



TALLIMBA PUBLIC SCHOOL

"A LITTLE SCHOOL ACHIEVING BIG THINGS!"

Monday 16th February, 2015
WEEK 4 TERM 1

IMPORTANT DATES

Week 4

Wed 18 Feb	Library District Swimming Carnival
Thurs 19 Feb	Middle School
Friday 20 Feb	Swimming for Sport

Week 5

Wed 25 Feb	Library
Thurs 26 Feb	Middle School
Friday 27 Feb	Assembly Swimming for Sport Clean Up Australia Day

CORRESPONDENCE

- How2Learn
- Survey Information
- Compulsory School Attendance

Principal's Message

Thank you to all those people who attended our Family BBQ night last Friday. A very big thank you to everyone who chipped in and helped make the night run so smoothly.

Assembly: We will be holding our first mid-term assembly on Friday 27th February at 9.10am in Library. Due to swimming our first Assembly will be held in the morning. All are welcome to attend.

Tell Them From Me Survey: As part of our School Planning preparation our school, like many others in the state, we will be participating in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. Please see attached notes for further information.

How2Learn

How2Learn is a Riverina led program being undertaken at Tallimba Public School

Children will be:

- Self-aware in their learning
- Able to use language and dispositions of successful learners
- Able to share a belief that intelligence is learnable and expandable

HOW2Learn complements the NSW Quality Teaching Model.

How2Learn Focus for our students this fortnight is:
Managing Distractions

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did!

Mark Twain

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Reminder

Written notes are required by law for an absence or to leave school grounds (visit to doctors, dentist, family reasons). Please ensure the school is notified in a timely manner regarding any absence, emails are accepted. Notes are required within 7 days of the absence. See attached document.

Principals Networking

Last week Kate and I attended a School Planning training day. 2015 has seen the commencement of a new school plan to be designed and implemented in all schools across NSW. A parent and community information meeting will be held in the near future.

Swimming for Sport

Swimming for Sport begins this Friday and will continue for the next two Fridays. The children will depart from school by bus for West Wyalong Swimming Pool after eating lunch at 12:30pm and return to school at 2.55 pm. in time to catch school buses home. At the pool the children will be supervised by Mrs. Morden, Mrs Quade, Mrs Westaway, and Mrs Sutton. Mrs Westaway is Austswim accredited. As all staff will be involved in this activity there will be no supervision at school, so all children must travel to the pool where non swimmers will be supervised. Students will need to bring a swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, sunhat and a t-shirt as well as a plastic shopping bag for wet clothing. School bags can remain at school. Please apply sunscreen to your children before they leave home, however, it will be available to reapply before swimming. Please do not allow your children to wear their swimsuits to school under their uniforms. The cost of entry to the swimming pool is \$2 per person per week. This fee has been heavily subsidised from school funds and by the P&C. Entry for school groups includes the use of the slide. If your child wishes to remain at the pool after swimming lessons they must be under your supervision. Please notify the school if you will be collecting your child/ren from the swimming pool.

Infants News

It would be greatly appreciated if the infants children could bring in some photos of themselves to be photocopied and used to create a timeline of their lives from birth to now. As part of our Present & Past Family Life topic in HSIE we are focusing on change as well as the associated terminology of past, present and now. We will also be exploring historical questions and the significance of research. I look forward to sharing personal timelines!!

Our new sound in the Kindergarten class this week is 't'.

Lower Lachlan District Swimming Carnival

All the best to our swimmers who are heading to Lake Cargelligo this **WEDNESDAY 18TH** for the District Swimming Carnival: Darcy, David, Elspeth, Annaleise, A-Jay and Luke.

No Hat No Play

A reminder that Tallimba Public School supports a "no hat no play" in the sun policy. Children are requested to wear a broad brimmed hat in the playground. Children who do not have a hat will be supervised in the COLA. Hats may be purchased from the P&C uniform supplies or via the front office at a cost of \$8.50.

School Lunches

During this hot weather all students are encouraged to keep their school lunch in the refrigerator in the staffroom. This keeps food cool and safe from birds. All children are supervised during fruit break and first lunch, however we encourage all children to be responsible for their lunch boxes and eating their own lunch. Please ensure all items are clearly labelled.

