



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The smoothest start ever? It's a term we hear often in the newspapers at this time of year and it usually comes from the Education Minister. It's certainly true here at Tyabb but for the Minister, it may not be so true. I suspect with an on-going industrial campaign and a very angry teacher's union, it's more than likely not the smoothest start. I'm not sure how a government can be proud of having the lowest paid teachers in the country, especially given the high regard in which Victorian education is held around the world. However, that seems to be the case. The government seems intractable and I am sure that the teacher unions are not going away easily either. They are determined to see Victorian teachers paid with some parity with other states and who can blame them. This is not a job that we do for the money. There are much better ways to get rich than being a teacher! However, we all know that employees are happier and more productive when they feel they are getting a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. Unfortunately, I think we all need to be ready for a long and drawn out campaign.

### WATER SAFETY PROGRAM

Next week, we begin the Year 5 and 6 Water Safety Program. Each day we will travel down to Mother's Beach in Mornington where the children will participate in a range of water activities such as rescues, endurance swims, surf skis and snorkelling. Not only building skills, this program develops confidence tempered with a healthy respect for the vagaries of the ocean. The importance of this program and others like it was really brought home to me last year when I heard Laurie Lawrence speak at a Principals' Conference. Laurie spoke passionately about his involvement in the "Kids Alive" program. His presentation was made even more evocative through a story of his personal experience with childhood drowning. Here on the Peninsula, we are almost surrounded by water, making it even more crucial that our children learn to use it properly and safely. Our Water Safety Program helps to ensure that.

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP

There were some very proud and excited parents at our assembly on Monday as we announced the School Captains and Junior School Council Chairs for 2008. Our new School Captains are Jessie and Liam. Jessie and Liam will be wonderful ambassadors for our school and great role models to the rest of the students. The JSC Chairpersons are Darcy and Kate. They have a very important job on the JSC. I look forward to meeting with them on a regular basis. The rest of the Student Leadership positions have been selected and will be announced very soon.

### PARENTS' AND FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION

Last week, our PFA had their AGM. Thank you to all of the mums who came along to offer their support. As I mentioned late last year, there are innumerable things around the school that our children would not have without the hard work and dedication of this small but committed team. Special congratulations to the office bearers for the PFA for 2008: President - Carol Faska, Treasurer - Sharon McKinna and Secretary - Rebecca Brown. Their first fundraiser is underway so I hope the whole community gets behind them and supports their efforts.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

Thank you to the parents who put their hand up once again for School Council. All positions were filled and we are ready for our first meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The Council is a crucial part of our school and provides a valuable service to our community in establishing the policy and direction for Tyabb.

Your School Council this year is:

**Parent members:** Tony Gay, David McKinney, Mark Barnes, Carol Faska, Donna Flanigan, Cameron McDonald, Sharon McKinna, Debbie Taylor and Wendy Dunn

**Community members:**

**DEECD employee members:** Greg Lacey, Bronwyn Rogers, Kerry Quigley and Carole Howden

Our first meeting will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March at which we will elect office bearers. We look forward to another exciting and very productive year.

### DANGERS IN JONES ROAD

We have had some really dangerous practices in Jones Road recently in regard to pick ups and parking. I have been out to observe the traffic in Jones Rd several times after school and I am appalled by the behaviour of some drivers. I recently had a very distressed parent in my office who had been abused by another parent for simply pointing out the danger that her actions were posing to our children. This is simply unacceptable.

- You MUST NOT park on the eastern side of Jones Road, opposite the school. This is a reserved bus area and, by parking there, you block traffic and create a further hazard to an already congested area. It is also extremely dangerous to take children across Jones Rd to waiting cars.
- Cars should not sit and wait in the middle of Jones Rd to do a right hand turn into a parking spot. There is a solid line in Jones Rd. This means that you should proceed into the roundabout, return down Jones Rd and turn left into a spot. If there is no parking place, move on and try elsewhere.
- It is illegal to park with wheels on the grass edge of the road on the Jones Rd hill.
- You should not park in the "No Standing areas" in Jones Rd. These areas are kept clear so that drivers have clear visibility of other drivers and pedestrians.

I understand the difficulty that the limited parking creates. Your School Council is continuing to work with local authorities to improve the situation. In the meantime, we all must be patient, courteous and careful.

