

TRAWALLA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

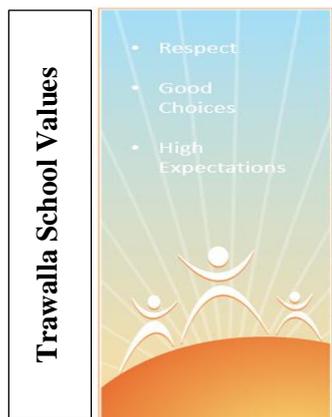
Principal: **Kate Morcombe**
School Council President: **Kylie Palmer**

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Issue No 22 Tuesday 3rd August 2021

DATES

Fri Aug 6 th	MARC Van with Kathy	Mon Aug 23 rd	Cluster choir perform @ South Street
Tue Aug 10 th	Emergency Management Webex – Kate – 3.30-5.00pm	Tue Aug 24 th	Lal Lal PS review – Kate away
Wed Aug 12 th	Cluster Principals' meeting – Kate away	Fri Aug 27 th	MARC Van with Kathy
Fri Aug 13 th	MARC Van with Kathy	Mon Aug 30 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Navarre
Mon Aug 16 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Navarre	Mon Sept 6 th	Lal Lal PS review – Kate away
Aug 16-20 th	Book Week	Tue Sept 7 th	Cluster - Halls Gap Zoo excursion
Tue Aug 17 th	School Council	Fri Sept 10 th	MARC Van with Kathy
Wed Aug 18 th	Network Meeting – Kate away	Mon Sept 13 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Navarre
Thur Aug 19 th	Art Gallery excursion	Fri Sept 17 th	MARC Van with Kathy
		Fri Sept 17 th	Last day of Term 3 – 2.30pm dismissal



Trawalla School Values Awards

Layla Best - For showing **Respect** by including others in your games.

James Malloch - For showing **Good Choices** by using your manners at school.

Sienna Shepherd – For showing **High Expectations** by using finger spaces during independent writing.

Full STEAM Ahead

This term the Pyrenees Cluster Full STEAM Ahead days at Navarre school.

These days will recommence when COVID permits.

The dates are:

- Monday July 19th
- Monday August 16th
- Monday August 30th
- Monday September 13th

Parenting Ideas

Today's article is attached – Nurturing young boys' friendships

Glasses For Kids – Years Prep to 3

We are delighted that State Schools' Relief will deliver the Glasses for Kids program to our school in Term 4 on Tuesday October 12, 2021. The Program Partner Optometrist will be Quinn & Co. Optometrists.

Students in years Prep to 3 are eligible and families are requested to complete the consent form and questionnaire that went home last week and return them to school by this Friday August 6th.

Congratulations on passing your learning goal...



Writing – Max Molloy
Maths – Zavier Mountney
Maths – Sienna Shepherd
Maths – Tom Palmer

Principal's Day

This morning I was provided with a surprise morning tea to celebrate Principal's Day which is this Friday. Thank you to my wonderful staff for the delicious food and card full of kind thoughts. I feel very blessed to be the Principal of Trawalla and that I am able to work with such a caring and talented staff.

The 2021 Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey

WE WANT OUR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS/GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents/caregivers/guardians think of our school. The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst all parents/caregivers/guardians (previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey). It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

All parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey will be conducted from Monday 19th July to Sunday 22nd August.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

Parents who wish to complete this survey on a school computer can do so by contacting Kate once the current COVID lockdown concludes.

The login and pin number for accessing the survey was attached to the newsletter two weeks ago.



Terry Floyd Foundation

Terry Floyd Foundation ribbons for \$2.00 each.

Please send your money to school and we will send home your ribbon.

Outdoor Sensory Play Space – Inclusive School’s Fund

Our school has been successful in receiving a grant to construct an Outdoor Sensory Play Space through the Inclusive Schools Fund. The space will include a sensory garden and play area with an accessible cubby (with mud kitchen), sensory wall, games area, learning area, bouldering wall and sensory paths. As the construction of the area will take place during the September school holidays, we have started or project planning and purchasing of items.



Figure 1 Cable Drum tables

There are some items that we are seeking donations for. If your family or friends have any of the below listed items that they could donate for our new play space, can you please let us know.

