

Dear Parents,



## Early Years Program

This year our programs to support children from 0 – 4 years and their families will look a little different to past years. With the support of our successful funding submission for the Launching into Learning program we will be offering more early learning programs each with a different focus. Mrs Amanda Chilcott will coordinate and run the programs. Together with Mrs Jane Stevenson, Mrs Chilcott has spent the first part of this term developing the sessions and what they have in store for the youngest members of our community is very exciting. The programs will run each Wednesday beginning on March 14. Running throughout the year from 10am – 11:30am will be a “Chat and Play” session suitable for all children from birth to 4 years of age. This is a wonderful opportunity for children and families to socialise with other families, explore early learning opportunities together, and to become familiar with the school environment – all important ingredients in ensuring our children have the best possible start to their life of learning.

During the afternoon will be programs aimed at children of 3 and 4 years of age. The focus of these sessions will change each term. This term the focus will be on developing physical skills and confidence with our “Let’s Move It” sessions from 2pm. Second term will focus on literacy and numeracy development, and term 3 will be aimed at developing readiness for kindergarten for those children eligible in 2013.

If you are aware of any families with young children in the Youngtown area who may not have any connection with our school as yet – please share this information with them and encourage them to contact the school to find out more.

## Welcome to New Families

A special welcome to all of our new families who have enrolled in our kindergarten program for this year. There will be a special evening organised by our School Association to welcome kinder families on Monday March 5 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. I would also like to warmly welcome the following children and their families who are either new to our school or have returned to us after some time living elsewhere: Yahya & Ubaid Irfan, Kahlia, Jasmine & Shannon Monk-Morcom, Blake & Luke Shaw, Tate Harwood-McDonald, Brianna Murfet, Lachlan White, Billy Gilmore,

Bailey & Lockie Mitchell, Maddilyn Parker, Freya & Sebastian Maloney-Ross, Lucas, Ashlea & Tyler Pennington.

## Uniform Expectations

As you are no doubt aware we expect every child here at Youngtown Primary to be wearing full school uniform. Indeed a strong sense of pride in their school is one of the prominent characteristics of our children, which permeates every aspect of school life. Our expectation about school uniform plays a big part in nurturing this pride. On a more practical level school uniform increases safety when children are travelling to and from school – or are on excursion.

To be clear on what is acceptable please note the following:

- Earrings to consist of sleepers or studs only.
- Shoes to be black school shoes or sports shoes. Ballet flats/volleys are not appropriate as they provide no support during physical activities
- Tracksuit – as per school uniform
- Uniform – full school uniform as per guidelines outlined by School Association including socks and shoelaces,
- Hair (girls/boys) – if shoulder length tied back behind in plaits or ponytail with blue, white, red ribbons or bands.

Your support in upholding this important expectation is greatly appreciated

## Current Spike in Illness

Over the past few days we have noticed a spike in the number of children who are unwell and have needed to go home. Some of the common symptoms include a sore throat, runny nose, fever and headache. If your child is complaining of such symptoms please consider keeping them at home until these symptoms subside.

*Troy Roberts*  
*Principal*

## Whooping cough (pertussis)

o Notifications of cases of whooping cough (pertussis) to the Tasmanian Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) have increased significantly since late-2011. Cases of whooping cough have been reported from all regions of Tasmania. People of all ages have been affected.

o Please think about whooping cough if your child (or you) has a cough. Please see your doctor as soon as possible if you suspect someone in your household has it. Whooping cough is easily diagnosed and can be treated. Children with whooping cough must stay away from school until they are no longer infectious to others (5 days of treatment).

o Vaccination provides protection against serious whooping cough disease. Infants and teenagers should receive vaccine as part of their routine, free vaccinations. Adults should also consider whether they should get a booster dose.

For more information, and contact details for DHHS, please read the Whooping Cough Fact Sheet, available at [http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/peh/infectious\\_diseases/pertussis](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/peh/infectious_diseases/pertussis)

## School Uniform Tax Refunds

The Federal Government has changed the Education Tax Refund to include school-approved uniforms, for parents receiving Family Tax Benefit A.

Items of clothing including hats, footwear and sports uniforms approved by a school as its uniform .

The Education Tax Refund provides up to 50% back on a range of children's education expenses, up to a limit of around \$400 for primary kids and \$800 for secondary students.

You may need your receipts as proof of purchase.

More information can be found at [www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au/index.html](http://www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au/index.html) or call 13 28 61

## HOW DO WE SUPPORT POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR IN THE PLAYGROUND?

<b>Expectations</b>	<b>Outdoor Environment</b>
Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Learning new skills and games</b></li> <li>• <b>Playing safely</b></li> </ul>
Responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Using equipment responsibly</b></li> <li>• <b>Playing in correct areas</b></li> <li>• <b>Including and caring for others</b></li> </ul>
Learner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Playing games fairly</b></li> <li>• <b>Keeping the outdoor environment clean</b></li> <li>• <b>Returning sports equipment to the correct area</b></li> <li>• <b>Carrying equipment sensibly</b></li> <li>• <b>Being well mannered</b></li> <li>• <b>Respecting school resources</b></li> </ul>

This article will concentrate on how Youngtown Primary School supports our students during recess and lunch times. Each member of our staff have between 3-4 playground duties each week. This is an excellent opportunity for our staff to spend time with all students in our school. We have three teachers in our playground during each break period. This year we have also allocated additional adults to support the outdoor environment in areas that involve teamwork such as tether ball or other areas such as the library to help improve the social and emotional wellbeing of our children. We are currently looking into the possibility of a sport leaders program for our grade 5 & 6 students who have a strong interest in sport and leadership. This program will help our upper primary students gain valuable skills through working with our sports teacher Mrs Colgrave to run group games each day. It is our aim for every student in our school to have an exciting and rewarding time during recess and lunch.