***The lives of our children are too precious to put at risk in this way.***

Should these practices continue, I will have no option but to pass on registration numbers to the police for action.

### RIDING TO SCHOOL

I would like to remind parents once again, of our School Council policy regarding children riding bicycles to school. That is, ***children must be at least Year 4 before they are allowed to ride a bicycle to school.*** The Council, in all conscience, cannot endorse younger children riding to

school whether in the company of adults/older children or not. The evidence from all relevant authorities is that children do not have sufficient common sense, road sense, concentration levels, distance judgement or physical skill to ride safely on our roads or pathways until at least Year 4. Even though a responsible adult may be riding alongside, the adult does not have control of the child or their bicycle and it takes only seconds to veer off into the path of a car. The safety of our children is our prime concern and the School Council stands strongly behind the policy. It is my role as Principal to ensure that the policy is enforced.

### INFORMATION NIGHTS

In early March, we will be once again running Information Nights. I hope that parents will support them. We ran the nights last year to very small numbers. The feedback from the parents who did attend was extremely positive and that has encouraged us to try again this year. The teachers though, were justifiably frustrated at doing all that preparation for only a very few families. Your attendance will provide you with valuable information about your child's schooling. Strong attendance at these nights will indicate parent support for the initiative and will ensure its continuance.

### STUDENT INFORMATION FORMS

Please take the time to carefully fill out the student information forms and return them to school as soon as possible. It is important that we have accurate information about children and families. Thank you to those families who have already done so.

### MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

I would like to remind parents that we cannot administer any medication to children without a parent first filling out a medication approval form. It is also important that children do not carry their own medication, except for asthma puffers. If you need medication administered to your child during the school day, please call into the office and fill out the appropriate form.

### EARLY DISMISSAL

We have recently had some problems with people turning up to pick up children early from school who are not the parents and who are not on the emergency contact list on the student information form. If we do not know a person who is picking up a child, we will always ask for identification, even if it may be the parent. If someone else is picking up your children during the school day, please call us first and give us the details. If a person is not the

appropriate parent/guardian or is not identified on the emergency contact list, we will not release children into their care. Please assist us in ensuring the security of your children by keeping us fully informed and keeping emergency contact information up to date.

### DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Please note that, there is a health regulation banning dogs from school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. We sometimes give this permission for particular circumstances like the Prep Pet Parade but it is not given in a general sense. Pick up and drop off times at school are busy, noisy and unpredictable. This can make the behaviour of dogs equally unpredictable. When visiting the school, please leave your dogs at home.

### SAND SCULPTURES

There's a great deal of excitement from the children about their upcoming visits to the sand sculptures in Frankston soon. By all accounts, it's a stunning display and each child will be involved in a sand sculpting workshop, a tour with a sculptor as well as other activities. I am sure the children will be entertained and inspired by it!

Have a great week everyone.

*Greg Lacey*  
Principal

### FORWARD DATES

<b>FEB.</b>	
25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>	Water Safety Week - Grades 5 and 6
<b>MARCH</b>	
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	Public holiday
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Preps commence full time
Wed. 12 <sup>th</sup>	WesternPort Secondary College - Open Night and School Tours
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Term 1
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Good Friday
<b>APRIL</b>	
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup>	School resumes for Term 2
16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 4 - Phillip Island Camp

### MUSIC NEWS

We have a clarinet and two flutes for hire if your child would like to join the Instrumental Music Program for this semester. Just let us know at the office and we'll send home an enrolment form.

## EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

**If you hold a Pensioner Concession or Health Care / Benefit Card** current on the first day of term (29<sup>th</sup> January, 2008) you will be eligible for the above allowance for your child/ren. The E.M.A. is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children and is paid in two instalments for the year. **Please call at the office before Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> February** with your concession card, to complete an application form if you are eligible and have not already done so. It is up to the individual claimant to complete the required paperwork as we are not aware of whether families are eligible or not - family circumstances can also change from time to time. **Application forms must be completed and returned to the school by Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2008.**  
**NO LATE CLAIMS CAN BE ACCEPTED BY THE SCHOOL.**

## ROYAL CHILDRENS' HOSPITAL GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

Donation envelopes have been sent home to families today. If you would like to donate through the school to this very worthy cause, please return the donation envelope by Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March so that our total school donation can be acknowledged on Good Friday which falls at the start of the school holidays.

