



TELOPEA PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Education
Public Schools

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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

8th June 2018

Motto: "Success through Endeavour"

Be Safe

Be a Learner

Be Responsible

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21	June	2018	Books In Homes Assembly
27	June	2018	'The Big Dig' The Rocks Excursion
28	June	2018	Cross Country
6	July	2018	Last day of Term 2
17	Aug	2018	Healthy Harold Life Education Incursion

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A reminder to all parents that the School will not be open on Monday June 11th due to the long weekend.

We have had a great response to the 'Big Dig' Excursion occurring later this month. We are currently approaching capacity, there are limited spaces available in the senior group. If you have already made arrangements for late payment with your child's class teacher you need to be aware that these limits have been established by the excursion provider. We are unable to accept any further payments once places are filled.

An update on the school renovations, the majority of painting is now completed however painters will be returning once some building repairs are completed. Further renovations to the old staffroom which will become a conference centre and the administration building will commence in the next week. Again, we remind all students to avoid areas in which work persons are present. Thank you for your cooperation in enforcing this safety message.

Have a happy long and safe weekend.

Regards,

Alan McGowen

Principal

School Fees

A reminder that School fees are now due, please note that student Textbooks and included materials are distributed once payment has been made. Thank you for all who have paid.

Due to copyright we are not able to photocopy the textbooks, all students must work on their own original. Therefore, we ask that so as to not delay the distribution of students textbooks that if you have not yet made payment, please do so at your earliest convenience.

We can now accept payments via EFTPOS on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 8.45-11.00am ONLY. Payments made via cash can be made on any day.

If you are unable to make payments in full, please speak to the Front Office staff to discuss payment plans.

Books In Homes



Students have now all made their book selections from the catalogue and final touches are been added to the Role model competition for Years 2-6. The entry forms will be posted on Friday.

I received a phone call from a Books In Homes representative this week to notify me of some exciting news. We have **5** winners from the Term 1 competition. I am looking forward to receiving their prizes in the mail soon and can't wait to award the recipients at the next Book-Giving Assembly on June 21.

We also have a confirmed Role Model for the assembly. His name is Ned Narouz. Ned is the Founder & CEO of the Rap 4 Change Program. Rap 4 Change is an early intervention hip hop school educational program. He has a DJ, beats person and three artists that consists of one male, one female and a kangaroo mascot who rap live. Rap 4 Change goes into all the schools and helps educate kids in the importance of education and reading and writing, peer pressure, bullying, racism and drugs and alcohol. Check out his website for more details. www.rap4change.org.au

Cross Country

On Thursday June 28th students in Years 2-6 will participate in the Cross Country event which will be held on School grounds.

Students in participating years should attend School in their Sports uniform and relevant house colours.

Students in K-1 will attend normal classes on this day.

'The Big Dig' The Rocks Excursion



The Big Dig Archaeology Education Centre
Part of Sydney Harbour YHA

Teloopa Public School have organised an excursion to 'The Big Dig' site at The Rocks on Wednesday 27th June.

A final reminder that if you would like your child/ren to attend the excursion, please return payment and permission slips to your class teacher as soon as possible as places are almost at capacity.

Donations

Thank you to all families who have donated tissues, soap and wipes to the School. As cooler weather approaches these essentials are greatly appreciated. Donations of these items can be made at any time during the year. Thank you once again!

Uniform Shop

Uniforms can be purchased from the Uniform Shop every Wednesday between 8.45-10.30am. We are pleased to advise we now have the option of Eftpos for purchases between 8.45-11.00am only. Alternatively cash is still accepted, the correct change is much appreciated. A current price list is available from the front Office.



School Hours

Please note that School commences at **9.00am**. It has been reported that some students have been arriving early. There is no supervision for students until 8.45am.

On another note, School finishes at **3.00pm**. Please ensure you arrive promptly to pick up your child from school.

School Counsellor



The School Counsellor Ms Sharon Taylor who will be available on Thursdays each fortnight.

Parents who wish for their child to be seen by the school counsellor are asked to contact their child's class teacher in the first instance. Children may then be referred to our school's learning support team.

Mobile Phones



If you require your child to carry a mobile phone, a note stating so must be handed in to the Front Office and registered. Students are to turn all mobile phones off during School hours and these are handed to the Front Office during assembly and returned to students at the end of each day.

If you need to contact your child, please call the School directly so we can organise for you to speak to your child.

School Attendance

Regular School attendance is a legal requirement for all children. Please ensure that your child/ren are at School by 8.55am, ready for morning assembly by 9.00am.

School times are as follows;

9.00am School commences

11.00-11.30am Recess

1.15-2.00pm Lunch

3.00pm School finishes

All attendance is now recorded electronically, this includes late, early and sick bay departures. Please be patient with staff whilst we record and process these recorded slips.

Notes Sent Home

Ensure you don't miss out on important notes. Remember to check your child's School bag each day as most notes are sent home via students.

Safety

A reminder to all students and parents that entry to the School is via the Third Gate (on Chestnut Avenue near the Kindy classroom). This is for everyone's safety.

We have had a number of students entering via the first and second gates. These gates are not supervised by staff and often there are cars entering and exiting which may pose a risk to unsupervised students.

Schools as a Community Centre



BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS...

We are now enjoying reading out loud to each other during breakfast club every morning. If you have a favourite book and you'd like to share it please feel free to bring it along.



A reminder that Breakfast club finishes at 8.50am to ensure children are ready to commence School at 9.00am.

Pip Martins
Telopea SaCC Facilitator
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phillipa.martins@det.nsw.edu.au

Handy Tips



Reading to your child each day is all it takes to develop key reading skills. Make reading fun!

1. Create reading rituals and read together every day.
2. Talk about the pictures and ask questions.
3. Share different kinds of books.
4. Read with expression.
5. Read favourite books again and again!

Health and Wellbeing

As Winter approaches we would like to take the opportunity to remind you that if your child is unwell and presents with any of the conditions below, please notify the office on 02 9638 1296 immediately.

From time to time your child may get sick and display any number of symptoms that mean it's best to keep your child away from school and see your doctor.

Some of these symptoms include:

- a fever of 38°C or above
- vomiting or diarrhoea
- severe cold or flu symptoms
- rashes of an unknown origin

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Under the Public Health Act and Department of School Education regulations, some common infectious diseases require you to keep your child away from school to prevent the spread of infection, examples may be;

Chicken Pox	For five (5) days after the first spots appear.
German Measles	Until fully recovered and for at least seven (7) days after the rash appears.
Hepatitis	Until a medical certificate confirms recovery or when symptoms are no longer obvious – usually seven (7) days after the first signs of jaundice.
Measles	For five (5) days from the appearance of the rash.
Mumps	Until fully recovered and at least nine (9) days after the appearance of swelling.
Whooping Cough	For three (3) weeks from the onset of the whoop and then until fully recovered as advised by a medical certificate.
Scabies	Until appropriate treatment has commenced. A medical certificate may be requested.
Impetigo	Until all sores have healed. If exposed surfaces are being medically treated and are properly covered with dressings, the child may attend school.
Head lice (Pediculosis)	Until effective treatment has been undertaken.

A reminder that if your child is away from School for more than 3 consecutive days, a medical certificate is required.



Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities