



Dear Parents,

How we spent the pupil-free days

Thursday and Friday provided our teaching and teacher assistant staff with a wonderful opportunity to learn together. Importantly, the two full days allowed us the time to explore topics in considerable depth while allowing us the flexibility to adapt the agenda as we progressed to ensure that the learning was thorough. Another wonderful feature of the two days was that our very own staff members led the learning. We are very fortunate indeed to have such outstanding expertise and passion from within our own team.

Miss Stephens and Mrs Boxhall led most of the first day sharing their insights about 'happiness'. They have both attended conferences that dig into the science of happiness and its relevance to living a fulfilling and productive life. Perhaps you are thinking this topic is a little bit fanciful. However when you consider that happiness is something we all spend our lives pursuing and that achieving happiness (or contentment) is strongly linked to living successfully, then its importance to the education of our children becomes more apparent. In fact it links very strongly to our focus on social and emotional well-being. One of the key speakers at this year's conference was the Dalai Lama and he reinforced that a positive mental attitude is critical to emotional health. In turn we know that good mental health is critical to achieving good learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

On Thursday afternoon our student support team (Social Worker, School Psychologist and Speech Pathologist) each shared their specialist roles within the school. They provided a wonderful insight into the challenges that many of our children face, the interventions that are available and the important links to classroom practise. In particular we heard about the growing incidence of mental health issues for young children and how we can identify these and engage the right support at the earliest opportunity.

On Friday morning Mrs Stevenson provided us with a briefing on the new National Framework for children from birth to 5 years titled *Belonging, Being and Becoming*. The document 'maps' key aspects of early childhood development around 5 key outcomes to ensure that children have the best possible start in their learning before full time school. Mrs Stevenson used some wonderful examples of her current kindergarten class program to highlight elements of the document.

Mr Van Winden then led us through a presentation on gifted and talented children based on a recent workshop he had attended. His session challenged us to consider how we can best provide for those children in our school who require extra challenge in their learning. He provided us with great examples of how we can challenge children across all curriculum areas. This will become a focus for us throughout the remainder of this year and into next year.

Finally Mr Sexton and Mr Bergamin led the teaching staff through a process of moderating writing examples from all grades. This is an ongoing process that enhances our ability to make accurate assessments of children's work and place them appropriately against the literacy standards.

As you can see the two days are highly valuable for us at school and we are very grateful for the opportunity. I trust that you enjoyed the opportunity for some extra family time.

Neuroscience and Early Childhood Development

Last week I shared one of the key messages to surface from a new report on recent neuroscience research into early brain development. The following is another key message from the report and the accompanying parenting strategies:

“Key Message: Good nutrition, health, and exercise are critical.

Suggested Strategies:

*Have a healthy life so children can learn from you.
Eat well with your children. Have a good breakfast and lots of fruit and vegetables.” (p.27, Engaging Families in the Early Childhood Development Story)*

The article continues on with this message showing that smoking during pregnancy can lead to aggression in young children; breast feeding is good for brain development; providing plenty of opportunity for physical activity is good for both physical and mental health; and regular and sufficient sleep is critical to learning.

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Kindergarten play equipment after school hours

The kinder playground equipment is not supervised by school staff after 3:00pm. However there are a number of children who play on this equipment after being dismissed from class at 3:00pm. This play equipment is restricted to children in kindergarten or prep at all times and those children on the equipment after school hours must be supervised by their parents. Children who are not in the care of their parents, or who are in grades above prep must not be on this playground equipment at any time.

Troy Roberts
Principal



YTEL FUNDRAISER JEANS for GENES DAY

On Friday 5th August YTEL will be holding a Jeans for Genes day. For a gold coin donation, students can wear their favourite jeans with their uniform.

There will also be a Denim Swap on this day. Students can donate jeans and denim items that they no longer wear to the swap table. For each item they donate, they will receive a token to trade back in for another item of their choice at recess time. Remaining items will also be for sale for \$1 each at lunchtime.

Items for the Denim Swap need to be delivered to Mr Colson's classroom by Wednesday 3rd of August.

YPS ON CITY PARK RADIO

Youngtown Primary School have a feature spot on City Park Radio next week. Bailey Boon, Oliver Dobson, Jacinta Whitehouse and Jessica Hawkins from 3-4 Karas will be the feature DJ's. We will be hosting between 4:30-5:00 next Thursday 4th August on 103.7 FM. During the broadcast each student will share a piece of music about our school, it's outdoor classroom, possibility shop, what we have to offer in Dance and Drama and about the key ideas shared from Lorin Nicholson our special motivational speaker from last week. We look forward to you tuning in and listening to this exciting endeavour!



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to ask for your support. Our school is taking part in Woolworths Earn & Learn community program. This year, they are giving away more than \$5 million worth of educational resources for Primary and Secondary schools all over Australia, including ours!

From July 18th to September 18th 2011, Woolworths will give you one Earn & Learn point for every \$10 you spend in store (excluding the purchase of cigarettes, alcohol and gift cards). Points will automatically appear on your shopping docket. All you need to do is save those dockets and bring them to school (Woolies have given us a special collection box). You will be able to track our progress on our points barometer poster at school or online at woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

At the end of the 9-week program, we can redeem our collection of points against a choice of more than 7,000 educational resources. The list is extensive and includes library books, classroom equipment, art & craft materials and much, much more...