### 'Me and My Kids'

Supporting your children after separation – sessions to be held at Frankston Library, 60 Playne St, Frankston on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> March from 9.30 am till 3 pm (lunch and refreshments provided). FREE but bookings essential. Call Romy at Frankston Family Relationship Centre on 9770 0341. See noticeboard for details.  
An Australian Government Initiative

### TYABB JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Registration Day/Night and sausage sizzle on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> Feb (5 pm till 8 pm) at Tyabb Junior Football Club, Bunguan Reserve, TYABB. See school noticeboard for more details or contact Mel on 0411 614 059 or Gavin 0403 008 226.

## THE SPORTS ARENA

Welcome back everyone. I trust you all are well rested and feeling fit and looking forward to an action packed 2008. There are already lots of events planned for Term 1 so I hope everyone's batteries are well charged.

### DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our dedicated and talented swimming team have been training early mornings at the Somerville Health and Aquatic Centre over the past 2 weeks in readiness to compete in the District Swimming Carnival today at the Crib Point Pool. We have 33 children in our squad, captained by Natalie and Ryan. Best wishes to the following children who will undoubtedly do us proud on the day.

**Grade 4** - Alex, Bradley, Declan, Peter, Leigh (emergency), Kaila, Maddison, Elysha, Emily, Erin (emergency)

**Grade 5** - Lachlan, Ned, Jake, Sam, James, Griffin (emerg), Rebecca

**Grade 6** - Ryan, Darcy Marcus, Scott, Chris, Jack, Chris (emergency), Natalie, Lillian, Taylah, Nicola, Simone, Olivia, Emma, Emma, Melissa (emerg)  
Let's hope all the effort pays off.

### WATER SAFETY WEEK

Our Grade 5 and 6 students are off to Mothers' Beach Mornington next week to participate in our school Water Safety Program. The kids benefit tremendously from experiencing rescues, endurance swimming, snorkelling and surf skis in open waters and I thank in advance all the parents who are coming to help. Please make sure your children have returned their permission envelope so they don't miss out!!

### BASKETBALL TEAMS

The Westernport Schools' Basketball Competition starts on Saturday, 1st March. A notice was sent home last week to all students asking for an expression of interest. **Please remember to return your slip by tomorrow, Friday, if you are interested so that teams can be organised.** It is important that parents realize that these teams need helpers – coaches, scorers and team managers. Without them, the teams can't operate! Please help out if you can. For our interested Prep children, the Basketball Association is running an Oz Ball Program on Saturday mornings. Registration can be done at the stadium or alternatively return the slip on the notice to me.

### PHYS. ED. CLASSES

Please make sure your children have their hats, runners and **water** bottles with them at school on the days they have their Phys. Ed. classes. With the warmer weather, it is really important that they are able to hydrate themselves during classes.

#### Monday -

Grades 6G, 6H, 2D & 2H

#### Tuesday -

Grades 4R, 4/5J, Preps K & S, 1D & 1M

#### Thursday -

Sport for Grades 3, 4, 5 & 6.

#### Friday -

Grades 3S, 3C, 1B, Prep M & 5GW.

All in all, it looks like a great year coming up. If you have any queries or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Keep on keeping on,  
*Kathie Toft*

## Help!! WE NEED YOU

If you can spare 30 minutes, 3 – 5 times per week, then you can help a child to become a successful reader by volunteering to be a Literacy Assistant as part of our Bridges Program. Bridges is a Literacy Program designed for students who require additional support in the early years of primary schooling. As a volunteer you will be trained and given all the information you need to participate in the program. You will work individually with a child and can arrange the times that best suit you. Helping a child to become a successful reader is a very rewarding experience and you can play a significant role in this as a Literacy Assistant. If you are interested in participating in the Bridges Program please contact the school or see Gail Brumley (Grade 1 teacher) or Sharon Wright (Art room).

We look forward to hearing from you.



## PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Welcome everyone to another great year for Tyabb Primary School. We had our first PFA meeting for 2008 last Wednesday. It was great to see some new faces. The positions have changed slightly for this year with Rebecca Brown as Secretary, Sharon McKinna as Treasurer and myself as President.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a BIG thank you to Narelle Harvey for all her hard work on the PFA. Narelle has been the President for the last two years and has done a wonderful job. Thanks Narelle!!!!