Art Smocks/Clothing

We are still looking for donations of old shirts or t-shirts that could be used as paint smocks. Also any size 4-10 children's clothing that your child may have grown out of such as t-shirts, shorts, tracksuit pants etc that could be stored at school in case of an emergency.

Music

Music lessons with Denise Krause will continue tomorrow. If you would like your child to have piano lessons please contact Denise on 69757636 to arrange a time.

Primary Class (Year3/4 + Year5/6) News

We have experienced a little hiccup in accessing the Australia: The Story of Us TV series. Hopefully we will have better luck this week. Students were very excited investigating ways in which solids melt. This week we will be focusing on the changing composition of atoms under heat. In Accelerated Literacy, we are learning to compose great sentences like the author Lynne Reid Banks. In mathematics, we will be continuing to learn about whole numbers and addition of larger numbers.

Please be aware

Tyra's days are Monday, Friday and every second Wednesday. Emails are usually checked in the morning. Urgent messages need to be by phone to ensure the message has been received in time.

HOW2Learn

HOW2Learn is a Riverina led program being undertaken at Tallimba Public School.



HOW2Learn is a strategy focused on building students' capacity to learn.

This is achieved by explicitly teaching dispositions and habits within the existing programs and practices at Tallimba Public School to develop a learning culture that enables everyone to:

- Be self-aware in their learning
- Use the language and dispositions of successful learners
- Share a belief that intelligence is learnable and expandable

HOW2Learn complements the *NSW Quality Teaching Model* and draws upon a respected body of research, including much of [Guy Claxton's](#) work on *Building Learning Power* which identifies the higher order ways that enable students to be successful lifelong learners.

The Guiding Tenets of the HOW2Learn strategy

We know that young people need to build the emotional, social and mental resources to enjoy challenges and cope with uncertainty and it is obvious that things need to change in order for schools to be more in step with the needs of society. The following principles frame all further thinking:

Principles that underpin the strategy

1. **REAL LIFE LEARNING-** education is about enabling young people to take their place in the world confidently, actively and successfully.
2. **SUCCESS AT SCHOOL-** students can utilise powerful learning skills in order to embrace the specific content demands in various subject areas.
3. **LITERACY AND NUMERACY-** all students deserve the right to access strategies that will enable them to become more literate and numerate citizens as they are the fundamental building blocks that predict life success.
4. **MENTAL WELLBEING-** all students deserve the right to become more resourceful and resilient when faced with adversity.
5. **EXPANDABLE INTELLIGENCE-** all learners can behave more intelligently through developing a repertoire of learning dispositions and habits.
6. **COMPLEX BUT VITAL-** it will take consistent focus and collective will over time to develop a growth culture but it is a path we need to travel.

The HOW2Learn strategy empowers learners by *developing 5 dispositions and 22 habits that improve all round learning fitness.*

Using a vast body of research we have developed a regional strategy in the Riverina that is underpinned by the explicit teaching of five dispositions and twenty two habits which improve all-round learning fitness. These dispositions are:

<i>Disposition and habits</i>	<i>Aspect of Learning</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Reciprocity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imitation • Collaboration • Empathy and Listening • Interdependence 	Social	Learners are ready, willing and able to learn alone or share in learning with others.
Resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Distractions • Noticing • Perseverance • Absorption 	Emotional	Learners are ready, willing and able to work through difficulties when the pressure mounts.
Resourcefulness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Links • Questioning • Reasoning • Capitalising • Imagining 	Thinking/Cognitive	Learners are ready, willing and able to choose and use resources wisely know what to do when you don't know what to do.
Reflectiveness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Revising • Distilling • Remembering • Meta-learning 	Strategic	Learners are ready, willing and able to be critically self aware and responsive to feedback.
Responsibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountability • Critical Thinking • Open mindedness • Being connected 	Community	Learners are ready, willing and able to be accountable for their individual and community's actions towards themselves, others and the environment.

How we model lifelong learners!

At Tallimba PS we're risk takers, we show children we are always willing to learn new things!

The *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at:

<http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 27 February**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.



Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

What is the *Tell Them From Me* student survey?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey will ask students questions about:

Participation in Sports	Homework Behaviour	Expectations for Success
Teaching Rigour	Participation in Clubs	Behaviour at School
Experiences of being bullied	Positive Teacher-Student Relations	Sense of Belonging
Interest and Motivation	Effective Learning Time	Positive Learning Climate
Positive Relationships	Effort	Teaching Relevance

How have schools been selected to take part?

