

# Youngtown News & Views



23rd May 2012 Vol. 21 No. 12

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Dear Parents,

## **Four Terms for Next Year**

After much debate and uncertainty surrounding Tasmania's move to a four-term system it now seems certain that we will indeed proceed to four terms for 2013. Given this scenario I believe it is worth noting the many benefits of this change. I'm convinced that going to four terms is in the best educational interests of our children. The most notable benefit will be the shorter, more concentrated spans of learning time. In this our 14<sup>th</sup> week of a 15-week term there is no doubt that our children are currently tired and feeling the effects of such an extended period of learning. I am confident that reducing to 10-week terms will not only enable children (especially our younger children) to maintain their momentum and enthusiasm, but it will also help reduce absenteeism for both children and staff!

Of course there are more benefits of falling into line with other Australian states with a four-term system. We are currently in the midst of implementing the Australian Curriculum and to support teachers with this challenge many units or work and learning sequences are being developed and shared with teachers throughout the country. In many cases these units are designed with a 10-week timespan in mind and I believe this trend will only increase given that the majority of these curriculum materials are developed from within states that have 4 terms. There are also benefits for children who transfer between Tasmania and other states with breaks occurring at similar times. Finally I believe that aligning with other states will also mean that comparisons in our children's performance against Australian standards will be more valid if we can delete the anomaly of term differences as a variable.

For us here at Youngtown Primary this decision is timely as we are currently readjusting our curriculum content to align with the new Australian curriculum. In particular we are making changes to our inquiry units and so it is a good time for us to plan these rich learning units to fit within the new terms.

## **Glenara Lakes Residents Providing a Boost**

For the past month some of our primary children have enjoyed an extra boost with their reading thanks to the generous support from our friends at Glenara Lakes. Our literacy support teacher Mrs Nelson has been working with residents from Glenara Lakes to establish a regular reading

tuition program. Bruce, Helen, John, Vivienne, Toni, Geraldine, Helen and Jacqueline from Glenara Lakes have spent time with Mrs Nelson discussing strategies that help young readers improve and they attend our school on Monday afternoons and Thursdays before lunch simply to listen to some children read. For those children requiring a little extra, the opportunity to read to, and receive some useful advice from these tutors, is simply wonderful. Mrs Nelson said the children involved were from grades 5 and 6 and really enjoyed their time with the tutors. At the end of the session our volunteers provide plenty of feedback to both the children and also to Mrs Nelson.

## **Facebook**

Once again we are hearing about some children who are regularly accessing Facebook and in some cases using this to make derogatory comments about other children. I have written in the past about the dangers of children having access to social network sites such as Facebook. It requires a level of maturity that is beyond most children in their primary years of schooling which is why the minimum age requirement for a Facebook account is 13 years. I am aware of a few instances where children have become the victims of very negative comments and we know how damaging this can be for both the victim and the instigator of the comments. Unlike verbal comments we might make in the heat of a conflict, comments posted on Facebook are permanent and available to an immeasurable audience. Please consider these implications before allowing your child access to this site. Your support in protecting your children from this exposure is greatly appreciated.



## **Chewing Gum**

Please ensure that your child does not arrive at school with chewing gum as it is not allowed here at school and will be confiscated.

*Troy Roberts*  
*Principal*

# YPS LSSSA CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

The LSSSA cross country carnival will be held this Friday 25th May at Waverley Primary School. Students will travel by bus to and back from Waverley, departing at 12.15pm and returning before 3.00pm. Congratulations to the following students for being selected in this year's team:

## **Grade 3 Boys**

Bailey Mitchell  
Alexander Austin  
Mackie Reitsma  
Euen Rose-Nel  
Jonte Lee

## **Grade 3 Girls**

Grace Gillow  
Phoebe Withington  
Sophie Fahey  
Leah Fullbrook  
Jazmine Hodgetts  
Shannon Monk-Morcom

## **Grade 4 Girls**

Tiana Lockett  
Eloise McKercher  
Tsharne King  
Courtney Johnson  
Amelia Bevan  
Lily-Enna Pearce

## **Grade 4 Boys**

Hamish Lehner  
Sam Day  
Lochie Mitchell  
Jesse Springer  
Sam McLean  
Harley Crawford  
Oliver Dobson

## **Grade 5 Girls**

Telyshia Jones  
Ebony Lawson  
Jasmine Chapple  
Anabel Thomson-Callaghan  
Sarah Pennicott  
Matteika Vanderheide

## **Grade 5 Boys**

Bailey Wells  
Jacob Godman  
Declan Hingston  
Dylan Zeeman  
Leonard Hazelwood  
James Harris  
Zen Slater

## **Grade 6 Boys**

Lucas Pennington  
Domanic Pennington  
Lochie Mason  
Bowen Pearce  
Blake Cassidy  
Dominic Walters

## **Grade 6 Girls**

Cate Lehner  
Ella Morrison  
Monique Brooks  
Chelsea Martin  
Samantha Ogden  
Sharnie Davey  
Georgia Triffit



Last Friday 18th May it was **National Walk Safely to School Day**. A group of students and parents, along with Mrs Colgrave set out from Sth Launceston Oval and walked to school.