There's no limit to the number of points we can collect, so your participation will really make a difference. The more points we earn, the more resources we can order!

The drop off box for shopping dockets will be situated on the front counter at the school office.



Help Woolies to help our school.
Start collecting Woolworths
Earn & Learn Points today!

FOR SALE

- 1 cream 4 draw filing cabinet \$20.00
- 1 Uniden answering machine \$30.00

If you are interested in purchasing either of the above items, please contact the office on 63413 222.

School Association News!

NEXT MEETING:

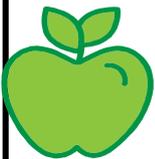
TONIGHT the 27th July at 7pm in the Staffroom. Come along in a friendly relaxed environment and share your views and ideas for the benefit of Youngtown Primary School students and our families. Everyone most welcome... PS—the heaters are on, the coffees hot and the nibbles yummy...



YOUNGTOWN YUMMIES

As you are aware tomorrow we will be having a “youngtown yummys” day. This is a trial day and if all goes well we MAY? see more of these in the future. All funds raised from this will be going into our fund for playground equipment.

To make tomorrow a success we are in desperate need of 4 parent helpers from 11 till 1.15pm. If you can help please call Peta on 0408 585 201.



LAST MAN STANDING

The final figures are in and we are happy to announce that an amazing \$2952.58 profit was made from this evening. A big big thankyou to Erica Dobson who spent countless hours preparing for this event, to Lisa and Dawn for their food preparation help, to all staff for their support and last but certainly not least to Troy and Mario for their awesome emceeing on the evening.

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO OUR WINNER: YVONNE FULLBROOK!

ON THE FUNDRAISING FRONT:

So far this year we have raised an **amazing \$10065.23**

This consists of:

Exercise a thon \$6262.65
Election Day cake stall \$550
Last Man Standing \$2952.58
Comm Bank Donation \$300

This would not have been possible without the most generous and giving support of our Youngtown families and for this we thank you.

We are well on our way to our target to purchase some new outdoor playground equipment so please watch this space.

So far this year through our fundraising efforts we have been able to support the school with donations to assist with the following:



Incentives Program \$750
Stepping Stones \$1690
Music Equipment \$1350
Mini Laptops \$16200.

We are extremely proud of these efforts and would like to thank everyone that has contributed to helping us achieve this.

If you have a great fundraising idea or even just a great idea on what we could raise money for maybe you could come along tonight to the meeting. If you can't make it this evening why not give our friendly fundraising co-ordinator Erica a call on 0439 795 898

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday, 29 July 2011

Taekwondo using Multi-Purpose room 4.30-6.00pm

Thursday, 4 August 2011

1:40 PM Prep - 2 Assembly
Prep/I Abernethy to host

Friday, 5 August 2011

Taekwondo using Multi-Purpose room 4.30-6.00pm

Monday, 8 August 2011

2:00 PM BER - Opening Ceremony by Mr Geoff Lyons (MP)

Wednesday, 10 August 2011

8:40 AM Grade's 2/3, 3/4A, 3/4B & 4B attending "Peter Pan: The British Musical" at the Princess Theatre

Relationship and Family Services

Relationships Australia offers a number of services for individuals, couples and families. They include:

- Family Dispute Resolution (mediation for separating couples)
- Family Counselling (relationship and family counselling for adults, young people and children)
- Reconnect – a service assisting young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to become more involved with their family, work, education and the community, through mediation, counselling and practical support for the whole family. (Includes rural outreach)
- Parenting Orders Program – assistance for separated parents in conflict
- Children's Contact Service – Facilitated change-overs of children from one parent to another.
- TassieMale – support for men on family and other issues
- Gamblers Help – advice and support for people with gambling problems
- Parenting courses – sometimes run through Adult Education or other service providers and schools.

Some fees may apply. Visit the website for more information and a range of resources and fact sheets:
www.relationships.org.au Phone 6336 7000 for the Launceston office of Relationships Australia



Youngtown Primary School

The Principal and Staff

Invite

Parents & Members of our School Community

to the

Building the Education Revolution (BER)

Recognition Ceremony

of the

National School Pride:

- Building of shade structure and outdoor area upgrade

Primary Schools for the 21st Century:

- New library, Performing arts centre, 2 ECE classrooms, amenities block and administration

Venue: Youngtown Primary School Multipurpose Hall

Date: Monday 8th August 2011

Time: 2.00pm

RSVP: Friday 5th August 2011

Reply to: 63413222 or

youngtown.primary@education.tas.gov.au



Australian Government

Nation Building

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PLAN

Kindergarten 2012

Enrolments Now Being Taken

Do you have a child, or know of any children turning 4 by December 31st this year?

These little ones are eligible to attend

Kindergarten next year. Our planning is well underway for 2012 and we are now accepting enrolments for Kinder. Please ask their families to collect enrolment forms from the main office.



CONTACT DETAILS

YOUNGTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

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



Tasmania

Explore the possibilities