

Dear Parents,

My School Website

The My School Website has been up and running with the latest data sets for a month or so now and I would encourage you to have a look. It offers many forms of information about our school and every other school in the country. I would like to draw your attention in particular to the test data that indicates our school's performance in literacy and numeracy based on the NAPLAN testing. Through the website it is possible to compare our performance in reading and numeracy against similar schools by looking at the 'gains' data. Gains data is the most assuring evidence of our school's success. The following analogy may help in understanding what this means. Let's imagine a football ladder of ten teams. Let's also assume that there are no changes to the playing list for each team – no recruits, no injuries etc between seasons. The only influence to how each team performs is the coach. The following season team A moves from 10th position to 5th position. Team B moves from 3rd position to 4th position. Despite the fact that team B is still further up the ladder in 4th position than team A – in fifth – we might conclude that the coach of team A has had the greatest influence on his team's performance and is therefore the more effective coach. In other words the coach from team A has therefore made the greatest gains!

With this in mind our school gains data tracks which children have moved further 'up the ladder' as compared with other children across the country in their grade. This measure attempts to take out all other influences so that the gain can be attributed to the school's teaching program. Therefore gains data is the best determinant of how our school adds value above and beyond progress that would be normally expected. In this measure Youngtown Primary punches well above our weight. For both numeracy and reading (there is no data available for writing) we have shown stronger learning growth than similar schools across the country and this is something that we are enormously proud of. Indeed it is the best indication about how well our school programs are supporting learning.

NAPLAN Testing 2013

Parents of our grade 3 and 5 children should feel very proud of the manner in which children have managed themselves throughout this week's NAPLAN testing. Put simply they have been outstanding. Regardless of the results of the tests our children should feel very proud of the

effort they have given this week. For our grade 3 children this has been their first NAPLAN experience and we shouldn't underestimate the challenge that it presents. In particular Tuesday was a tough day with two different tests to sit. I expect that they will be very tired by the end of the last test on Thursday. They deserve a very restful weekend ahead!

New House Names

Thank you to the many families who submitted suggestions for the new house names as we move from our previous two houses to three houses. It is our intention to have the new house names established in readiness for next week's cross country events. Based on their popularity we have shortlisted the possible house names to three themes as follows:

- Streets – Napoleon, Victoria, Napier
- Mountains – Arthur, Barrow, Lomond
- Explorers – Bass, Flinders, Reed

This week two of our student leaders – Melina Fullbrook and Anabel Thomson-Callaghan – will provide an opportunity for children to vote on their preferred theme and the new names will be announced on Monday at line-up.

Leah Receives her NAPLAN Award

Congratulations to Leah Fullbrook who received her certificate for achieving the highest overall NAPLAN results at Youngtown Primary in 2012. The certificates were presented by Paul O'Halloran at Prospect High School.



Book Fair Fundraiser

A reminder that Mrs Lisa Tatnell will be conducting a Book Fair here at school next week. Details about this fundraiser are further in this newsletter. Please support this important first fundraising event – funds which always directly support the resources and opportunities available to our children here at school.

Troy Roberts
Principal

BOOK FAIR IS HERE NEXT WEEK

Could all children wishing to enter the competitions as detailed below please return them to their class teacher by this Friday 17th May.

Colouring in Competition (Kinder - 2)
Design your own Bookcover (3 - 6)

Thanks,
Lisa Tatnell



HELP WANTED

The **Kings Meadows Lions Club** will be donating all of the proceeds raised from a Bunnings BBQ, to be held in June, to Youngtown Primary School.

Mrs Colgrave needs some parents to help at the BBQ on Wednesday 5th June.

If you can spare 2 hours on Wednesday 5th June please see Mrs Colgrave as soon as possible or email her on

lynda.colgrave@education.tas.gov.au

PLEASE HELP EARN MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL



Cross Country Carnivals

The Kinder-Grade 2 carnival will be held at Youngtown Primary School on Tuesday 21st May starting at 9.15am. All spectators welcome.

The Grades 3-6 carnival will be held at Alma Street Park (near the playground equipment) on Thursday 23rd starting at 9.00am. All spectators welcome.

This week the grade 6 classes will walk to Alma Street for a practice.

If there are any parents who would like to come to our practices or help out at the carnival on one of the check points, could you please let Mrs Colgrave know as soon as possible, either in person or by email: lynda.colgrave@education.tas.gov.au



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 17 May 2013

Grade 6s walking to Alma Street Park for cross country practice

1:10 PM 5/6 Football & Netball - Youngtown v Summerdale @ Summerdale

Monday, 20 May 2013

Parent Association Book Fair Mon 20th May - Fri 25th May

9:00 AM Dance Baby Dance

Tuesday, 21 May 2013

9:00 AM Kinder - grade 2 Cross Country carnival at Youngtown Primary

Wednesday, 22 May 2013

9:40 AM Dance Baby Dance

Thursday, 23 May 2013

9:00 AM Grades 3-6 Cross Country carnival at Alma Street Park

2:20 PM 3 - 6 Assembly
6B Thow to host

Friday, 24 May 2013

1:10 PM 5/6 Netball - Youngtown v Rocherlea @ Rocherlea

1:10 PM 5/6 Football - Youngtown v Ravenswood @ Ravenswood



COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Kung Fu 4 Kids (6 - 12years)

Thursday 5:00pm to 5:45pm at Unigym Dojo, Newnham. Enrolments now being taken. First lesson FREE. For more information please contact Leigh on 0429 107 108.

Uniform Shop

New jackets have arrived. They can be collected from the Uniform shop next **Tuesday 21st May**

from 8.30am - 9.30am & 2.30pm - 3.00pm.

If you are unable to collect at these times please call me on 0417 445 455 to arrange a convenient time.

Tracie Pearce

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd May in the staffroom at 7.00pm.

If you are able to attend this meeting please give Lisa a call on 0418 364 861.

Crossing Guard Napier Street

We welcome back Alicia Gibson to this role on the Napier Street crossing both before and after school.

LOST PROPERTY

A new school rugby top has been handed into the office. It is a small size. If you have lost one could you please contact the office on 6341 3222.

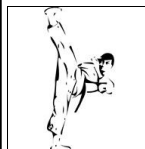
Library Request



A reminder to parents to please ensure your child brings a bag to school on the day that they will be borrowing books from the Library.

This helps to keep our books in good condition, protecting them from lunch box & drink leakages etc.

Taekwondo available



Taekwondo is held in the schools GP room on Fridays.

Tiny Taekwondo 4.30 - 5.00pm (4-7 year olds)

Junior & Seniors 5.00 - 6.00pm

Please contact Judy on 0419 382 331 for further enquiries.

Taekwondo teaches children confidence, concentration, respect, self defence and improves learning skills.

CONTACT DETAILS

YOUNGTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Email: youngtown.primary@education.tas.gov.au



Tasmania

Explore the possibilities