



NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 2nd April 2014

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday 5th April
P&C School Camp Out

Monday 7th April
Life Education Van
K-6

Wednesday 9th April
Small Schools Athletics Carnival
Alexandria Park, Albury
Whole School

Friday 11th April
Last day of Term 1

Monday 28th April
Staff Development Day
(Pupil free)

Tuesday 29th April
First day of Term 2

Wednesday 7th May
School Photos

Wednesday 21st May
Combined Small Schools
Multicultural Day

Monday 9th June
Queen's Birthday Holiday

rather than the usual red and green. Thank you to the SRC for coming up with this worthwhile initiative, they raised around \$75.



School Camp Out

Our school P&C hope that you are all ready for the School Camp-Out, which will be held on the school grounds this Saturday, April 5th. We are all looking forward to what should prove to be a fantastic evening of school community. Along with camp oven cooking, the student talent quest and a movie under the stars, members of the Astronomical Society will share with us the beauty of the night sky. If you haven't already indicated your attendance at this great event, could you please contact the school as soon as possible. Families are welcome to commence setting up their tents and caravans from 1pm.

Easter and Wood Raffles

Don't forget to return your sold Easter raffle tickets and money. The prize will be drawn on Tuesday of next week. Thanks to your donations, the Easter basket prize has doubled in size! We now have two prizes to draw. If you haven't donated an Easter egg yet, it's not too late. Thanks to Cathy Scarlett, Mark Denton,

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SRC Wear Blue for Autism Day

Students wore blue clothes today and gave a gold coin donation to support those people living with autism. It was quite a change to look out over the playground and view a sea of blue

Louis and Ned who gave up some of their weekend to sell raffle tickets at the Thurgoona Plaza last Saturday. Thanks in advance to Lou Bull, Sharon McEachern and Rachel Gaukroger who have volunteered to sell tickets at the Plaza this Saturday. Any other volunteers are most welcome to help out!



The wood raffle tickets went home on last week's newsletter. What a great prize for those of you who have wood heaters - 3 cubic metres of split firewood, delivered to your address. At 3 tickets for \$5, that's a potentially cheap load of wood to help warm your homes over the winter months!



(example only - not actual load)

Small School's Athletics Carnival

The Small School's Athletic Carnival will be held at Alexandra Park in Albury next Wednesday, 9th April. All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are invited to participate. A permission note was sent home on last week's newsletter. In the lead-up to this fun day of competition, we have held rotational athletics activities to give the kids a brush-up on their sporting skills. Our next training day will be held this Friday

from 12pm. Congratulations to the following students who qualified as our school high jump representatives at the trials held yesterday: Junior - Natalie & Toby; 11yrs - Ellie & Dylan; Senior - Emma & Ryley

School Promotion Photos

The Visual Arts Head Teacher from James Fallon High School, Mr John Skillington, was at TTPS this morning to take promotional photos for use in our school brochures, banners and website. The photos will also be used to promote our interschool Northern Spirits Learning Community.

Jackson Pollock Art

The Jackson Pollock art for the 4/5/6 class had to be postponed last week due to the rainy weather. Fingers crossed the rain will hold off this week and the 2/3 class can have their turn tomorrow morning. These students will need to bring old clothes as they might get a bit painty! With the help of Mrs McEachern, the students are creating a major Jackson Pollock inspired artwork for our school. Using techniques employed by Pollock, the students are splattering, squirting, splashing and squelching paint across a huge piece of canvas. The 4/5/6 class will have their turn next Thursday.

Easter Hat Parade

Let's hope you all have your thinking caps on for our annual Easter Hat Parade! Students will display their home-made creations on the last day of term.

Life Education Van

The Life Education Van will visit our school this Monday, 7th April. The permission note was included in last week's newsletter. Please return these along with money to the office by Friday 4th April.

School Facebook and Twitter Accounts

Are you aware that our school has a Facebook page and a Twitter account? They have been set up for parents and supporters of our school to find out what is happening at Table Top PS. To find us on Facebook, do a Facebook search on 'Table Top Public School' and like our page. To follow us on Twitter, search for @TabletopPS.

School Assembly

You are invited to attend our weekly whole school assembly this Friday at 2.30pm. The class presenting the item this week is 4/5/6.

Andrew McEachern - Principal

KINDER SOUND

The Kinder sound for this week is 'b' for Balloons



SCHOOL PHOTOS

Boss Photography will be returning this year to take our school photos. Their staff, pride themselves with the ability to relax with your child which in turn achieves a magical result of priceless photos of their school year.

Attached to this newsletter you will find the School Photo pre-payment envelope from Boss Photography for your child/children. Please make your selection and return the envelope/s to school with the correct money enclosed. *If you have any questions or have difficulty with payment, please contact boss photography direct and they can make alternative arrangements.*

Photo day is Wednesday 7th May.

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.

P & C MEAT FUNDRAISER

Don't forget to get your orders in to school by Thursday 3rd April. The form is also available on our Facebook page to fill in and email back to us. If you have lost your form you can email Cathy Giltrap direct at cathygiltrap@gmail.com

P&C PIZZA DAY



As a special treat and as a small fundraiser next Friday the 11th the school is offering children the option of purchasing slices of Pizza for their lunch from DJ's Pizza. Cost will be \$2 per slice. Money and order form needs to be returned to the school **Wednesday the 9th**. Pizza's will be delivered to the school at 1pm on the Friday.

