

Youngtown News & Views



20th February 2013 Vol. 22 No. 03

Phone: (03) 6341 3222 Fax: (03) 6343 3006
Email: youngtown.primary@education.tas.gov.au
Web: www.youngtownprimary.tas.edu.au

Dear Parents,

Shaping Our Children for Future Success

There are many ways in which we go about supporting our children to learn the essential skills and understandings for future success. We think of this success in terms of successful relationships, successful careers and general contentedness. As parents these are what we want most for our children and as educators we know that such qualities require deliberate nurturing. This learning focus is at the core of our Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) approach and, whilst we regard this area of our work as an area of strength at Youngtown Primary, it is also an area we want to continue to grow and improve. Through PBS we are explicitly teaching children, and constantly reinforcing social and emotional skills. Importantly we believe that making the connection between these skills and their success as learners and friends is paramount. To further advance our work in this area we will be building on our existing practices such as our token economy, our behaviour management processes, and the continued implementation of restorative practices. On top of this we will also be implementing a new daily program of social and emotional skills. Once this program has been established we will ensure that you know about, and are able to reinforce the particular focus skills at home with your children. After all our work here at school has far greater influence on our children if it is reinforced at home.

You will notice that accompanying this newsletter is our Possibility Shop Catalogue. This catalogue shows the many rewards that will be available throughout this year for children who accumulate tokens. We are very fortunate to have businesses that have sponsored our Possibility Shop and I would like to thank them for their generosity towards, and support of our school. They are listed in the catalogue and I encourage you to support these businesses and, where possible, thank them for their support of our school. You will also notice that the catalogue includes some of the core ideas behind our PBS and behaviour management processes. For instance you will see that our three core expectations (be safe, be a learner and be responsible) are stated at the beginning. Our entire PBS approach revolves around these expectations. In the centre of the catalogue is our matrix of expectations which are an elaboration of the core three expectations. All children will

be familiar with this matrix – our rewards tokens are given to students who are ‘living’ these expectations. At the back of the catalogue we have articulated our basic rights in a school. Please take the time to look through these and the consequence that arises for those who compromise these rights for others.

Focus School Initiative.

The Focus School Initiative is an Australian Government commitment to providing extra assistance to kick start the implementation of strategies aimed at lifting the attendance, engagement and educational achievement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Youngtown Primary School is participating in this initiative in 2013. This resource will provide the school with funding for a number of initiatives including the provision of extra staff training, extra resources, the establishment of an Aboriginal cultural garden, and the temporary employment of specific staff such as our Aboriginal Education worker Mrs Bonnie Starick.

An expectation of the *Focus School Initiative* will be a ‘snapshot’ process by an outside facilitator.

The *Dare to Lead* team has developed the Collegial School Snapshot Process. This involves the State Coordinator (Jan Larcombe former principal of Riverside Primary) interviewing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, parents, staff and community members. This will occur over Monday and Tuesday next week.

The purpose of this process is to provide us with a snapshot of the school’s current practice in Indigenous Education. In essence the interview helps us to reflect on our programs and practice, with a view to implementing a plan which enhances our understanding, learning and teaching to deliver responsive and innovative learning approaches tailored to our local context.

(Cont)

(.....cont)

Uniform Expectations

At present we have a growing number of children who are not wearing black footwear as a part of the school uniform. Our expectation for school uniform is that black footwear is to be worn on days when children do not have physical education. This footwear can be either black shoes or black sandals (these are a good option and best suit children's general play habits). On days when PE classes are scheduled or sports competition is scheduled then children wear their sports uniform and can wear sandals that are of any colour, however high-top shoes are not recommended. When children are going on excursion then black footwear must be worn – as it is a part of our school uniform. Your support on this matter is, as always greatly appreciated. Please note that our kinder children wear their sports uniform on each of their days at school.

Arrival Time at School

Teachers at Youngtown do not begin their duty of care for children until 8:30am. This is the time that classrooms will be open and there will be a teacher supervising in the playground. Prior to 8:30am children are still in the care of their parents/guardians and so it is important that children are not dropped off at school before 8:30am.

