Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2017 school year!! Special welcome to new families and students starting their educational journey with us. The start of the school year can be an exciting time and there are a number of things parents can do to help support your child.

- Make a ‘meeting spot’ with your child for after school so everyone knows where to meet
- Establish good routines for eating and sleeping. No more afternoon naps for a while!!
- Encourage your child to have new friends over for play dates and vice versa. This will help them to make and maintain new friendships
- Don’t expect too much from students, it takes time for all of us to adjust to the routines of school and our new environments.
- Make sure you meet with your child’s classroom teachers to let them know how things are going at home and they can tell you how your child is going at school.

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1 (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 Jan</td>
<td>30 Staff commence</td>
<td>31 Students start</td>
<td>1 No Preps at School</td>
<td>2 Prep Screening</td>
<td>3 Swimming 3-6 Prep Screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2 Feb</td>
<td>6 Swimming 3-6 Breakfast begins</td>
<td>7 Swimming 3-6</td>
<td>8 Swimming 3-6 No Preps at School</td>
<td>9 Swimming 3-6 First lunch orders due</td>
<td>10 Lovely Lunches commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3 Feb</td>
<td>13 TAPS Swim Carnival LE</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15 District 3-6 Swim Carnival in Orbost No Preps at School</td>
<td>16 Swimming 3-6</td>
<td>17 Swimming 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 Feb</td>
<td>20 Open Water Swim grade 5/6</td>
<td>21 Swimming 3-6</td>
<td>22 Divisional Swim Carnival in B’dale No Preps at School</td>
<td>23 Swimming 3-6 Hockey Vic 3/4</td>
<td>24 Swimming 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 Feb</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6 March</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7 March</td>
<td>13 Labour Day Holiday</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Week 8 March</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 Wind in the Willows P-2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9 March</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
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</table>
Setting up the classroom climate for learning.
Teachers will spend this week setting up their expectations for behaviour and learning. Here is Ali discussing with her class how we can all stay safe and happy in the classroom and some essential questions that Mr Smith will be exploring with his class, whilst Mrs Erickson's class got straight into their reading routines.

School Values – Term 1
Our wellbeing focus for term 1 is on our school values. Values are easy to say but often hard to do. A value is a statement of something you believe is important to do. At Toorloo Arm Primary School we believe it is important to

- Be honest
- Be fair
- Be responsible
- Care about and support others
- Cooperate
- Feel ok about differences
- Show respect to others
- Be friendly

These values will be reiterated at assemblies throughout the term. Our first assembly will be held this Friday and then on each Monday and Friday thereafter. Assembly is a great time for our whole school community to come together so please come along, you are all very welcome and your children love having you there.

Home /School Communication
This newsletter is our major source of communication between home and school and is published on Tuesdays. Teachers provide an outline of the learning program for the week and will often have vital information about classroom requirements, upcoming dates and events that require parental support. In support of student learning it would be great if all parents read the newsletter each week.

If you would like the newsletter emailed please contact Mandy or Julie. You can also access the newsletter on our webpage at [www.taps.vic.edu.au](http://www.taps.vic.edu.au) or on the skoolbag app- see instructions on how to download the app attached to this newsletter.

We also have a parents and friends Facebook page search for Parents and Friends of Toorloo Arm Primary School that helps keep you informed on Parents and Friends events and you can get answers to questions about upcoming school happenings. Guaranteed that if you’re asking a question, someone else is probably thinking the same!!

And of course we love talking to you in person!! Please feel free to come in and see us or give us a call if you require any clarification or information about our school.
Safe Route to the School Gate
Over the break the East Gippsland Shire has installed a pathway from the crossing to the school gate for all parents and students to use at all times.

Bike riders are asked to dismount and walk their bikes along the pathway, remounting once they have passed Gary at the school crossing to continue their journey along Mill Point Road or Lake Tyres Beach Road Bike Path.

In the interest of student safety parents are asked to take extreme care at drop off and pick up times around our school. Our preferred process for pick up and drop off times is that parents park at the Recreation Reserve, utilise the manned children’s crossing and new pathway to escort students to and from the school gate or in the case of younger students to and from the classroom. Please refrain from parking on the tennis court side of the hall, this area is reserved for staff parking.

In the case of an Emergency
It is important that families are aware that our school has a comprehensive emergency management plan that gets practised throughout the year, just in case we are ever put in any serious emergency situation. The department also has a comprehensive emergency management notification system that alerts us to any dangers that could possibly impact on our school and advises Principals on their responsibilities.

Depending on the circumstances we have an onsite evacuation procedure, an offsite evacuation procedure-location is the Lake Tyers Beach Reserve-and a shelter in procedure. Our first priority is always student safety. If there are changes to student pick-up arrangements we would inform parents via our new skoolbag app or via the phone.

Schools – and children’s services – identified as being at highest bushfire risk have been included on the Bushfire-At Risk Register (BARR) and will be closed on days determined by fire authorities to be Code Red. Our school has been identified as a school at highest bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR. Where possible, we will provide parents with up to three days’ notice of a planned closure following the issue of a Code Red warning by the CFA. We will contact you directly by email, put an alert on the skoolbag app or letter sent home with your child with advice on planned closures and will confirm the decision to close by 12 noon the day before the planned closure.

