online application is available until Monday 18 November 2013.

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Andrew McEachern - Principal

THANK YOU

We had an overwhelming response to our request for flowers for our Remembrance Day Wreaths. Thank you to all the families who sent in the beautiful flowers and greenery.

Thank you to Julieanne Edwards who came and made a massive native wreath. They all looked wonderful.

K-1 NEWS

Our unit this term is called Places and Habitats. Our learning has been about our favourite places, places we go with our families, what are habitats? What is an environment? Features of our school environment, built and natural parts of our environment, mapping Australia and using compass points, Van Gogh's bedroom, safety at home.

As part of our unit on Places and Habitats we are now going to design and make a home for a storybook family.

Could you please send in any cardboard boxes you may have. No more than one metre square please.

Thank you
Elaine Kirk

XMAS CARDS FOR SALE

The students have been creating wonderful Xmas artwork and we will be making Xmas cards using this artwork.

You can order as many as you like of your children's creations or order a mixed set which will consist of a random selection.

If you would like to have some of these wonderful cards to send to your family and friends, complete the order form and return to school along with your payment.

Cards & envelope will sell for \$1.50 each.

Cards are printed on card not paper.

HOW2Learn

The five secrets

Things you can do to help your family learn more effectively are common sense. But they are rarely talked about, so we call them the five secrets.

1. Be positive and supportive

Your child will learn best when they feel able to take risks. Your expectations may make them anxious, so remember that being preoccupied with being the best and getting results may come at the expense of real learning.

Tips for creating a positive learning environment

- Avoid comparisons with other children
- Avoid threats.
- Break learning up into small manageable chunks. Recognise each one as an achievement.

2. Encourage planning and goal-setting

Start with the big picture. Before diving into any activity - a maths problem or finding out about something in history, for example - take time to get the overview. With young children, show how this helps by, for example, looking at the lid of a jigsaw puzzle or the instructions that go with a game.

Tips for looking ahead and setting goals

- Encourage your child to close their eyes and picture the task in their head.
- Ask questions that encourage looking ahead, such as: 'How long do you think this will take you?'
- Make a simple chart with your child that shows when they will do their homework and put it on their bedroom wall.

3. Make connections with what your child already knows

We all find it easier to learn something new when we can connect it to something we already know. We need maps, lists and guides to help us make connections between things and then to see if there are any patterns to help us organize our thinking.

Tips for helping your child to make connections

- Encourage connections between words by asking your child questions like, 'What does this word sound like?', 'What other words like this one do we know?'
- Encourage your child to explain connections, both to themselves as they work and to others.

4. Help your child learn by seeing, hearing and doing

We continually get information through our senses. We store it, make connections and categorise it, and respond to it. Help your child learn through the senses and you will dramatically improve their chances of success.

Tips for learning by seeing, hearing and doing

- Encourage your child to put up posters around their room summarizing what they need to know. Give them bright coloured pens and large sheets of paper.
- Encourage them to listen to different types of music, and give them the option to have background music while they work.
- Give them lots of opportunities to dance and sing at an early age.

5. Use reviewing to help your child remember things

Regular review helps us to remember things. Encourage your child to pause frequently in what they are doing and take time to explain to themselves what they have just learned. Time spent reviewing is time well spent.

Tips to help your child review what they have learned

- Encourage your child to test themselves regularly. Little and often is the key.
- Help them to practice talking themselves through an activity aloud, looking at each step and saying what is involved. They will be using the language they need, so will be more likely to remember it.
- Draw a poster or a mind map to help them remember something.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions for 2013 are \$40 per child. This fee covers the cost of textbooks and other consumables for each child. If paying by cheque, please make payable to Table Top Public School.

MATHLETICS CONTRIBUTION

Parents are asked to contribute \$10 per child to help cover the annual user fee for Mathletics in our school. This is a fantastic price, as the usual fee is \$99 per child. Thanks to the P&C who have already committed funds to support Mathletics for our children.

P & C FUNDRAISING CONTRIBUTION

The fund raising voluntary contribution for 2013 is \$50 per family. This can be paid in full or by instalments over the next three terms as follows:

Term 1 \$20

Term 2 \$20

Term 3 \$10.

*Cheques should be made payable to
TTPS P & C*

School bank details:

Account Name: Table Top Public School

Account Number: 157014

BSB: 032-001

Reference: *Surname and item/s being paid*

GARDENING NEWS

Today we collected 5 eggs from the chooks. Don't forget to buy some eggs. We learnt about eggs that are free range and caged. The free ranged eggs are more orange than the caged. Some groups are going to bird watch, some are pruning the bushes and some are looking after the chooks. We have had a lot of rain and that will help grow seeds.

By Mia



MARTINS BUS APP

Martin's have developed a FREE smartphone app that we feel will be of significant benefit to your school, your students and their parents.

The app has been created in an effort to improve communication between Martin's and bus users.

