

# TABLE TOP PUBLIC SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 6

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016

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### CALENDAR – What's on?

#### Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March

School Captain's & Student Leaders  
Induction Assembly  
2.20 pm

#### Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March

4/5/6 High School Experience Day  
JFHS 1:00 – 2:30 pm

#### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

P&C Meeting 7pm  
All welcome

#### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March

Albury Gold Cup ½  
Day Holiday  
School Closes at 12 noon

Student Leaders F1 Grandprix  
Melbourne

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> & Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
Easter Holiday

#### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Last Day of Term  
Mufti Day

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April**  
**ANZAC Day Holiday**

#### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Staff Development Day  
No students

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April**  
Student resume for Term 2

### Principal's Report

#### Morning arrival times

Parents are reminded that there is no supervision for children before 8.30am. **Parents must not leave their children at school before teaching staff arrive.** Parents are required to wait with their children until a teacher arrives. If there is only one grey car in the carpark, that is the cleaner and not a staff member.

#### Semester One SRC members

Congratulations to the following students who were elected to represent their class at the Student Representative Council for Terms 1 & 2.

**K/1:** Lyla, Campbell, Billie and Ethan B;

**2/3:** Brideh, Jett, Hope and Clifton;

**4/5/6:** Jake, TJ, Bill, Thomas, Charlie, Sarah and Grant.

Our **School Captains**, Tilly and Rupert automatically join the SRC.

#### TTPS Leadership Assembly

The Table Top PS Student Leaders, Toby, Sarah, Paris, Grant, Caleb, Ethan S, Captains Tilly and Rupert, and Semester One SRC members, will be presented with their badges at our Leadership assembly this Friday, 4th March, beginning at

2.20pm. Parents and family members are most welcome to attend this important assembly.

### **National Young Leaders Day Conference**

Tilly and Rupert joined school captains and student leaders from across Victoria and Southern NSW today when they attended the Halogen Foundation's National Young Leader's Day in Melbourne. The National Young Leaders Day is an annual event founded in 1997 to develop strong leadership values amongst young Australians. The Program consisted of keynote talks, multimedia presentations and interactive learning for young people who aspire to lead themselves & others. Thank you to Lou Bull for assisting with parental supervision on the day.

### **James Fallon HS Visit**

Our 4/5/6 class will visit James Fallon High School next Thursday for a small schools interest day. Students will experience a high school activity and a tour from 1:00-pm-2.30pm. A permission note will be sent home today. This will be a great opportunity for our students to experience a taste of high school life!

### **Year 6 Grand Prix Excursion**

The Year 6 students from Table Top Public School will attend a one-day excursion to Melbourne on Friday 18 March 2016, for the F1 Australian Grand Prix School Day. This excursion has been planned to give the students the opportunity to cement the bond they have as leaders, give an insight into their potential as student and future leaders in the wider community and to supplement learning in the areas of literacy, numeracy and technology. A permission note for the Year 6 students will be attached to this newsletter.

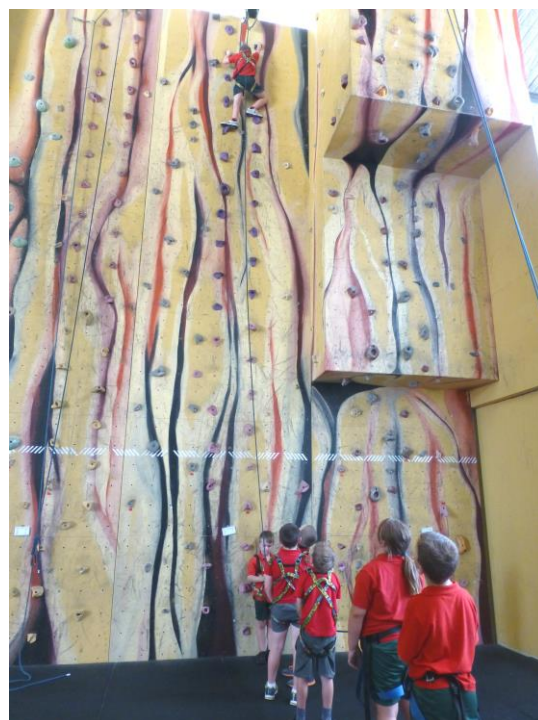


### **SRPSSA Swimming Carnival**

Well done to the students and parents who represented our school at the Southern Riverina Primary School Sport Association (SRPSSA) swimming carnival. It was a terrific day of healthy competition. Congratulations to **Zoe** and **Ryan S** who both qualified in their 50m Freestyle age races to represent the SRPSSA at the Riverina Regional Carnival on Monday 7th March at the Albury Pool.