Mrs Colgrave would like to say a big thank you to those parents who came along and supported this program.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Thursday, 24 May 2012

9:00 AM Brayden McGee (Sth L'ton Footy Club)  
here to take clinics with Gr 1-6 students

### Friday, 25 May 2012

12.15 PM LSSSA Cross Country @ Waverley

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

### Wednesday, 30 May 2012

9:00 AM Brayden McGee (Sth L'ton Footy Club)  
here to take clinics with Gr 1-6 students

7:00 PM School Association Meeting

### Thursday, 31 May 2012

9:00 AM Brayden McGee (Sth L'ton Footy Club)  
here to take clinics with Gr 1-6 students  
9.00am - 11.00am

1:45 PM Whole School Assembly  
5/6's to host

### Friday, 1 June 2012

LSSSA Cross Country @ Waverley (rain  
date)

3.00 PM Last Day of Term 1

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

### Monday, 18 June 2012

Student Free Day

### Tuesday, 19 June 2012

First Day back for TERM 2



***Some of our friends from Glenara Lakes helping with the reading tuition program.***



## **Launching into Learning at YPS**

Jus a reminder that we will meet at **Treasure Island** next week the 30th of May from 9.30am - 11.30am as a celebration of our first term together.

There will be no groups at school on this day.



## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

### **Launceston Swim School**

School Holiday Swimming Program 2012.  
Independent classes for 4 years & up. Great for anyone from beginner through to stroke correction 9 days 4th June to 15th June or 5 days 4th June to 8th June. For more information please ph 6343 3565.

### **Northern Children's Network June School Holiday**

Come and join us for great fun at Amy Road, Newstead. Cook, Swim, Farm, Create, Camp & much more. Book now! Child care benefits available. Please phone 6341 1555.

### **Take Home a Big Brother or Big Sister**

By hosting a short term exchange student. Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2012 for a short term of only 3 months. All arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au) or call us toll free 1800 500 501.

### **Cavaliers Netball Clinic**

Monday 4th June at Hobblers Bridge Netball Courts, 9.0am - 2.00pm (lunch break 12 - 12.40). For ages 8 -16 year olds. RSVP to your netball club as soon as possible for planning purposes.

### **Northern U12 HOOKIN2HOCKEY ROSTER**

Registration Day Saturday 2nd June, 9.15am - 10.30am on ground 2 at the Northern Hockey Centre, St Leonards. Registration cost \$40 per player, includes playing shirt plus free ground entry. For more information contact Emily Nunn on 0431 957 042 or Gai Cross at [GAI@HOCKEYTAS.COM.AU](mailto:GAI@HOCKEYTAS.COM.AU)

### **Tim Blair - Run for Kids**

In 2012, Tim Blair will be running to raise funds for Charlotte Rataj, a 3 year old girl suffering from Leukaemia. You are invited to join the fundraising effort by supporting Tim either by donation or by participating in the Run for Kids event on 25th August. Tim's endeavour is supported by the Devonport High School P&F committee. Friday 24th August, Tim will run 100kms Launceston to Devonport.

[www.rundevonport.com.au](http://www.rundevonport.com.au)

## MIND MOVES CHESS CLUB

A CHESS CLUB FOR ALL KIDS - with a SPECIAL INVITATION TO GIFTED, AUTISM SPECTRUM AND ADHD KIDS.

Venue: CHOOSE CAFE (at the new Windsor Park Community Precinct, 1 Windsor drive, RIVERSIDE)  
When: Opening on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> of June  
Time: 6pm - 7pm  
Cost: FREE

The club is open to children aged between 5 - 18 years. Coaching is offered to beginners, intermediate and more advanced skilled players. Our club will meet on a weekly basis each Thursday evening from 6 - 7pm at CHOOSE CAFE, Windsor Drive.

Chess has many proven benefits. To find out more, come along and join us.

Don't miss out, limited spaces available!

For more details or to register, please contact Dawida Rose-Nel on  
0417981770 or [dawidarose-nel@hotmail.com](mailto:dawidarose-nel@hotmail.com)

You need to check this mate!!

### **Vacation Care Pedder Patter**

Is now taking bookings for June School Holiday Program. This program will be held at West Launceston Primary School, Basin Road between 8.00am - 6.00pm. Activities and excursions for all ages including Tenpin bowling, Laser tag, Anvers Chocolate Factory plus heaps of art & Craft activities. To book or for more information please phone Pedder Patter on 6344 9993.

### CONTACT DETAILS

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Tasmania

Explore the possibilities