



# TINONEE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday 13th March to Monday 25th March**

NAPLAN - Years Three and Five

**Friday 22nd March**

Harmony Day - Wear Orange

**Tuesday 26th March**

Cross Country 9:15am

**Thursday 28th March**

Easter Hat Parade 10:15am

*All welcome to attend*

Stage Three Excursion

Information Session 9:30am

**Friday 29th March**

Good Friday - Public Holiday

**Monday 1st April**

Easter Monday - Public Holiday

**Wednesday 10th April**

Stage Three Excursion

Information Session 3:30pm

**Friday 12th April**

Last Day of Term

## ASSEMBLY

School assemblies are held in our school hall at 9am. All are welcome to attend.

**Friday 22nd March**

Assembly Item - 3/4M

**Friday 29th March**

No assembly

**Friday 5th April**

Assembly Item - 3/4S

**Friday 12th April**

Assembly Item - Kinder

## AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to our award winners from last week.

KR	1S	2J	3/4S
Sadie	Reuben	Theodore	Archie
Savannah	Macey	Melea	Bonnie
Marlon	Talayah	Finn	Max
3/4M	5E	6A	
Jase	Brendan	Izayah	
Sophie	Halle	James	
Kirralee	Riley	Kyan	

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Ms Karen Austin

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all families who joined us for the **Annual General meeting for our P&C** on Tuesday night. It is great to see new faces and new families becoming involved in our school community. We welcome our new members and thank the P&C members who have remained on our P&C committee. Thank you to all the outgoing members of our P&C who have done a great job over the years, supporting our school, namely Liz Bonanno and Emma Carter.

A big thank you to **Jason from Officeworks** who recently donated much needed stationary and equipment to our school. Thank you so much for always considering Tinonee Public School. It is greatly appreciated.

Please help us by **not allowing your child to bring toys to school**. Many toys are getting lost, broken or 'traded', which creates angst and tears. If your child has something special they would like to share with their peers, they can do this through talking and speaking time in class and then return the item to their bag so it returns home in the same condition as it was brought to school. Thank you for your assistance.

This **Friday 22nd February, we are celebrating Harmony Week**. Harmony Week demonstrates our continued focus on celebrating the rich diversity of backgrounds in our public schools and the important role our school plays in society – embracing the theme 'Everyone Belongs'. The expertise, compassion, dedication and professionalism of our school leaders and teachers are integral to ensuring that activities during Harmony Week reaffirm the inclusive nature of our school, build intercultural understanding and belonging, and oppose racism. Students can wear orange clothing to school to acknowledge and celebrate this extremely important topic.

Please do not hesitate to speak with me if you have any queries or concerns. I have a parent/carers suggestion box on the counter of the office. Please feel free to make suggestions. I love new ideas and together, we build a strong, positive school community.

Kind regards,  
Karen.



# CURRICULUM

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At Tinonee Public School, we focus on giving our students a strong literacy education. A key part of this is teaching Grapheme-Phoneme Correspondences, or GPCs.

## What are GPCs?

Grapheme-Phoneme Correspondences (GPCs) are the foundational building blocks of reading and writing. In simple terms, a grapheme is a letter or group of letters that represent a sound (phoneme) in our language. **For example, the grapheme 'ch' represents the sound /ch/ as in the word 'chip'.**

Understanding GPCs is crucial for decoding words, which is the ability to translate written text into spoken language.

## Why Teach GPCs?

Teaching GPCs is essential for developing strong literacy skills. It helps students:

- 1. Decode Words:** Recognising the sounds that graphemes represent enables students to read unfamiliar words.
- 2. Spell Words:** Understanding GPCs assists students in spelling words correctly by breaking them down into their constituent sounds.
- 3. Build Vocabulary:** As students become more proficient in decoding words, they are exposed to a wider range of vocabulary, aiding in language development.
- 4. Improve Comprehension:** Fluent decoding skills lead to better comprehension, as students can focus on the meaning of the text rather than struggling with individual words.

## When Do Students Learn About GPCs?

At Tinonee Public School, we start teaching Grapheme-Phoneme Correspondences (GPCs) in Kindergarten and keep building on this knowledge as students move up the grades. Our teaching method is clear and well-structured, using different ways to make sure all students understand these concepts. We use fun activities and games in our phonics lessons, encourage students to practice reading with GPCs, and provide writing activities where they can use what they've learned. This helps our students develop strong reading and writing skills.