- Large cable drums
- Small cable drums
- Timber pallets
- Sink
- Kitchen items such as pots, pans, cake trays, utensils, sieves, measuring jug/cups/spoons



Figure 2 Planter boxes made out of timber pallets

Good to Grow Fundraiser - <https://www.fundraysia.com.au/fundraiser/trawallaps/>

Our Parents and Friends Association have commenced the Good to Grow fundraiser. The Good to Grow fundraiser involves selling different seed packs and sustainable planting items including a bug bed and breakfast!

There are two ways of selling the items:

1. Via our online webshop - Attached to last week’s newsletter was a flyer with a QR code that will send you to our online webshop where family and friends can make online purchases. Feel free to share around or display on a noticeboard at your workplace.
2. Via our order form – Also attached to last week’s newsletter was an order form where family and friends can complete and return your money in a clearly marked envelope with your child’s name to school by Friday 20 August.

Once we receive the Good to Grow items at school (early September), we will contact customers and let them know they can collect from School or Popp’s Place (23 Neil St, Beaufort).



Please remember to inform potential customers that the fundraising profits from this drive go directly to Trawalla Primary School. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support!

COVID-19 update

QR Codes

The Victorian Government has announced new arrangements for schools in Victoria from and including Friday 9 July.

QR codes will be required to be used by:

1. all parents who enter buildings when on the school site
2. all visitors, including contractors, external Department staff and building and maintenance staff

QR code check ins will not be required for staff or students.

Face Masks

School staff (primary) are not required to wear a face mask while at school when interacting exclusively with staff and students from their school. School staff (primary) must carry a face mask at all times, unless a lawful exception applies. School staff (primary) should wear a face mask indoors at school when interacting with external visitors, including parents/carers and staff/students from other schools. Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school are not required to wear face masks when at school,

School staff and students must also abide by face mask requirements when attending public venues.

Visitors and parents must observe indoor face mask requirements.

Thank you for your support and understanding of this important health direction. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Reading Awards

Congratulations to:

50 nights – Max Molloy

50 nights – Tanner Jantzen



Nurturing young boys' friendships



There are a couple of factors in helping our kids in the early years at school. One is a warm connected relationship with the teacher or education assistant. The other is having at least one friend they can rely on at school.

Boy friendships are fragile

Since boys often talk later (and less) than girls, little boys can struggle with friendships. I am astounded at the capacity of most little girls to have real conversations that explore things friends have in common, help them play games and negotiate, and experience mutually bonding moments. Girls also tend to have a better grasp on the non-verbal cues of building rapport such as smiling, waving, and hugging. One of the world's leading boy experts, Dr William Pollack, author of *Real Boys*, believes that while girls communicate more, boys seek connection more indirectly through activities or play. So, for boys to bond they need significant amounts of time spent playing with other boys.

Boys need play to facilitate friendships

'Play dates' are a reasonably recent happening. Years ago, children tended to play for hours either in each other's backyards or at sporting events. Now, less recess and lunch time at school, remote learning, and more emphasis on technology than real play is impacting this key window of building emotional and social skills.

We need to create opportunities outside of school. Finding families in your neighbourhood with kids of similar ages and older is still an excellent way of creating friendships. Yes, it involves some scheduling, but many families still make time to gather maybe one afternoon a week in the same playground with the same grownups and kids to create cohesion.

Play has many benefits other than the obvious one of helping our boys discharge excess energy and stress. Unstructured play helps to create feel-good neurochemicals, especially when it allows kids to follow the open-unspeaking randomness of boy play which frequently includes adventures, hunts, and targets. It teaches them to lose, to wait, to take turns and much more.

Coaching young boys

I often share the story of the little boy who at the end of the day at school ran up to his best little mate and punched him in the head. In no way did this little boy mean to hurt his friend however at that moment his actions, which looked confusing to everybody, were an attempt to express how much he liked his friend and how much he was going to miss him.

Helping boys to create (and practice!) welcoming and farewell strategies can help alleviate some of these awkward moments. Giving a high five, having a secret handshake, teaching them to smile and calling out 'hello' using their friend's name are all great strategies to coach and teach. Having a friend at school can make a huge difference to our boys, but sometimes they need a little help from parents to find their way.



Maggie Dent

Commonly known as the 'queen of common sense', Maggie Dent has become one of Australia's favourite parenting authors and educators, with a particular interest in the early years, adolescence and resilience. She has written seven major books including the bestselling *Mothering Our Boys* and her 2020 release, *From Boys to Men*. Maggie is host of the ABC podcast, [Parental As Anything](#). She is the mother of four sons and a very grateful grandmother. For further details visit maggiedent.com