

Youngtown News & Views



20th June 2012 Vol. 21 No. 14

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back

I trust that you have enjoyed some wonderful family time over the past two weeks. I know that some families travelled further North to warm up, however for many families it was simply a time to chill out together at home and recharge the batteries. It has been a great start to our winter term and I have been most impressed with the renewed energy and enthusiasm from children.

Over the two week break we have completed some more of our playground landscaping with new concrete edging around the playground adjacent to the netball courts and a new path that links with the outdoor classroom. This path also doubles as a bike track for our prep children. Another addition to our school is a toilet attached to our GP Hall. This will enable this facility to be used independently from the remainder of our school.

Laptops in Grade 5/6

I'm pleased to announce that we now have a full set of laptop computers to be shared between 2 of our grade 5/6 classes. Children from 5/6 Colson and 5/6 Thow will now enjoy access to these laptops which are much more efficient and versatile than their previous desk-top computers. A set to be shared between 5/6 Boxhall and 3/4 Rainbow are currently on order.

School Uniform Review

One of the many exciting things happening for our school at present is a review of our school uniform. Whilst change of this type isn't always welcomed by everyone – we feel that this review is timely. The committee undertaking this review is a sub-committee of the School Association and it is being led by a parent in our school, Mrs Tracie Pearce. The committee is made up of both parents and teachers. We are very grateful for their energy and commitment towards this review process. The purpose of the review is to both simplify and modernise our school uniform. The committee is currently investigating many options that are cost effective. Included in the review will be such things as colour, and what components will make up the uniform. Once the committee have made a selection these will be shared with the school community to seek feedback.

Following this consultation the School Association will be asked to endorse the change and then a plan for transitioning to the new uniform will be shared. This transition will be a gradual process allowing children to wear the current uniform until the change-over is affordable for parents.

Pupil-Free Day Learning

On Monday our teaching staff joined with teachers from Perth Primary to continue our work with the new Australian Curriculum. The morning was spent looking at English assessment. In particular teachers looked at samples of writing to compare against the English achievement standards. This process confirmed that our collective understanding of assessing against the Australian Curriculum has grown considerably over the past 12 months.

We spent the afternoon developing our knowledge and skills for designing mathematics tasks that extend all children. This work was supported by a wonderful presentation by educational researcher and school psychologist – Debbie Youd. The result of the afternoon was the development of some mathematics tasks that will be trialled in classrooms and then shared back when we meet next with Perth Primary staff during the middle of this term.

Restorative Practises Training

Yesterday our grade 6 student leaders and our grade 5 sports leaders combined with children from Trevallyn Primary to learn about restorative practises. We were lucky to have two of Tasmania's foremost experts, John Lennox and Les Drelich, share what restorative practises is all about with our students so that they will be better able to support their peers in resolving conflicts. They also ran information sessions for every class from Prep through to grade 6. As it turns out this type of training was a first for Tasmania. John and Les have also worked with our teachers and teacher assistants at various times throughout the year. Building a restorative approach is a key school-wide priority for us this year and I will share some of the background research into this approach in next week's newsletter.

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Bravehearts

Next Tuesday children from prep to grade 3 will attend a live 30-minute interactive show called the Ditto Show. The session is designed to empower children with the skills and knowledge about how to keep safe. The sessions will take place in the music room throughout the day. You are welcome to attend the show and your child's time will be in their communication book sometime this week.

Troy Roberts
Principal



UNSW Global
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
SYDNEY • AUSTRALIA

Entries for the UNSW Global ICAS Science competition have now closed.

If your child is in years 3-6 and you would like them to participate in the English or Mathematics competitions, please return permission form below to the school office no later than the 29th of June.

For more information contact Nathan Karas at Youngtown Primary School 63413 222.