# NAPLAN

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NAPLAN is a literacy and numeracy assessment for students in Years Three and Five. NAPLAN commenced on **Wednesday 13th March and will conclude on Monday 25th March**. Students will complete four tests, including writing, reading, conventions of language and numeracy. Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding NAPLAN.

# HARMONY DAY

Harmony Week is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness and a sense of belonging for everyone. **On Friday 22nd March, 2024 students may wear orange to show their support.**

Our SRC will be sharing Harmony Day information at the Assembly and students will be completing a range of activities in their classrooms. There is no cost associated with the day.

The header for the Easter Hat Parade section is decorated with five stylized Easter eggs. From left to right, they have patterns of orange and white stripes, green and white zig-zags, pink and white polka dots, and green and white zig-zags. The text "EASTER HAT PARADE" is centered in a playful, rounded font. "EASTER" is in pink with small bird and flower icons, and "HAT PARADE" is in blue.

## EASTER HAT PARADE

Our annual Easter Hat Parade will be held **Thursday 28th March at 10:15am under the COLA**. All students K-6 are asked to make/create or recycle a hat at home to wear on the day. Please see your class teacher if you have any questions or concerns prior to the parade. Easter hats can be brought into the classroom prior to the parade for safe keeping.

**Years K-2** will be performing an Easter song for your enjoyment. We would like all K-2 students to bring in a set of bunny ears to support our song. These can be purchased at most 'cheap shops' in town. These can be sent into the classrooms early to ensure that we are ready for our performance.



Our **P&C raffle** will be drawn during the parade. Please ensure that all raffle tickets are returned to the office by the 25th March.

All students will be participating in an **Easter Colouring Competition**. The winners will be announced during the parade.

**Years 3-6** will be participating in an 'Egg Throwing' relay in house teams. Parents/carers are more than welcome to join us for this event at 2:00pm.





# STAGE THREE EXCURSION

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## INFORMATION SESSIONS

Available session dates and times are:

- **Thursday 28th March 9:30am**
- **Wednesday 10th April 3:30pm**

Please return the note indicating your availability to attend either session.

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

An expression of interest note has been sent home. **Please complete the note and pay the deposit by Friday 22nd March.**

## FUNDRAISER

Please ensure that money for the chocolate fundraiser is returned to the school office.

# STAGE TWO EXCURSION

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The Stage Two excursion for Year Three and Year Four students will be held at The Great Aussie Bush Camp in Term Three, 2024.

An expression of interest note has been sent home. **Please complete the expression of interest note. A deposit of \$50 is required by the end of Term One.**

# HIGH SCHOOL 2025 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

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Expression of Interest forms for Year 7 2025 have been sent home. Parents/carers are to indicate their preference for the school they wish their child to attend in 2025. Please be mindful of school zones when indicating your child's chosen high school.

All expression of interest forms are now **overdue**, with a large amount still outstanding. It is vital that **all forms, regardless of anticipated enrolment in the public or private sector are returned to the school.** This is a requirement of the Department of Education.

# THIRD PARTY SOFTWARE FORMS

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**Third Party Software Consent** forms have been sent home for all students, Kinder to Year Six. Please return notes to the school office.

# SPORTS NEWS

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## SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Our school cross country will be held on school grounds on **Tuesday 26th March** commencing at **9:15am**.

5,6 and 7 year olds will run 1 lap of the quiet area (400 metres).

8,9 and 10 year olds will run 2 laps of the school (2km).

11 and 12 year olds will run 3 laps of the school (3km).



Students should wear their sports uniform and running shoes. Students will need their drink bottle and school hat.

All are welcome to attend.

## GARDEN CLUB

Ms Stone and Miss Schneider



This term our gardeners have been busy weeding, watering and planting. The strawberries and society garlic we planted last year have survived the hot summer holidays. We have cucumbers, beans, parsley and chives growing in the bed next to 3/4S. Last week we sowed a variety of vegetable and flower seeds. 1S will be taking good care of these until they are ready to plant out when the weather starts to cool. We are very thankful to Greenpatch Organic Seeds for their generous donation of a mixed seed bundle to help get our garden growing.