I would also like to thank everyone who came to the meeting and to Kerry Quigley (Assistant Principal) for chairing the meeting at such short notice. Thank you Kerry!

Our first fundraiser for the year is our Lolly/ Easter Drive. There are yummy things to choose from!!!! The order forms have been sent home today to each family.



A PFA newsletter will be sent home soon with all our fundraising events and dates for this year.

Thank you!  
Carol Faska, PFA President

## Did you know?

Double glazed windows contain two panes of glass with a layer of air trapped between them. This air helps prevent heat from escaping from a room too quickly, reducing heating bills by up to 12 per cent.

Chloro-Fluoro Carbons (CFCs) were once widely used in refrigerators as a coolant. When released into the atmosphere, UV light breaks off a chlorine atom which in turn reacts with ozone, depleting the layer of gas in the atmosphere. CFCs can remain active in the atmosphere for up to a century.

### HASTINGS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Recruiting for 2008. Registrations Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb and Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> Feb. First training session – Wed 5<sup>th</sup> March. First game Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> April. AUSKICK – starts Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> April. See school noticeboard for more details or contact Judy De La Haye (Secretary) 0432 572 045.

We continue to welcome more new families to the program. Thank you to the children already in the program who are making them feel at home. THANK YOU to all those families who returned their surveys last week. This is an important part of our accreditation process. Thank you to those who attended our Committee Meeting on Tuesday evening. We do need the support of some new members as well.

LEGO – has to be the most popular activity in the program both at Before School Care and After School Care. We would be very pleased to receive donations of Duplo and Lego to boost our supplies.

Next Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2008 we have scheduled a visit from the Children's Librarian from Hastings. We will hold this session in our school Library.

We are sharing our Hall space on Wednesdays. The Active After School Program has their Dance Program in the Hall till 4.45 pm this term. It looks so much fun. On Wednesdays you will find us outside, in the Library or in the Art room. Many children have been enjoying a story especially at Before School Care. Most children have some breakfast with us in the mornings. We continue to provide a nutritious snack at After School Care.

**ACCOUNTS** : Accounts are sent out fortnightly and regular payment is expected. Thank you.

*Deidre, Marlene,  
Jeannie and Sharron*

## WOORABINDA

Woorabinda was an activity based camp. Some of the activities included canoeing, the zipwire, archery, the sling, initiative games and best of all The Great Race. Everyone had great fun and all of the activities needed teamwork to be completed.

Everybody also enjoyed the formal dinner and disco.

Some of the highlights were when we told the Veronica story and Red Faces.

The winners of Red Faces were Rocky Scotty and The Hairspray Chicks.

It was a great experience and everybody loved it.

By Simone 6H

## CAMP WOORABINDA

Well, what can I say? I had a fantastic time. It was such a pleasure to be around so many well behaved and well mannered children. To watch the way they helped and encouraged each other and worked together over the week to achieve their goals was wonderful. Everyone had such a great time, even when we all got soaking wet when the weather changed on us. I think most of the group that I took on the wrong walking track forgave me! I did say I couldn't read a map. We did also get to see and do some things that others didn't so that was one plus! A very BIG THANK YOU to all Grade 6 for making everything so rewarding and giving me some great memories.

Jenny Cooper

The 2008 Victorian Billy Cart Championships will be held this year on March 21<sup>st</sup> (Good Friday) on High St, Pyalong. Participants will put together their own billy carts, and are encouraged to use recycled parts, as a prize is on offer for the new category introduced this year: - "The Most Innovative Re-use of Materials Billy Cart" category.

The racing is open to people of all ages, and there will be other things to see and do on the day. For more information, as well as the entry form, please visit:

[www.victorianbillycartchampionships.com.au](http://www.victorianbillycartchampionships.com.au)

We come from Tyabb Primary School

We always do our best  
With Sport and Math and English too

We pass on every test

We try the 'You can do it' rule

And never think defeat

To be a part of this great school

An example to all we meet

We're the kids from Tyabb P.S

And Tyabb is the best!!!!



## Open Night 2008

- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March
- High Street, Hastings
- Information tours beginning: 4:15, 5:00, 5:30 & 6:15pm in the Arts Centre
- BBQ food and refreshments available to purchase on the night.
- Please contact Tanya Blanch on 5979 1577 for more information.