To discover more please visit the Educational Assessment Australia website at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au or contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or by email at info@eaa.unsw.edu.au



**2012 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)
PERMISSION SLIP**

Please return to the school office by Friday 1st June 3pm

I give permission for my child _____
Child's name *Class*

to participate in the following 2012 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

- English – 31 July 2012 (AUD 7.70 GST inclusive)
- Mathematics – 14 August 2012 (AUD 7.70 GST inclusive)

Please find enclosed _____ entry fee.
Amount

Name of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

National Landcare Award

Our school has been nominated for a national Landcare award for the initiative undertaken by Mr Bergamin through the Outdoor Classroom in 2010. This award goes to a school or youth group for raising awareness, knowledge and understanding of Landcare amongst the students and the community, and for implementing Landcare practices. This nomination is a very strong endorsement of the partnership between our school and the Glenara Lakes Residents Association. It is also a wonderful recognition of the outstanding learning opportunities provided to our children through our Outdoor Classroom led by Mr Bergamin and Mrs Shegog. Many of our children worked alongside residents from Glenara Lakes to plant native shrubs and trees around the lake and stream adjacent to the school and within the resident facility.

Voting is now open for the 2012 Landcare People's Choice Award

To find out more about the finalists, get involved, and **show your support by voting**, please visit www.landcareonline.com.au/nationalawards.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 22 June 2012

4:30 PM Taekwondo using Multi-purpose room
4.30pm-6.00pm

Wednesday, 27 June 2012

Hockey Tasmania working with PE
7:00 PM School Association Meeting

Friday, 29 June 2012

4:30 PM Taekwondo using Multi-purpose room
4.30pm-6.00pm

Wednesday, 4 July 2012

Hockey Tasmania working with PE

Friday, 6 July 2012

4:30 PM Taekwondo using Multi-purpose room
4.30pm-6.00pm

Wednesday, 11 July 2012

12:30 PM Grade 6 Immunisations girls only

Friday, 13 July 2012

4:30 PM Taekwondo using Multi-purpose room
4.30pm-6.00pm



Launching into Learning Youngtown Primary School

This term our afternoon group focus for 3 and 4 year olds will change from motor skills to a numeracy and literacy focus. It will begin at 2pm and finish at 2.45pm.

Chat and Play (0-4 year olds) will still run in the morning from 10am until 11.30am. Both sessions will operate in the other kindergarten room next term. Below is a list of dates for Term 2 for both of these programmes.

Wednesday 27th June - Chat and Play/ Launching into Numbers at Youngtown

Wednesday 4th July - Chat and Play/ Launching into Numbers at Youngtown

Wednesday 11th July - **No Groups this week**

Wednesday 18th July - Chat and Play/Launching into Numbers at Youngtown

Wednesday 25th July - Chat and Play/Launching into Numbers at Youngtown

Wednesday August 1st - Chat and Play

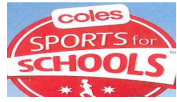
Wednesday August 8th - Chat and Play/Launching into Language at Youngtown

Wednesday August 15th - Chat and Play/Launching into Language at Youngtown

Wednesday August 22nd - Chat and Play/Launching into Language at Youngtown

Wednesday August 29th - Excursion

Please don't hesitate to come in and ask if you have any questions at all, especially about next year. Looking forward to seeing all families again next term. Have a happy and safe holiday break with your children.



Coles Sports for Schools is Back!!

Once again Coles will be running their Sports for Schools program where they will give out vouchers at the register. Please bring these to school and place in the box near the office.

This program was very successful for our school last year.

We do not have to count our vouchers this year so you can just place vouchers straight in the box near the school office.

***Thank you in advance for your support,
Lynda Colgrave
PE Teacher***

School Association News

The School Association meeting will be next Wednesday 27th June at 7.00pm.

All welcome to attend.



LAUNCESTON KIDS CHESS CLUB

Chess is known to have many cognitive and other developmental benefits.

This is an opportunity for children to learn and master the art of Chess.

A special invitation to this community project for:

Children on the Autism Spectrum

Gifted children

Children with difficulties such as ADHD

Please contact Dawida Rose-Nel

on 0417981770 or

e-mail: dawidarose-nel@hotmail.com

to REGISTER YOUR INTER

FOR LINKS TO RESEARCH that explores the

BENEFITS OF CHESS or

for COPIES of a FLYER to circulate.



Restorative Practises Training yesterday for our grade 5 and 6 leaders and students from Trevallyn Primary.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Tasmania

Explore the possibilities