Tennis on Thursdays

I know that many children in our school expressed interest in being a part of David Carswell's tennis coaching sessions here at school on Thursday mornings. This is a great way to introduce your children to the game of tennis. It is not too late to join – simply come along and meet David or his son Mat here at the netball courts at 8:30 am tomorrow morning.

Family BBQ

Don't forget tomorrow at 5pm is our family picnic/BBQ. It would be great to have you there.

Troy Roberts
Principal

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2013

Grade 3-6 parents by now you should have received a notice about the primary athletics carnival, asking you if you are able to get your child/ren to the South Launceston Oval by 8.15am on Monday 4th March. Please only return the form if you are **UNABLE** to do so and we will try to organise alternative arrangements. The form needs to be back by tomorrow.

HELP!!

The carnival takes a lot of organisation and there are many jobs to fill. If you are able to help out at the carnival, please leave your name at the office as soon as possible so I can assign jobs.

Thank you
Lynda Colgrave
P E Teacher



Dear Parents

The teachers at Youngtown Primary value the important partnership between parents and school in supporting your child's language and reading development. To foster this, the Home Reading Program will again be offered this year to students.

Home reading should be an enjoyable and positive time between parent/guardian and child. It should not be seen as a performance or competition time, or a checking out time of whether your child can or can't read the book. Some useful hints are included on the inside cover of the student record book to help guide parents through the reading process. On sharing a reading session with your child please sign their record book. Please get your child to regularly visit Mr Sexton (**in his classroom now situated down the hallway on the left just past Mr Colson's Grade 5 classroom**) to obtain their reward so that students feel they can reach achievable goals. Unfortunately due to the management of the program backdated rewards will not be considered this year. If you require any further information or assistance please have a discussion with your child's teacher or Mr Sexton.

Classroom teachers have a collection of books especially chosen for the use in the Home Reading Program. Every teacher will have an organisational procedure for borrowing and exchanging the books. Due to the high replacement cost of these books it would be much appreciated that the greatest of care is taken with the books and the class borrowing/exchanging procedures are followed to avoid unnecessary losses.

Finally, it is important to remember that reading experiences for your child extend beyond the Home Reading Program. Other reading experiences may include sharing library books, reading stories from your own collection at home, reading letters, cards, emails received, reading articles in the newspaper, comic books and so on. These all form part of reading sessions that may be recorded as part of your child's reading record.

I look forward to many eager readers coming to my classroom to share their reading successes with me.

Shaun Sexton (Resource Teacher)

Launching into Learning at YPS

This year we will be offering 2 sessions on a Wednesday:

Chat and Play: 9:30–11:00am

This session is for children from birth to 3 years.

Cost: \$4 per family

Let's Move it: 11:30am–1:00pm

This session is for children who are 3 to 4 years of age (and not yet attending Kindergarten)

Cost: \$3 per child

Both sessions will begin on Wednesday 6th March 2013.

Please bring a smock, sun hat, and a snack (or lunch for Let's Move it) and drink.



We look forward to seeing you soon!

Angela Lohrey



CAMP IS 7 WEEKS AWAY!!



The Grade 5 & 6 students will again this year be travelling to Hobart/Tasman Peninsula.



Grade 5's 8th - 10th April 2013



Grade 6's 10th - 12th April 2013



Another notice was sent home yesterday with a medical consent form, please could you return this by **Friday 22nd**.



Also a reminder that the camp component of the levies must be paid before Monday 4th April to ensure participation of your child.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday, 21 February 2013

1:40 PM Prep - 2 Assembly
1-2A Coombes to host

5.00 PM Welcome back picnic/bbq

Thursday, 28 February 2013

9:30 AM Aboriginal Education Group Excursion to the Gorge

Monday, 4 March 2013

8:15 AM Grades 3-6 Athletics Carnival at South Launceston Oval - Students to meet staff at the oval

Thursday, 7 March 2013

2:20 PM 3 - 6 Assembly
5A Boxhall to host

Friday, 8 March 2013

9:00 AM Solid State Circus performance

YOUNGTOWN SPORTS LEADERS

Congratulations to all of the Grade 5 students who applied to be a Youngtown Sports leader. The standard of the applications were very good and therefore it was a really difficult process to decide on the sports leaders.