Parents play a vital role in our emergency management plan by

- Making sure your family’s Bushfire Survival Plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements for your children in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency plans.

During the term we will hold a practise evacuation drill at some point. Teachers will be discussing this with their classes and parents are more than welcome to help prepare and reassure the children that they are safe.

Parent Payment Schedule 2017
School Council set the parent payment at $250.00 for the year and is inclusive of Essential Educational Items and all associated costs related to our Swimming Program and Performing Arts events for all students. Parents have a range of payment options available to them detailed on the form attached to this newsletter.
CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND (CSEF)
CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities (including swimming). If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. Your card must be valid from either the first day of term 1 (30th January, 2017) or term 2 (18th April, 2017). Contact the school office for a CSEF application form or download one from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef Parents are encouraged to lodge the application form ASAP.

Permission Forms / Headlice / Student details
We have attached forms to this newsletter that must be filled in and signed at the beginning of every school year, they will only take a few minutes to complete, so please take the time to sit down with a cuppa and spend 5 minutes reading and signing these forms.

- General Excursion to save filling out numerous forms throughout the year
- Photo/Publication form
- Headlice form is to allow your child’s hair to be checked by our trained staff.
- Student/Family Detail Update Request
- These forms are due back to the office by the end of this week please.

Hats Hats Hats
As we are a SunSmart school hats are compulsory for first and fourth term. A safe-sun hat protects the whole face, head, back of neck and ears.

- A hat can reduce the amount of ultraviolet (UV) radiation reaching the eyes by 50%.
- We have available Broad-brimmed and Bucket-style hats that provide good protection.
- When choosing a hat for children, ensure that it fits correctly, and shorten the cord to reduce the risk of it catching during play or on equipment.

If your child does not have a hat at school he/she will only be allowed to play on the art room deck at recess and lunch time. Please make sure your hats are clearly named for return when they are misplaced.

House Swimming Carnival
Monday 13th will be our House Swimming Carnival at the Aquadome. Children from grade 3-6 will be competing in age groups for their house in a variety of events. The results of the 50 metre events will help determine our team for the District Swimming Carnival in Orbost. Barb will have details in next week’s newsletter and will be asking parents to assist. So if you know now that you are willing to help out please let Barb know.

Photo Posts – Barb Plant will be our official photographer at our House Swimming Carnival. Please note that the Aquadome together with our school community do not permit parents to take photos of school events and in the interest of student safety do not wish photos to be posted on social media.

Student Banking with the Commonwealth Bank will continue on Mondays
Students that have bank accounts really love this program. When they collect 10 tokens they can cash them in for termly prizes. Please call into the office for an information/application form if you would like to start banking.

TAPS Lovely Lunches
Lunch orders will continue on Fridays. Our Lovely Lunch crew has devised a new Summer Menu which is attached to this week’s newsletter with the inclusion of a number of new healthy options for students. Lunch Orders will begin on Friday 10th. Lunch orders to be placed at the office on Thursday’s please starting next week!!!

Breakfast at school
Breakfast is available at school starting next Monday from 8.15am to 8.45am. There are a few new items on the menu so come and try them out!! We still require a few more volunteers especially for Wednesday morning so if you were able to help out please let Wayne Cheers, Mandy, Julie or Kerry know.

Looking forward to a great year of learning together, Kerry Hughes
PAYMENT SCHEDULE 2017

This parent payment schedule is set by School Council and this compulsory charge is within the Department of Early Childhood and Development Guidelines.

One of these forms should be returned to the school for EACH family

Name of Child/ren ____________________________  Class __________

Name of Child/ren ____________________________  Class __________

Name of Child/ren ____________________________  Class __________

Essential Educational Items

☐ I would like to pay, knowing that my child/ren will have full access to the following.

Prep - 6
1) Materials $125.00
2) Performances and Life Education $ 25.00
3) Swimming Program $100.00

TOTAL COST $250.00 per child

Payments for other items will need to be budgeted for and paid in full prior to attendance.

These are subject to change annually:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>What Description</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>What Description</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>Sleepover</td>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>Grade 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Educational Camp Canberra</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>Conran Camp</td>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>$130.00</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Interschool sport (determined by distance)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 and 4</td>
<td>Adventure Camp-Gelantipy</td>
<td></td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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NB Parents who are eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) $125.00 per student, can indicate if they would like to use that grant to pay half the essential items ie items 2 & 3 or be used to pay off camps.

Payment Options- Please indication your preferred payment option

A. Full amount at the beginning of term 1.
B. Part payment at the beginning of each term.
C. Half yearly payments (beginning of terms 1 & 3)
D. Other payment arrangement (please see Julie or Kerry for clarification)

Print Name__________________________Sign__________Date__________

This schedule is not inclusive of School Photo’s, Uniform, Social Service or School Fundraising.