Parents, schools and students will be immediately informed if school services are experiencing delays or are required to divert off route.

Also, all Martin's school routes and bus stops can be conveniently accessed.

Download the Martin's App by scanning a QR Code below or simply search "Martin's Albury" at your app store.

Martins Albury Bus and Coach

At Martin's we are committed to providing reliable, safe and enjoyable transport for all our customers. This free app will give you fingertip access to all Martin's Public Transport Timetables and maps, in addition to current school service routes and times. Wherever you are in Albury find out where your closest Martin's route service bus stop is located. Keep up to date with route and school services experiencing delays or diversions via the App Notification feature. Be the first to learn about Martin's tours released so you don't miss a seat to your favourite artist, show or tour. This app is essential if you need instant access to all Martin's services and information.

Re-based QR Code

INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose – No. 1 parenting educator



The NEW strict parent - is this you?

The definition of a strict parent has changed over the last decade. Do you fit the bill?

'Your parents are so strict!'

Some parents in years gone by wore the label of **'strict'** parent like a badge of honour. It signified parents who were willing to stand their ground with kids.

Strictness was reserved for parents who put boundaries in place and made sure they were adhered to, such as being home on time, or not watching too much TV.

There's a now a **NEW** definition for a **'strict'** parent.

A **'strict'** parent today is now someone who makes children do things for themselves and insists they help at home. They insist their children put their dirty clothes in the laundry, and maybe even wash their own clothes. They insist kids make their own lunches in secondary school. They insist that their kids set the meal table without giving them a cent in return.

'Strict' now refers to getting kids to help rather than placing restrictions on them.

Many parents tell me that they get funny looks when their children help them with the supermarket shopping. When their kids walk a kilometre home from sports or a leisure activity they are made to feel like neglectful parents. How bizarre!

New normal

The **new parenting normal** is for parents to do a lot for your kids, rather than kids do things for themselves. Anyone who strays from this new normal and develops real independence in their children can be made to feel guilty ... because they are strict!

Nobody feels like doing chores, but tackling hard things such as doing chores when you don't feel like it builds character. It develops a bit of grit that kids can draw on later when they will *really* have to push against adversity.

Do less, not more

The job of parents is to make themselves redundant for their kids – not in a relational sense, but in a managerial sense.

There is nothing revolutionary about this idea. It's been the aim of parents since the dawn of time. That means we spend a lot of time teaching kids self-help skills (now known as life skills), which are the ordinary gist of life.

These include teaching young children to tie their shoelaces and helping primary-aged kids to ask for what they want from adults. They also include coaching teenagers to negotiate their way safely on public transport and to problem-solve relational issues they may have with teachers at school.

These are not the activities of **'strict'** parents. Rather they are the activities of parents who understand that one of their key roles is to equip kids to stand on their own two feet in the world outside the family home.

The fact is that the best place to do this is within the family. And the best time to start developing independence is from a **young age** ... when kids are up for it developmentally.

Don't wait until your children are 18 to develop self-help skills. If you introduce self-help then, my bet is they won't think you are strict ... they'll think you've been a soft touch all along and they'll now battle you all the way!

But that's a story for another day.

In the meantime, if the definition of **'strict'** has changed then I urge you to be strict! Your kids will thank you ... later on, when you've equipped them with the problem-solving and independence skills needed to negotiate the wider world without you.



Want a list of age-appropriate jobs that your kids can do? Get a great 'Kids' Chores & Responsibilities Guide' with practical tips about how to get kids to help when you subscribe to Happy Kids, my FREE email parenting guide, at www.parentingideas.com.au/ParentingIdeas-Newsletter

TABLE TOP COMMUNITY

FOOD SWAP

Thurs Nov 14th 2013 6pm - 7:30pm

TABLE TOP COMMUNITY HALL

A **FOOD SWAP** is open to all the community whether you have something to swap or not.

- ❖ Do you have fresh home grown produce you would like to share and swap - please come along.
- ❖ Do you bake or preserve FANTASTIC - simply list the ingredients used on a label and bring those precious delights to swap.
- ❖ Do you have other items that help grow delicious food such as seeds or seedlings or manure..terrific bring them to swap.
- ❖ Perhaps your garden is brimming with spring flowers that you can compose in a bunch and bring to swap.
- ❖ Eggs - nothing quite like home grown eggs - a great delight to share with those who haven't ventured down this path
- ❖ Do you like meeting your neighbours - then come and have a cuppa and share some yarns and garden experiences
- ❖ Don't have something to swap - doesn't matter - you can make a \$donation instead and still enjoy the goods.
- ❖ Bring your own bags, boxes and egg cartons (good for swapping too) for taking home all those swapped items
- ❖ Food swaps are about community, home grown produce, sharing and not individual gain. Help us celebrate us.

For further information and details contact Lou Bull 60262 772

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