**Principal's Report**

- This year we have two School Council Parent Representative positions that are up for re-nomination. Currently the positions are held by Brett Wallace and Stewart Rundle who have done a fantastic job and intend to renominate. Bronwyn Lenehan has served as our seconded community member for the last two years and we thank her for her ongoing support and service.

- If we have any parents who would like to nominate for one of the two positions available you are now invited to do so. If we have more nominations than positions available parents will be asked to vote for their preferred applicant. I would like to encourage any parent considering nominating to read the accompanying material and contact me or another member of council to discuss the position.

- We also have two staff representative vacancies (DET employee). Thank-you to Matthew Haugh and Lisa Kensit for their two years of service to School Council.

- School Council performs a most important role in determining the direction that our school takes. I would like to thank our 2014 School Council members: Chris Hibburt, Matthew Bowker, Brett Wallace, Jenny Inglis, Bronwyn Lenehan, Stewart Rundle, Robyn Vale, Lisa Kensit, Sean Fitzpatrick, and Matthew Haugh for the excellent service they have given our school in 2014.

- Enclosed with this newsletter is ‘Information for parents’ and nomination forms. Either form 5A ‘Self-Nomination’ or form 5B ‘Nomination’ form may be used. Nominations are to be delivered to school by 4.00pm, Friday 20th February. If you require further information please feel free to give me a call.

- The P-6 swimming program is progressing very well with many positive comments about our YMCA instructors and the program. Thank-you to Lee Edge, the YMCA staff and parents for supporting this important program.

- Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs.

- If you have any concerns or issues that you wish to discuss with me please feel free to give me a call at school (55983381) or on (0407345324)

**Assistant Principal Reports**

**Immunisations** – The first round of immunisations will be either on the 19th or 26th of February (awaiting Shire confirmation). Please ensure all cards (Year 7-10) are returned to the general office.

Good luck! to all Year 7 & 12 students who are currently on School Camps.

Year 7 & 8 Level Co-ordinator/ Year 6-7 Transition Co-ordinator-Ms Lisa Kensit

Year 9 & 10 Level Co-ordinators (Ms Kayleen Deppeler & Mr Marc Graesser)

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**Congratulations to:** All 7-12 students on a fantastic effort at last week’s swimming sports.

**Calendar**

**February**

- 11th-13th Year 7 Camp Cooriemungle
- 12th-13th Year 12 Orientation Camp
- 18th School Council
- 19th-20th Year 6 Wyuna Camp
- 27th P-6 Swim Program ends
- 27th HSSSD Snr Cricket

**March**

- 3rd Swimming Sports 3-6
- 4th Parent-teacher interviews P-12
- 6th Athletic Sports 7-12
- 6th Division Swim Primary.
- 9th Labour Day (No School)
- 10th Athletic Sports 3-6

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**School Cafeteria and A and B Building are Peanut and Tree Nut Free Zones**
The above staff are responsible for the general care, welfare and organisation of students across the school. If you require assistance regarding your child please contact the appropriate co-ordinator ph: 5598 3381.

**Helping your child to settle in**

Many children experience some anxiety during the transition to school but in most cases it dissipates in the first few weeks of term. Here, clinical psychologist Dr Celeste Merrigan looks at how parents and carers can help their child adjust to the school day routine and shows you who to talk to for extra support.

Making a positive start to school is important for children. There is good evidence that a child’s readiness for school and a positive transition has a very positive flow-on effect to positive adjustment in the school setting and positives in their academic and social development. It’s equally important to note that many children may feel some anxiety or challenge initially – this is normal and in most instances these challenges will dissipate in the first few weeks. Educators are very skilled at supporting young children and their parents at this time. So if a parent has any concerns, I recommend talking about it with your child’s teacher – they will reassure, guide or direct you to an appropriate source of help. Parents and carers play an important role in supporting children starting school. Children constantly look to their parents as their guide in regard to any new experience. So it is important that parents exhibit a calm, positive and matter-of-fact response when a child is starting school. Children are sensitive to their parents’ anxieties, so even though it is normal for a parent to be a little anxious, try to keep this in check, otherwise it can create unnecessary anxiety for a child. Many parents worry that their child will not be able to cope in a larger playground or eat lunch without prompting. Others are concerned the jump to school and long days will be tiring and that they are handing their children into the care of others. Remember that going to school is an important life experience filled with opportunities for growth, skill development and fun. Like any new experience there are challenges for both the child and the parents. Schools support children to cope with the playground, ensuring they are safe and they enjoy their snack and lunch. Many schools have modified timetables and practices to assist children to gain confidence and independence in the social aspects of school.