If anyone has any questions or special dietary requirements please contact Cathy Scarlett on 0427908479

Please identify type of Pizza and quantity on the attached form and return with money by Wednesday 9th April

MURRAY CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC LESSONS

Drumbeat will be starting next term. We have enough for one full class - if anyone else is interested, please let me know as we can run two classes. If the classes are full it is a very reasonable price - approx. \$4.50 per week for an excellent, fun program run by the Murray Conservatorium.

Apologies that it didn't get up and going this term but we are ready for Term 2!

Cathy Giltrap

ANZAC DAY



As ANZAC day falls in the school holidays this year parents are asked to make their child/children available for the ANZAC DAY March on Friday 25th April, 2014 if possible. All marchers are required to be in full winter school uniform and line up at the corner of Spencer and Dean Streets (about 100m down Spencer Street) at 8.30am, so we can be prepared to march off at 9am. This year, all primary schools will march down the right hand side of Dean Street and high schools on the left side. Parents need to line the right hand side of Dean St (facing the Monument) in order to see their children. The parade will continue down Dean St until it reaches Townsend Street where the march will then disband and children can be collected by their parents.

NetSetGo @ Thurgoona Football & Netball Club

First day and registration on **Saturday 5th April at the Thurgoona Netball Courts at 8.15am- 9.15am**

12 week program for 5-10 year olds. Learn and improve netball skills with a fun & active group.

Program **strictly limited to 40 participants**. Please bring Medicare card to complete registration.

For inquiries call Becc 0412026855 or email becc.brennan@gmail.com

Easy Sudoku for Wednesday 2-4-2014

6	5				8		4	
			9			1	7	8
		8		3	7			2
7		6		9			8	
	2		3		4		1	
	1			8		3		9
3			1	4		7		
9	6	2			5			
	7		6				9	5

Sudoku provided by Sudoku.com.au

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions for 2014 are \$45 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 2014 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

If you would like to pay by direct debit
School bank details:

Account Name: Table Top Public School
Account Number: 157014
BSB: 032-001
Reference: *Surname and item/s being paid*

INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose – No. 1 parenting educator



How emptying the dishwasher can build independence

You can learn a lot about a family by knowing who clears their dishwasher. Who empties yours?

The choice of who empties the dishwasher in your family tells a great deal about your parenting philosophy.

If you or your partner usually do it then *I humbly suggest that you maybe working too hard*. You're letting your kids off the hook.

On the other hand, if one or all of your kids (over the age of three) have this job then **congratulations**. You're travelling down the road toward **redundancy**, and your children are heading toward **independence**.

Many parents would love their kids to do this task but pragmatism (*"It's easier to do it myself"*), lack of faith (*"They're sure to break something!"*) and unwillingness to let go (*"It's my job after all"*) get in the way.

Why the dishwasher?

Good question. Here are seven good reasons:

1. These days almost every house has one, and it's a job that just has to be done!
2. It's fiddly and tedious, and it needs to be **done right**, which is a great lesson for kids to learn.
3. Kids learn that **everything has a place** in the kitchen, which is a great lesson for those who are organisationally challenged. Knowing their way around the kitchen is also an important first step toward children making their own snacks and preparing meals – a worthy aim!
4. It's emptied every morning/day, second morning/day so kids learn about **routine**.
5. As it needs to be emptied whether they feel like it or not, kids learn about **grit** (*the ability to stick at a task even though it's boring*) and **self-control** (*through delaying gratification*) – two important character strengths that contribute to kids' success.
6. **If they don't do it then who will?** It teaches kids that others rely on them, as well as the other way around. *Believe me, I see many young people who've never learned this lesson at home!*
7. **Kids are hard-wired to help** but they need the opportunity to do their bit at home. The dishwasher is the perfect opportunity that never goes away!

There are plenty of other reasons for putting the dishwasher on the kids' chores list, but that should be enough to get you thinking.

Okay, but does it have to be the dishwasher?

Smart parents put principles into practice to suit their circumstances.

So, if you buy into the notion that kids should routinely help at home without being paid, and that your aim is to make yourself redundant – but getting them to empty the dishwasher just doesn't cut it in your world – find a similarly regular, laborious task that they can do that will also benefit others.

No dishwasher? You have an advantage

Of course, families without a dishwasher have a great communication mechanism at their disposal. That is, one person washing (a parent) and the other drying (a child/teenager) provides a fabulous shoulder-to-shoulder parenting opportunity. As many parents have discovered, when a child or young person's hands are busy their tongue suddenly loosens up and the chat happens naturally.

Gradually, then suddenly

If getting kids to help is an uphill battle then I suggest you don't let up. **Keep expecting them to help**. Keep working on a chores roster and keep at your kids to do the right thing. One day it will all click and helping out will become habitual, hardwired into their brains so that helping out becomes neurological as well as psychological.

That's why **'gradually, then suddenly'** is a really useful parenting mantra. The Australian cricket team's recent success can be attributed to this approach. They'd been **gradually** improving by doing all the right things throughout 2013 without success and then **suddenly** it all clicked in the Australian summer. But that's another story...



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.

Order Form: Table Top Public School Pizza Day (DJ'S pizza's)

Lunch - Friday 11th April 2014

\$2 per slice

**Please identify type of Pizza and quantity below and
return with money by Wednesday 9th April**



Student Name	Hawaiian	Meat lovers (not spicy)	Garlic Herb & Cheese	Vegetarian	Total No.	Cost

Family Name - _____

\$_____ Attached

Any enquiries to Cathy Scarlett