Mr Roberts, Miss Boxhall, Mr Colson and Mrs Colgrave read all 31 applications and based on the written applications and their dealings with those students both in class and in the playground, they voted for the students who they thought should be this years leaders.

The following students have been selected as **Youngtown Sports Leaders for 2013:**

5 Colson
Jessica Hawkins
Jeremy Cassidy
Amelia Bevan
Grace Keating
Jesse Springer
Kate McCormack
Lochie Mitchell

5 Boxhall
Tsharne King
Divyansh Sharma
Lily Pearce
Hamish Lehner
Courtney Johnson
Oliver Dobson
Elosie McKercher

Name our three New Houses

Don't forget to have a go at naming our new houses. Suggestions need to be handed into the office by this Friday.



COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Tennis Coaching Term 1

Group, Private, Beginners and advanced. Enrolment forms have been distributed or available from the school office if required. People interested in having lessons at School, are to report to the School tennis courts 8:30am Thursday. Coach Mathew Carswell, Tennis Australia Club Professional Coach and former State Champion Player. Enquiries phone Carswell Coaching on 63261020 or Mathew 0417390261 or e matcarswell@yahoo.com.au

Taz Kids Clubs and Champs Camps

This service is run through Anglicare and offers various groups and school holiday camps for children and adolescents who have a parent living with a mental illness. Referrals and support for families are also provided. Contact Glenn O'Neill, Anglicare, phone: 6333 3024 or email: kidsclubs@anglicare-tas.org.au

Stompin

Stompin in association with Ten Days on the Island presents ON YOUR MARKS. 23rd - 26th March at Aurora Stadium. Bookings can be made at tendaysontheisland.com

PCYC Gymsports Funday

Saturday 23rd February 10.00am - 3.00pm PCYC Launceston. Bounce on our Olympic Trampolines, Flip on our Tumble Track, Twist & Roll on our Gymnastics floor, Fly into our inground foam pit. Entry \$5.00 per participant, phone 6344 2411.

Life Centre Music School

Check us out on lifecentremusic.com.au. We work with children from 3 months to 9 years. General music, keyboard, violin and choir. Phone Lucy Meech on 0409 443 436.



Book club news!

Book Club orders are due back
TOMORROW
Thursday 21st of February .

Any queries please contact Lisa Tatnell,
0418364861

School Association News

Our next meeting which is our AGM and a General meeting will be held on
Wednesday 13th March.

The positions of **Treasurer** and **Fundraising co-ordinator** are now vacant. Any one wishing to nominate for either position, can collect a nomination form from the office.



Welcome Back Picnic/BBQ TOMORROW

Thursday 21st
5.00pm - 7.00pm
Sausages, Hamburgers & Drinks will be available to purchase.

**HELP is required , if you can assist please
phone Erica on 0439 795 898.**

We also have **Sth Launceston Junior Football Club** coming to provide entertainment and to answer any questions about their roster.

UNIFORM SHOP

Special uniform deals ending February 28th.

All orders need to be placed and left at office by this date.

Please note orders may take 4-6 weeks to fill.

Any enquiries please phone Tracie Pearce 0417 445 455 or Lisa Tatnell 0418 364 861.



BREAKFAST CLUB

The Breakfast club have commenced again for this year
Tuesday & Thursday mornings.

We do require some volunteers, if you could assist for anytime between 8.00am - 9.30am it would be greatly appreciated even if it is for only half an hour.

If you are able to help please leave your name at the office.

Thank you

CONTACT DETAILS

YOUNGTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Phone: (03) 6341 3222 Fax: (03) 6343 3006

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



Tasmania

Explore the possibilities