Parents and carers often have competing emotions at this time – joy that their child has reached the milestone of school entry, but maybe also a little sadness or anxiety as they have less time with their child. These feelings pass quickly for most people as they see their child adjusting and they experience time together after school, on weekends and during holidays. It can be helpful to share these feelings with others and you may then realise they are very normal. If negative feelings persist, speak with a trusted friend and perhaps your GP and they can help you decide if it would be helpful to speak with a mental health professional.

Here are my top tips for parents and carers to help children enjoy the first week of school:

- **Embrace** the change as it’s an exciting and very positive step for your child and the whole family.
- **Be matter-of-fact, calm and reassuring.** Try not to talk about school too much as it can create anticipatory anxiety. If the subject comes up incidentally, be positive about it.
- **Relax** – there is nothing that can’t be managed.
- **It’s okay** if a problem occurs. In fact, it’s an opportunity to practice problem solving techniques.

**Uniform reminders (school dress code policy)** -

**Footwear**
- Black enclosed leather school shoe (includes Kustom, Rossi, Mulga or traditional dress shoe)
- Covered (heel and toe) black leather sandal or T Bar style (not permitted in wood and metal classes)

**Pants/Shorts**
- Boys: Long grey cords 720 brand or Plain grey cotton drill pants (Stubbies or similar)
- Girls: Navy blue flared tailored pants (Face Off brand or similar) or School Shorts — blue skorts P-12 (Stubbies Brand or similar)
Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform. Please provide a note to your child's form teacher if their school uniform is incorrect.

And remember: “It is of little traits that the greatest human character is composed”. William Winter

SEAN FITZPATRICK
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL (7-12)

Library News

Well done to all students who participated in the Summer Reading Clubs and the activities provided in the library during the holidays. The library is back in full swing, providing reading resources to support CAFÉ reading on the primary campus as well as a range of books for the Premier’s Reading Challenge for classes from Prep to Year 10. All P-4 students must use their library bags when coming to the library. If they do not have a bag they will be unable to borrow. Library bags can be purchased from the library at a cost of $5. All proceeds of these sales are used to buy new games for our lunch time activities trolley. Happy Reading
Jenny Evans

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SALE

The next second-hand uniform sale will be held on Wednesday 4th March. (11am – 1pm in the SEU building). For enquiries please call Katrina, 5598 3443.

CANTEEN NEWS

Note from Canteen
Our Students happily munch through 2 kg carrots, 8 kgs apples, 2 kg oranges, 2kg fresh fruit salad, 18 punnets strawberries a week. Donations of apples or suitable fruit for fruit salad will be gratefully accepted. Lemons are also needed please.

*Please consult 2015 menu for correct canteen prices

TSPA PARENTS SAY

Love to hear from you!

Name:

Phone:

TSPA MINI MINUTES

DEB BALL 2015: We thank the parents who have taken up duty folders to help make this event run smoothly. The general organisation for this event is on track. Next practice is Friday 13th February at 7 pm sharp. Next meeting is February 15th, while the practice is on, start by 7pm.

Swimming sports BBQ on March 3rd. We will supply the BBQ and meat, bread, sauce, onions, at the sports. We will require parent helpers on the day, so please let me know if you can assist on the number below.

Athletics sports day p-6. March 10th, BBQ with drinks and treats available. Please let me know if you would like to assist on the day, as we do require helpers for this one as well. Thank you.

Annual General meeting is scheduled for Monday 2nd March at 7pm at the school admin building and will be followed by an ordinary meeting from 7.30pm. All positions will be declared vacant so please consider taking on a role as we do need more volunteers to help keep our fundraising going. All are welcome to attend and nominations can be handed in before the meeting.

Anne Rosolin (secretary) mob 0409029464 or tspa@live.com.au

PUBLIC NOTICE

Timboon Swimming Pool will be closed to the public this Sunday, 15th February until 3pm, due to Swimming Club Carnival. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Timboon P-12 School
61st Deb Ball
Friday 13th March
**FOR SALE**

1 x wether ready for freezer – 2 tooth $120
Budgies x 4 left @ $15 each with cage
2002 VX Commodore, new radiator, new overflow bottle and much more. As is - no rego / no RWC $3,000
1 hen, 1 rooster, 1 chicken, package deal $40 plus food
Large jockey wheel with swivel action, never used $100
93/97 Toyota radiator – auto / manual - $200
Endless chain, brand new $100
Gazebo, 2 x 2 x 2.5 mtrs – still in box $200
PHONE: 0498 185 089

Cow Poo $2 a bag
On the Glenfyne-Brucknell Road (Timboon end)

**WANTED WANTED WANTED!!**

Primary Art Room
Before you recycle, check the list below...
The primary art room would love any of the following.
Cardboard cylinders, all sizes (ie from gladwrap), buttons, beads, sequins, corks, containers with lids, wool scraps, wrapping paper, paper plates/cutlery, frames... Anything else that might have a life in the art room.