### **2/3 Rock Climbing Excursion**

The students in the 2/3 class all enjoyed being taken out of their comfort zones during their indoor rock climbing experience last week. Well done to all of the children who took on the rock climbing challenge. Thank you to Mrs Gaukroger for organizing this wonderful excursion.



### **Mosaic Workshop**

Create a beautiful mosaic wall tile under the mentoring and guidance of local artist and high school teacher, Sharon McEachern. Cost is \$100 per participant, which includes morning tea, lunch and all materials. Funds raised will support the students of Table Top PS. Registration open to adults.

### **Athletics Training and Carnival**

Training for the Small Schools Athletics Carnival, scheduled for Monday 14th March, will continue this Friday and next Friday at the new time of 10.30am. Parents who would like to help with the training sessions are most welcome to come along. The new training time will mean that recess on that day will be from 11.30-12.00pm.



### **Easter Raffle Donations**

We are calling for donations for our annual Easter Raffle. Each family is asked to donate something to go towards the raffle – including Easter eggs, chocolate, books, textas, pencils, stationary, toys, bunny ears or anything else that could fill the baskets! Over the last couple of years we have had two very full baskets thanks to the generosity of our families; let's hope we can repeat this! The money raised this year will go towards the purchase of ceramics supplies as part of our Visual Arts learning program.

### **Scripture**

Scripture classes will begin this Friday. K/1 and 2/3 at 9.30am. 4/5/6 at 10.00am. Non – scripture students will read or complete home learning activities while supervised by a teacher in another classroom during scripture time.

### **Tell Them From Me Student Survey**

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey was sent home last week.

### **Pre-School Open Day Invitation**

Please spread the word about our Pre-School Open Day, which Miss Kirk will host on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March from 11.30am - 1.00pm. We are opening up our K/1 classroom to parents of pre-schoolers, and their children, to see and experience some of the magic of Table Top Public School. Parents of Kinder and Year One students who would like to come along and assist are more than welcome! Notice of the Open Day will also be

posted on our school Facebook page. Please feel free to share this with your friends.

### **Hats**

Our school has a No hat, Play in the Shade policy. There are lots of students without hats each day. Could parents please remind their children to bring their school hat each day.

### **Friday Icy poles**

Icy poles will be sold by the SRC and student leaders each Friday lunchtime for 50c each. If you would your child to purchase either one of the icy poles, please ensure they have the correct change each Friday.

### **Albury Gold Cup Half Day Holiday**

A half-day holiday has been gazetted for the Albury Gold Cup, Friday March 18<sup>th</sup>. School will finish at 12 noon on this day. Martins Bus Lines have advised that our school bus will run at 12 noon for the Table Top bus run and will leave the school at approximately 12.20 for the Thurgoona bus run. They have asked that parents are aware of the early drop off times and that parents are waiting at the bus stop for their child/children.

### **School Communication**

**School Stream:** Table Top PS is uses the School Stream mobile app to help deliver important school information in real time, directly to parents on their mobile devices, IOS & Android. In the app you can look up information about coming school events, sign consent forms, fill out absence notes, read the newsletter and have school information alerts pop up on your screen in real time. Please search your device's app store and install this free app onto your device. There is no cost for parents to use this app.

#### **Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/TableTopPublicSchool>

**Twitter:** @TabletopPS

### **School Voluntary Fees**

Our school voluntary fees, which help cover the costs of educational resources for your children are \$45 per student. There is an additional \$10 fee per child to help cover the cost of a one year subscription for Mathletics. Accounts were attached to last week's newsletter.

### **P&C**

The next meeting of the P&C will be held at school on Tuesday 15th March at 7.00pm. All existing and new members most welcome to attend.

*Andrew McEachern*

### **Kinder Sound**

The Kinder class will be doing revision of their sounds in week 6.

The Kinder sound for week 7 is 'c' for cat



### **4/5/6 Art Activity**

Please collect onion skins (brown or red) for an art activity in the 4/5/6 room next Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March. You can send these in at any time before that date. Thank you, *Elaine Kirk*

### **How2Learn**

#### **Challenge**

Dealing with everyday challenges helps your child develop coping strategies. You will not be helping your child if you protect them in a cotton-wool world. Instead, help them to learn the skills of coping, then next time a crisis occurs, they will have ways of dealing with it.

#### ***Tips for developing skills to cope with challenge***

- Don't rush to help when your child struggles with an activity. Encourage them to keep trying.
- Break tasks down into smaller chunks that can be tackled one at a time.
- Help your child understand that mistakes are all right provided we learn



from them. Learning is a messy business!

### **ACTIVITY: Make a spider diagram**

Use this when your child is struggling with something and needs help to break the task down into more manageable chunks.

1. Write a brief description of the task in the middle of a large piece of paper.
2. Draw a circle around it.
3. Talk about how you could break the task down into a number of stages that seem more achievable.
4. Draw lines out from the circle and write one stage down at the end of each line.
5. See if you can put what you have learned into practice.