The survey is open for all NSW government schools to participate in at no cost to them. Your school has taken up this offer.

How will taking part in this survey benefit my child's school?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey will provide school principals and school leaders with insight into student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices at their school, from the perspective of students.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

What does my child need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, The Learning Bar. Schools will make computers or laptops available so that students can complete the survey during school hours.

Does my child have to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time. Parents/students have a right to apply for access to, and correction of, a student's information.

Will the school be able to identify my child from their responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will not be made available.

A small number of staff in the Department's Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) will have access to individual student responses for the purpose of state-wide analysis. Individual students' data will be held on a secure server with access strictly limited to CESE researchers. The researchers are interested in trends only – not in individual student responses. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publication.

What sort of analysis will be done on the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders may use the data to better understand the experiences and views of students at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the survey data in conjunction with existing student data held by the Department, including performance data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between wellbeing, engagement, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE's analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the Department's continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

Can all school students participate in the survey?

The primary school survey is designed for students in Years 4 to 6. Schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in these Year groups to participate.

When will the *Tell Them From Me* survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 9 March and Thursday 2 April 2015 (Weeks 7-10 of Term 1).

What is the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE)?

CESE is part of the Department of Education and Communities. It has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in NSW.

CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all education sectors.

What is The Learning Bar and what is their role?

The Learning Bar is an international education company, with offices in Australia and Canada, that specialises in school surveys and student assessments. They have been contracted by the Department to run the surveys for NSW public schools. Its survey, *Tell Them From Me*, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada's ten provinces. More than 2,600 schools and 1.7 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years.

The Learning Bar has conducted surveys in Australia before, with schools helping to adapt surveys, ensuring they are appropriate to an Australian context. For purely administrative purposes, The Learning Bar will also have temporary access to identifiable student responses to the survey questions. Other than The Learning Bar and CESE researchers within the Department, identifiable student responses will not be disclosed to any other person or body other than as required by law.

More information about The Learning Bar is available at: www.thelearningbar.com.

Contact Details

For more information about the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, please contact us:

@ cese@det.nsw.edu.au

www.cese.nsw.gov.au

Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling](#).

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/policy/school/a-z/attendance.php>

The school leaving age:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leaving-school/index.php>

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

Newsletter Adds

Woman to Woman



- Do things need to change?
- Do you feel stuck or overwhelmed?
- Can't stay focused or motivated?
- Feeling depressed, stressed or anxious?
- Has life not gone to plan?

Would you like to:

- Not lay in bed at night worrying
- Know what you want and how to get it
- Feel happy, confident and excited about the future
- Feel content and at peace

In just 90 minutes learn why we are like this and how we can make changes in a way specifically designed for women.

Finally a process for women that was designed by a woman, the only Female breakthrough process in the world!

Only \$20 • Numbers Limited

Grab a girlfriend! Tickets on sale now through
Dimity 0419 676 805 or Tamika Oxenbridge 0402 027 170

Tallimba Supper Room • Tallimba
Thursday February 26 • 7.00pm



Don't miss this great event
with Dimity.

Tickets: Dimity 0419 676805
or Tamika Oxenbridge 0402 027 170



art & CRAFT! MARKETS

Sunday 1st March 2015

9am to 2pm
Ungarie War Memorial Hall
Gold coin donation on entry

Stall Holder enquiries:
Kylie Brewer 0413 242 741 or
ungarieadvancement@mail.com

Like us on Facebook
"Ungarie Art & Craft Markets"

WEST WYALONG GIRRAL AFL & NETBALL CLUB

Registration Day for Girral will be held
on Sunday 22nd February 2015.

10.15am to 12pm at the West Wyalong
Swimming Pool

Free Sausage sizzle and Water Slide

Auskick, Junior and Senior AFL and
Netballers players required to Register

Enquiries: Melissa 0401 735251

Regards

Melissa Ryan

West Wyalong Netball Association

Junior Netball

Net Set Go for 5 year olds – 10 year olds
(or children in year3) starts today 3.30
to 4.30pm

Primary & Secondary Competitions
commence next week for children from
year 4 – year 9

Net Set Go Coaches Clinic today at 5pm
to 6.30pm

Regards

Melissa Ryan