



Timor Talk

Timor Primary School—1207

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Newsletter No. 18 / 8th December, 2023

KEY DATES

TERM 4-2023

2nd October—20th December
11.3 Weeks

Tuesday 12th December

Statewide Transition Day

School Concert 3.30pm

Thursday 14th December

Year 6 Graduation

Friday 15th December

Reports Distributed

Monday 18th December

Geelong Adventure Park, End of
year activity

Tuesday 19th December

Student & Staff Christmas
Lunch, supplied by the School

Wednesday 20th December

Last day of Term 4—Students
dismissed at 1pm

TERM 1-2024

29th January—29th March
9 Weeks

Monday 29th January

Staff return to school

Tuesday 30th January

Students return to school



Principal's Report...

Attendance Update

At Timor PS we know that attendance is the key for your child achieving well and feeling well at school. Find below the students attendance as of 27.10.2023:

Class attendance % for the past fortnight:

P-1- 92% 2-3 – 88% 4-6 - 84%

Student absence data for the year:

2% - 0 absences,

30% 1-9 days absent

34% 10-19 days absent

34% 20+ days absent (19% 30+ days)

Year 4-6
100%
Attendance
on 29.11.23



Year P-1
100%
Attendance
on 29.11.23



Be Respectful – Be Responsible – Achieve your Potential



TIMOR PRIMARY SCHOOL'S

CHRISTMAS Concert

TUESDAY DECEMBER 12

3.15-3.45
AFTERNOON
TEA

3.45 STUDENT
CONCERT



GEELONG WATER PARK

TSUNAMI
TORNADO
NEW RIDES!

VICTORIA'S BIGGEST WATER THEME PARK

MONDAY DECEMBER 18

End of Year Excursion

Students and staff will round the year out with an excursion to the Geelong Adventure Park on Monday 18th December, leaving the Clarendon St Car Park in Maryborough at 8:00am sharp and return at approximately 5:00pm.

Please provide consent by approving the excursion in the uEducateUs platform and return the hard copy medical form asap.

Year 6 Graduation

The annual Yr 6 Graduation is scheduled for next Thursday 14th December at the Bull and Mouth Hotel Maryborough from 5:30pm onwards. Students, staff and families will come together to celebrate their primary school years. We will be presenting 4 scholarships and our four Year 6 students—Hudson, Zac, Sammy & Emilia will be presenting their primary school journey on the night.



Statewide Transition Day

Tuesday 12th December is the Statewide Transition Day where Yr 6 students will be attending their secondary school for next year and students in Years 1-5 will experience their new class and teacher for 2024 from 9:00-11:45am, including the 2024 Preps.

Christmas Lunch

The popular annual Christmas Lunch will again take place on Tuesday 19th December. Students do not require lunch on this day.



School Council



I would like to sincerely thank the 2023 School Councillors Brad Saul (President), David Sumarni, Merron Ipsen, Alice Tangey and Shandelle Wood (DET) for their work this year. School council provides a voice for all parents and helps to make important decisions for the school.

End of Term 4—Wednesday 20th December

A reminder that students will be dismissed at 1:00pm on Wednesday 20th December



5/6 CLUSTER TRANSITION DAY

Students in Years 5/6 attended the Cluster Transition activity at the Maryborough Indoor Pool on Monday. This excursion gave the students another opportunity to form relationships with students from the cluster schools prior to transitioning into secondary school.





The school has received recent reports of confirmed COVID-19 cases in our school community. Please follow the below guidance if your child is feeling unwell and/or tests positively to COVID-19:

Management of COVID-19 in schools

It is recommended that staff members, students or visitors who have symptoms of cold, influenza or COVID-19 undergo testing for COVID-19. Parents of symptomatic students should be asked to collect their child from school and keep them home until they are no longer symptomatic.

The Department of Health recommends that staff and students who test positive for COVID-19 isolate for a minimum of 5 days and do not attend school until their symptoms resolve. If well enough, students should be supported in the same way as students with an extended absence due to illness or injury, with learning material provided to support their continued learning.

Schools must treat health information, including positive COVID-19 test results, in accordance with the Schools' Privacy Policy. COVID-19 diagnoses are not to be shared or discussed unless the individual (or their parent/carer) provides consent, or unless schools are legally obliged or authorised to do so. Further guidance on the handling of health care information can be found in the department's Privacy and Information Sharing policy in the Health information guidance chapter.

School Review

Schools undertake a school review every 4 years to inform the directions of the school's 4 year School Strategic Plan (SSP) (a legislative requirement for all schools). The first component of the review is the pre-review self-evaluation (PRSE) where schools review their data and other evidence to form a collective view of current practice and areas for improvement. This is followed by a review conducted by a panel, utilising the expertise of challenge partners and convened by an independent school reviewer. Concurrent with this panel process, the school reviewer undertakes an assessment of the school's compliance with the Minimum Standards for Curriculum and Student Learning. Timor PS is scheduled for Review in Term 1 2024. To prepare for the Review, I will be calling on staff, students, parents and School Council to provide feedback when completing the pre-review self-evaluation (PRSE) this term.



We have recently posted updates to several policies and parent information on our website including:

- * 2024 Parent Payment Policy
- * Mobile Phones—Student Use
- * 2024 Parent Guide

Visit <https://www.timorprimaryschool.vic.edu.au/> and check them out!!

2024 PLANNING



Mr Tatchell has been busily planning for 2024.

Please find a summary below:

Class Structure

P/1 – 14 students – Mrs Wood

2/3 – 14 students – Ms Jessica Evans

4/5/6 – 21 students – Ms Byrne

Staffing

After 3 years Mr Collins has taken up a teaching position at Phoenix College in Ballarat.



Mrs Cameron will be continuing in the Tutor Learning Initiative working with students that require extra support with in Reading and Writing.



Ms McLean & Mrs Lee will be continuing to provide Library (MARC) and Art



Teacher Assistants Debra Borg, Karlie Gunn and Jason McFadyen will be again supporting the students and teachers.



Andrea Potter has recently increased her time fraction and will be working 5 days per fortnight.

School preparedness and pre-emptive actions for the bushfire season



Fire danger ratings indicate how dangerous a fire would be if one started in those conditions and provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life. They can be a trigger for action in community and for school and household level fire plans.

Schools and children's services listed on the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at some lower risk of bushfire or grassfire on the Category 4 list will be closed when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their Bureau of Meteorology district.

Schools and early childhood services listed on the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at lower risk of bushfire or grassfire on the Category 4 list take pre-emptive actions on elevated fire danger days to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions. The category of risk (per the BARR or Category 4 list) determines the actions that the school or early childhood service will need to take on days of elevated fire danger.

Our school has been identified as being one of these schools at high bushfire or grassfire risk, and is listed on the Bushfire at Risk Register (BARR) / a category 3 school.

Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in the **North Central District**.

The department will advise our school of the potential for a **Catastrophic fire danger rating** as information becomes available, however the pre-emptive closure will be **confirmed by 1pm the day prior to Catastrophic fire danger day**.

Fire danger ratings are forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology up to four days in advance. Should a Catastrophic day be forecast, we will notify you of the potential closure by an email or hard copy letter and through uEducateUs & Facebook. Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.

School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and completed Bushfire Preparedness works of our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can parents do?

Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is relocated / undertaking remote and flexible learning and/or closed due to elevated fire danger or a Catastrophic fire forecast. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).

Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website, by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.

Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.

If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's Bushfire Survival Plan.

You can access current information about school and early childhood services closures, including those due to elevated fire danger, on the Department of Education and Training's website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>