### **Success**

Success breeds success and failure breeds failure. But what does this mean? If children's small successes pass without comment, over time they can begin to believe they are 'not good at anything'.

Replace the concept of failure with feedback. Help your child to see mistakes as part of the process of learning. Make sure that they also experience success. When they are doing something well, comment on it.

### ***Tips for developing success in your child***

- Comment positively on everyday successes using a success vocabulary: 'Well done for ...', 'You did that well', 'Thank you for ...'.
- Encourage your child to notice when they improve on their personal best.
- Look on any failure as an opportunity to find out what went wrong and work out what to do better next time, eg: It didn't work for us this time, did it? Let's try it another way shall we?

### **School Assembly**

Congratulations to the following award winners from week's 2, 3, 4 & 5 of Term 1's School Assemblies:

### **Students of the Week**



### **Special Encouragement Awards:**





Elijah

### **Teacher Merit Cards** (Green cards)

#### **K/1**

Aidan, Campbell, Ebony, Ryan H, Danny, Memphis, Lyla, Jed, Georgie, Arthur, Will, Abi, Dallas, Emily, Olivia, Ethan B, Harry O.

#### **2-3**

Aimee, Esher, Stefan, Clifton, Mia M, Makenzie, Alex, Matilda, Audrey, Elijah, Brideh, Tenika, Boyd, Jett.

#### **4-6**

Rupert, Toby, Lochie, Charlie, Thomas, Bill, Jake, Jayne, Sarah, Grant, Elizabeth, Jessica, Tilly, Callie, TJ, Ned, Ethan S, Gibb, Caleb.

### **Voluntary/Mathletics Contributions**

Contributions for 2015 are \$45 per child and \$10 per child for Mathletics. If paying by cheque, please make payable to Table Top Public School. These can be paid at the office or by direct debit.

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*

### **P & C News**

### **P & C FUNDRAISING CONTRIBUTION**

The fund raising voluntary contribution for 2016 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 or Direct Debit:*

Account Name: Table Top Public School

P & C

BSB: 640-000

Account Number: 603984

Reference: Family Name

## **Table Top Public School**

To Excel

# **Table Top PS Open Day**

Wednesday

18th March 2016, 11.30 am - 1.00 pm

Parents of pre-schoolers and their children are invited to take the short drive out to Table Top PS for our annual Pre-School Open Day.

Come in and see for yourself what our small school can offer your child.

Phone 6026 2220 or email [tabletop-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tabletop-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) to register your interest.



556 Burma Road, Table Top  
Turn right at the Table Top turn-off from the north-bound lane on the Hume Freeway.

**Kindergarten places  
for 2017 are available**



Education



## Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

# Raising Mighty Boys

Understanding what makes boys tick is the key to teaching and raising them. Here are twelve essentials in order to connect with our sons and help raise well-adjusted boys.

Raising and educating boys is a hot topic in Australia and other parts of the world. From my experience those adults who do best teaching and raising boys have a significant understanding of what makes boys tick.

**Here are twelve key understandings that will help you regardless of your gender or family situation raise well-adjusted boys:**

### 1 You must like them

Approval is at the heart of raising boys. Most will walk over hot coals for you if they know you like them. In a sense, this need for approval holds many boys back in school, as they can shut down for a teacher who doesn't like them. If you can feel comfortable with their boisterousness, live with their lack of organisational skills, and not be confronted by their in-your-face ways then the chances are that they'll respond to you.

### 2 Boys like to blend in

Boys are group-oriented by nature. They want to fit in. They tend to play group games and form themselves into structured groups. Boys don't want to stand out from the crowd. Don't put them down in front of their friends and understand that they make poor friendship choices rather than be in a group of one. They'll generally prefer the wrong friends rather than no friends at all.

### 3 They are hierarchical by nature

Boys need limits and boundaries as they make them feel safe and secure. They like to know someone is going to enforce those rules, so don't be afraid to take the lead with them.

### 4 Many boys hide behind a mask

Some boys wear a mask to protect them from being hurt. The mask can take many guises including: 'tough nut', 'cool dude' and 'class clown.' Refuse to communicate with the mask. Make them feel comfortable, joke with them,

even tickle them. Do whatever you can to get behind the mask.

### 5 Boys are just as sensitive as girls

Despite the fact that research shows that boys are more easily stressed and more fragile than girls parents will ask daughters how they feel more often than they ask sons. Also when daughters get hurt, parents tend to comfort them more than they comfort sons. Boys are sensitive you just need to use different language to get them to open up than you do with girls. For instance, a boy will more than likely tell you how he feels if you ask him how he thinks about something. Also, he generally needs more time to process his feelings so bedrooms can become their caves that they'll retreat to when they need the space to work out what's going in their hearts.

more on page 2 >>

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my **FREE** weekly email parenting guide at [parentingideas.com.au](http://parentingideas.com.au). You'll be so glad you did.