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**TIMBOON SQUASH CLUB**

Mixed Squash Pennant
Tuesday and Wednesday Nights
Seedings 10th & 11th February
Pennant starting 17th February
Ladies Squash Pennant
Thursday Mornings 10.00a.m.
Seedings 5th & 12th February
Pennant starting 20th February
Junior Squash Pennant
Thursday after school 3.45p.m.
Seedings 5th & 12th February
Pennant Starting 20th February
New Players Welcome
Contact: Katrina Currell 55983443-0439995010
Or Judy Walsh -0407646005

**AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3:30pm – 5pm with Family Day Care
At the Timboon Kinder, for children in Preps, Grades 1 & 2.
Limited positions
PHONE: Coralie Lucas 0409 860 474
This month KERMIT will be hopping to attend:
The Sustainable Living Festival in Melbourne, Geelong, Timboon and beyond. See http://www.slf.org.au for a great range of activities

TOP PICK: Big Weekend in Geelong

20/21/22nd

LOCAL INTEREST: Greenhood Herbal Harvest Picnic Day (Timboon) - Sunday 22 February 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
In the planning stage is an excursion for some of our students to attend a student leadership course in Warrnambool on March 6th. Barwon South West Resource Smart Schools is offering a free 'Do More With Less' Student Leadership Conference. This workshop will be presented by CERES Community Environment Park for groups of up to 8-10 students per school (Grade 3 - Year 10). Kermit would love to hear from any parents that might be interested in their child attending, or perhaps joining this activity themselves.

Kermit is also looking forward to ‘hanging around’ town on April 24th. Let’s hope he doesn’t go too batty! Stay tuned for more info. on this one.

Want to learn more about the Kermit club at Timboon, or get on our new mailing list? Drop an email to our friendly office staff @ timboon.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au with “Kermit Subscriber” in the subject line. We will get back to you with updates on our activities and dates to watch out for.

Remember – it is easy to be green!
TIMBOON PHARMACY MOOowers
Presents
POOL PARTY/FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY 13th FEBRUARY
TIMBOON POOL
Lambert Street, Timboon
Gates open at 7.30pm for an 8.30pm screening.
Family:$20.00
Per Person:$5.00
SAUSAGE SIZZLE & POPCORN FOR SALE ON NIGHT

ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TO RELAY FOR LIFE
Enquiries to: Heather 0429302648 Or AH 55959208

Come & Try Day
of GOLF

Timboon Golfers invite all interested in playing golf to our
COME & TRY Social day
on Friday 27th Feb.
With a clinic by
Professional Golfer Craig Bonney
All invited at 10am
Sponsored by the Corangamite Shire
As part of “Recreation, Give it a Go!” week

Flat shoes required; clubs and balls supplied.

Phone Captain...........Donna Weller  0428 987 297
Secretary........Jean Russell 55983728
School Council Election 2015 - Information for Parents

**What is a school council and what does it do?**
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

**Who is on the school council?**
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:
- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

**Why is Parent membership so important?**
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.
Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

**How can you become involved?**
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term i each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.
In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council encouraging another person to stand for election.

**Do I need special experience to be on school council?**
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

**What do you need to do to stand for election?**
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term i each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.
If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.
DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.
Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.
Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

**Remember**
Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
Consider standing for election to council this year
Be sure to vote in the elections.
Contact the principal for further information.
School Council Elections
Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

Name:

Residential address:

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

Email:

I am the parent/guardian of ____________________________, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at and for the school.

Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am:

• an undischarged bankrupt
• an insolvent
• currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
• a rehabilitated offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2000.

Signature of Candidate __________________________ Date __________________________

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspections prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominees (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal or __________________________.

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School Council Elections
Schedule 5B: Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to nominate __________________________ for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

CANDIDATE DETAILS

Name:

Residential address:

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

Email:

I am the parent/guardian of ____________________________, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training but not engaged in work at and for the school.

Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am:

• an undischarged bankrupt
• an insolvent
• currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence; or
• a rehabilitated offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2000.

Signature of Nominator __________________________ Date __________________________

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate and to nominate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspections prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominees (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

Further, the name, membership category, gender, term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal or __________________________.

Signature of Candidate __________________________ Date __________________________

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

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