### School Association News

The AGM for the School Association will be held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of March at 7.00pm in the staff room.

We are seeking nominations for the positions of **Chairperson**, **Vice Chairperson** and **Secretary** as these positions are now vacant.

Any one wishing to nominate for a position, can collect a nomination form from the office and return it to there.

### Dates for the Diary



#### **Welcome Back BBQ**

Thursday 1st March

5.00pm - 7.00pm

Sausages, Hamburgers & Drinks will be available to purchase



#### **Welcome to Kinder parents**

Monday March 5th

6.30pm - 7.30pm



### Book club news!

Book club is back for the year.

Issue 1 forms

are due back **Tomorrow**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of March at 9am.**

If you would like to collect the books yourself please write on order, "leave at office".

Any queries please contact Lisa Tatnell,  
0418364861



### **School Banking**

Student Banking will be available every Friday morning at school.

Each student will receive a "**School Banking Program 2012**" envelope.

For new application forms for those families without internet access please enquire at the school office.

### **Uniform Shop**

Please note the change to opening times for 2012. The Uniform shop will be open:

**Tuesday mornings from 8.30am - 9.30am.**

For any other enquiries please phone Tracie on 0417 445 455.



# ONE WEEK PASS

Are you looking for a casual, easy going & friendly gym?

Come and see if Orbit is for you - with our one week obligation free pass.

Orbit is a fully equipped gym with plenty of fun classes to keep you motivated, as well as personal trainers and a qualified childcare - morning, evenings & Saturday!

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**Yoga Pilates Spin-Core Fat Burner ATB & Over-60s**

Find our class timetable on Face Book or drop us an email and we will send one to you!

**We are now locally owned and operated.**

Contact Us - [info@orbitlaunceston.net.au](mailto:info@orbitlaunceston.net.au) 6343 5366

66-68 Melbourne Street,  
South Launceston 7249

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## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

### **Life Centre Music**

Is offering positions to children who would like to be part of the choir. This is open to children from the age of 6 years. The choir meets fortnightly on a Wednesday from 4 till 5pm. If interested please call Lucy on 0408 443 436 or 6344 3436.

### **Carswell Tennis**

Children interested in having Tennis Coaching at School in 1st Term are to report to the School Tennis Court on Thursday 8th March at 8:30 am. Private lessons and adult coaching also available. Spare racquets are available if required. Enrolments or Enquiries Phone Carswell Coaching 63261020 or 0417390261.

### **Children's voices in art!**

Exhibition and Public Lecture NEW Gallery, Newnham Campus University of Tasmania. Thursday 1st March, 2012.

6.00pm Exhibition Launch

6.30pm - 8.00pm Free Public Lecture by Susan Wright, author of *Children, meaning making and the arts*. To register for the exhibition and or the public lecture please contact Tracy Nish on 03 6341 1555, numbers are limited.

### **2012 Primary All Schools Track and Field event**

It's an Olympic year so why not get right in to the spirit and participate at the 2012 Primary All Schools Track and Field event.

This year's Primary All Schools Track and Field will be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> March at the St Leonard's Athletics Track.

Every participant is in the running to receive spot prizes simply for turning up! All participants will also receive a small collection of Hero cards in the bid to support our Aussie athletes in the London 2012 Olympics

Please see the entry form attached or you can enter online via on [www.tasathletics.org.au](http://www.tasathletics.org.au)

More details on this event will be available next week via the website listed above.

### **Nicola McLaws (AMUSA)**

Piano Teacher for private lessons, if you are interested please phone Nicola on 0417 575 777.



## 4<sup>th</sup> Launceston Scout Group

**Looking for something fun to do?** Come and join our Joey Mob, Cub Pack or Scout Troop!

### **Joeys – 6 and 7 year olds**

Meet at 6.00pm to 7.00pm each Tuesday  
Leader in charge – Megan Leeder Ph: 63436980

### **Cubs – 8 to 11 year olds**

Meet at 6.00pm to 7.30pm each Thursday  
Leader in charge – Joy Bracken Ph: 63449134(AH)

### **Scouts – 10½ to 15 year olds**

Meet at 7.00pm to 9.00pm each Wednesday  
Leader in charge – Kerri Gray Ph: 63435555(AH) or 0409436610

Venue: Scout Hall  
Nunamina Avenue, Kings Meadows  
(near Carr Villa cemetery and the Kings Meadows bowls club)  
During school terms only

Cost: \$2.00 per night plus  
annual registration fee.

So boys and girls come with your parents and have a look. Discover the fun of scouting!

We are also looking for people interested in becoming Scout Leaders. Call in and see what is involved.

### **YMCA Kings Meadows**

Something for everyone, 2012 Activities for children 1 to 14 years. We have lots of fun!  
Phone 6344 3844.

Also New Sports Rosters for Basketball.

More information about all the above activities can be found on the community notice board at school.

## CONTACT DETAILS

### YOUNGTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Email: [youngtown.primary@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:youngtown.primary@education.tas.gov.au)



Tasmania

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