## ... Raising Mighty Boys ...

### 6 Boys are tactile by nature

Ever noticed how little boys are more likely than little girls to pop new objects in their mouths. That's because taste and touch are two important ways that they take in the world. That tactile nature of boys needs to be nurtured, not ignored. One way is to hug them –lots! Boys need to be touched two to three times as much as girls to release the same amount of oxytocin (a feel-good chemical in the brain) that is released during a hug.

### 7 Boys learn from experience

Many parents know the extreme frustration that comes from imparting their wisdom on to their sons, only to see it completely ignored. If you have boys in your life then you need to get used to the fact that boys like to learn many of their life lessons for themselves. Experience, for better or worse, is a teacher that many boys can relate to.

### 8 Loyalty is a high driver

Understand that a boy's loyalty to his friends and family is a key driver and you'll unlock the key to the male psyche. They are incredibly influenced by their peers, which can hold them back, stopping many from getting too far ahead of the pack. Loyalty also gets many boys into strife with authority.

Call a boy's sister or friend an insulting name and you're asking for trouble!

### 9 Many boys' mouths don't work unless they are moving

If you want to have a serious or personal conversation with a boy then you are better off joining him on a walk. Face-to-face conversation can make them feel awkward, whereas shoulder-to-shoulder chats or conversations that happen during a game or activity seem to flow more naturally.

### 10 Boys need social scripts

Most boys need some didactic teaching about how to act and what to say to others at some stage in their life. Don't be afraid to tell boys of any age exactly what to say in new social situations as they can often struggle to find the words and the way to get their messages across.

### 11 Boys need a purpose to learn

If you want to motivate a boy to learn then you need to offer him tangible, short-term goals. He'll learn to play a musical instrument if he wants to be in a band; but get him to practise a musical instrument without a purpose and you'll probably be locked in a continuous struggle.

### 12 A boy's brain mature differently than a girl's brain

The maturation rate and sequence is different for boys than girls. For instance, the brain developments in the first five years of life prepares girls for the rigours of school better than it does for boys. A girl's brain in that period is busy developing fine motor skills, verbal acuity and social skills, which are highly valued by parents and teachers. A boy's brain, on the other hand, is busy developing gross motor, spatial and visual skills, which are essential hunting skills. Unfortunately, there isn't a great need for these traits in primary schools these days!!

There's no doubt that raising boys tends to be more of a challenge for parents than raising girls. Understanding and appreciating the differences is a great start. However I think parents who really connect well with boys somehow develop the wisdom to step as well as speak up at the right time, and the smarts to know when to stand back and allow their sons to work things out for themselves.

*Michael Grose*



Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my **FREE** weekly email parenting guide at [parentingideas.com.au](http://parentingideas.com.au). You'll be so glad you did.





## **Invitation to attend the - Table Top Community Forum**

**Wednesday 2nd March – 7.30pm**

**\*\*\* Guest Speaker: Braham Metry Poultry Care \*\*\***

**Table Top Community Centre  
525 Burma Rd, Table Top.**

The Table Top Community Forum **Autumn** Meeting will be held in the Table Top Community Centre/Hall at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.**

These meetings provide Table Top residents with an effective means of communicating local issues and concerns to the relevant authorities such as Albury City Council, the RMA and other Government departments. They also aim to foster community spirit in the area by meeting your neighbours, as well promoting social and sporting events. All residents are encouraged to come along to these meetings to raise important issues.

**Our local chook expert, Braham Metry will be bringing along examples of his prize winning poultry and speaking on the husbandry and care of laying chickens.**

**An informative evening for all fowl fanciers, experienced and beginners.**



**For further information about the Forum contact: Marion Taylor on 6026 2222 or Lou Bull 60262772**

If anyone would like to bring a plate of something for supper that would be appreciated but it is not compulsory.

**PS: Don't forget the Table Top Food & Book Swap at the Table Top Community Centre/Hall on March 10th at 6pm.**



APRIL  
2



# MOSAIC WORKSHOP

*Learn how to create beautiful wall mosaics under the mentoring and guidance of local artist and high school visual arts teacher, Sharon McEachern.*

*Venue: 556 Burma Road, Table Top (opp Ettamogah Pub)*

**Table Top Public School**  
**Saturday April 2, 9am - 3pm**

*\$100 per participant (includes morning tea, lunch and all materials)*

*Registration, open to adults only, due by 18th March (15 max participants)*

*Registration and enquiries to:*

**TABLETOP-P.SCHOOL@DET.NSW.EDU.AU**

**02 60262220**

*Funds raised to support the students of Table Top PS.*