Garden Club is on **every Tuesday lunchtime** and is open to all budding gardeners. Don't forget your hat!



## BOOK CLUB

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Please return Scholastic Book Club orders to the school office.

If returning the **order form to the school, please do so by Tuesday 26th March**. You can order online until the 29th March.



## ABSENCES

Please contact the school office when your child is absent. The school will send an SMS message on the day your child has an unexplained absence. If a response is not received, the school will follow up with a phone call.

# CANTEEN NEWS

Michelle Swannack - Canteen Supervisor

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The school is pleased to invite parents and carers to stay on after the fun of the Easter Hat Parade to enjoy a special Easter recess with their children. Parents/carers and children are able to order any of the following Easter treats:



Hot Cross Bun (buttered) \$2.00  
Fruit or Chocolate Chip flavours



Peter Rabbit Carrot Cake Muffin (homemade) \$2.00



Easter Popcorn Cup \$2.00

Free tea and coffee will be available for parents. An order form went home last week or you can now order online with Flexischools. **Gluten free** fruit buns are also available.

**Please have your orders placed before 9am on Wednesday 27th March to avoid disappointment.**

## CANTEEN ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

Friday 22nd Michelle, Judy & MM

Monday Bec Lewis ***Help needed please***

Tuesday Liz & Jodie

Wednesday Michelle

Thursday Michelle, Judy W & Linda ***Book Parade & Easter Recess Order***

Friday 29th ***Closed - Good Friday***

## REMINDER

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We ask that our infant students please pack a change of clothes in their bag in case of accidents. Please ensure that any loaned clothing is returned to the office as at this time, the office does not have any spare underwear.

## STEWART HOUSE

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Every year 1,600 public school children attend Stewart House, providing children with a much-needed break from their current circumstances. A fundraising envelope was sent home earlier in the term. **Please return the Stewart House Donation Drive envelopes to the school office by Thursday 9th May.**





## EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS

Tinonee P&C will be holding an Easter Raffle which will be drawn on Thursday 28th March at the Easter Hat Parade. **Please return tickets by Monday 25th March.** There will also be a prize for the student with the most tickets sold!



## EASTER RAFFLE PRIZES

Tinonee P&C are seeking donations for the Easter Raffle prizes. Please provide **donations to the school office by Monday 25th March.** Your donations are very much appreciated.

## EASTER EGG GUESSING COMPETITION

On Thursday 28th March at the Easter Hat Parade, the P&C will be holding an Easter Egg Guessing Competition. The winner, who guesses the number of Easter eggs in the jar will take the jar home! \$1 for 2 guesses.

## P&C COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Tinonee P&C AGM was held on Tuesday 19th March. Thank you to all those who attended. We welcome returning and new members on the P&C committee for 2024: President - Kayla Naqito; Vice President - Christine Watson; Secretary - Kirste Wilmot; Treasurer - Kristy Horbsburgh; Fundraising - Caitlin Gorton & Samantha Hughes; Uniforms - Tara Kennedy & Leah Jackson.

## PUBLIC NOTICES



**2024 SEASON  
SOCCER COACHES FOR  
ALL ABILITIES NEEDED**

*Could this be you?*



Ben Elliott Photography

**Call 0431 126366 or 0456 116122 for information**



### Screen habits to improve sleep

#### Did you know?

**School aged children need between 9 & 11 hours of sleep each night to help them play and learn during the day.**

Using screens can affect the quality of sleep and the time it takes for your child to fall asleep.

Try these tips to reduce the negative effects of screens on your child's sleep:

- ❖ Avoid using screens for at least one hour before bedtime. Wind down by reading or playing quiet games
- ❖ Keep tablets, mobile phones and other screen devices in a dedicated place outside of the bedroom every night
- ❖ Encourage your child to connect with friends during the day, rather than messaging or playing games at night
- ❖ Encourage active play outside, rather than using screens after school



Developed by Hunter New England LHD

[HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au)  
<https://goodforkids.nsw.gov.au>



Good for Kids acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land that we live and work on as the first people of this country, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.