



Tunable Falls Community School

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117 Upper Tuntable Falls Road Nimbin NSW 2480

22 March 2022, Term 1, Newsletter 3, Next issue due 31 May 2022

From the Committee:

Dear Families

Welcome back!! What a year... what a crazy time we have endured over the last few years. Fires, pandemics and more than one flood. We are still standing. Many thanks to our teachers for continually running with what is thrown at them. Our students have enjoyed the last couple of weeks, despite being split over two sites, with learning and fun activities continuing. This support for families during this time was invaluable.



Exploring



Working from home

At the time of writing, our local bus company is checking Upper Tuntable Falls Rd daily to ensure safety is first and foremost. We will let families know immediately as soon as we have a bus up and running. In the meantime, car-pooling is highly recommended. If you are having trouble getting your child to school, please call a committee member or René. Alternatively, if you have room in your car and are happy to collect a child from town, you could also let someone know so we can pass that information on. Organising this amongst yourselves, however, is preferred.

If you were personally affected by the floods, please let us know. We are here to help and support.

Don't forget to use those awesome vouchers that are available on service NSW if you haven't already. There are the Dine and Discover, Creative Arts, Sporting and new ones called Stay NSW.

Have a fabulous holiday.
Nicole 😊

School Calendar:

- **Term 1 Ends**
Fri, 1 April 2022
- **Term 2, 2022 Begins**
Wed, 27 April 2022

School Bell:

- School starts: 9:05
- Recess: 11:00-11:30
Thu: 10:30-11:00
- Lunch: 13:00-13:45
Thu: 12:30-1:15
- School ends: 14:45

Committee Meetings:

Thu, 24 March, 3pm
Thu, 31 March, 3pm
(On Zoom & Subject to change)

Drink Bottles:

All children are to bring their own drink bottles as part of COVID hygiene measures.

Especially important on Wed & Thu for CIRCUS.

Can all parents please **label clothing & gear** to reduce lost property.

Communication:

Please read the last page of this newsletter for the school's revised COVID-19 Risk Management Plan for 2022.

Absentees:

- It is important to **call the Office by 9:30am** if your child is unable to attend school for any reason.
- Please provide a **Doctor's Medical Certificate** to the Office if your child is absent due to illness for **five consecutive days** or more.
- If you are **planning time away from school** during the term, please complete an *Application for Exemption from School* form at the Office.

Committee:

The committee feels strongly about open communication at the school. Please keep our contact details handy and don't hesitate to contact whomever you feel comfortable with.

Committee Member	Position	Phone Number	Email
Jacinta Duivenvoorden	President & Treasurer	0422 817 151	jacinthafrances@gmail.com
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact regarding fees, complaints/compliments, committee inductions, concerns around cleaning, TFC liaison			
Blossom Gillard	Vice President	0497 800148	blissbloss@gmail.com
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact regarding TFC liaison, TFC work levies			
Nicole Devery	Member	0432 429 296	nicolepeisto@hotmail.com
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact regarding school newsletter, teacher liaison, staff issues, maintenance, social media			



Birthdays

We would like to congratulate the following students on their birthdays.
Happy birthday precious possums!





Buribi & Gooarng (Kindy - Yr2)

Buribi & Gooarng in Nimbin Town

The last few weeks have been tumultuous for many of us. The natural disasters across the country have caused significant changes. There are so many families working together to ensure the community is safe and nobody is left unsupported. We hope everyone continues to stay strong and kind through the months to come.

The 'Townies' are very grateful to be learning from the Community Centre in Nimbin. We have been gently



processing some elements of the recent disaster through group discussions, calming creative activities and visualisations to send love and happy thoughts to those in need.



We were very lucky to have a special visit from Uncle Gilbert who taught us some Bunjalung language last week. The Buribi group are continuing to focus on our theme of family and home and what makes it special. We have been revising and consolidating our knowledge of numbers, sounds as well as letter and numeral formation. We have been practicing our reading and are working towards writing sentences.

The Gooarng group have been loving working with the Buribi class, particularly our 'crafternoon' sessions – such creative fun! We have been consolidating our sound knowledge and skills in blending and segmenting to decode longer words and applying these skills in our reading and writing. In maths we have been practicing our mental addition and friends of 10.



The 'townies' school group have been taking some walks around Nimbin, shooting hoops at the basketball courts, playing at the playground, and are hoping to do some more exploring as businesses begin to reopen this week.

We are all looking forward to getting back to school so we can all be together again soon in our special classrooms.

Fiona  & Ishta 



Yuruugin (Years 3&4)



What a time! Once again, our amazing students have demonstrated resilience during turbulent times. We are aware of the challenges many faced over the past month. If you feel as if your child could do with learning some coping strategies, The Committee has been discussing school counselling options. Please get in contact and we will do our best to arrange this.

The flooding has been particularly challenging on many fronts. The devastation that occurred in so many nearby towns, with relatives and friends badly affected, has had a huge impact on us all. The teachers, casual teachers, and teacher aides have done their absolute best to accommodate and adapt to the current situation. The priority has been to facilitate warm, welcoming spaces where the students could get together to participate in learning activities and take their minds off the trauma that some encountered. The split-school approach has been working beautifully. Thank you, Joe, for your effective timetabling skills.

Yuruugin town kids have been diligently working on their Daily 5 literacy and numeracy activities as well as demonstrating leadership by helping with the younger classes during art lessons. They have been having fun bouncing around town showing off their street-smart intellect, playing basketball and tennis and participating in town excursions.

Thank you to the various teachers that have been running the show over on the Eastside. Such prompt adaptations couldn't have been successful without the daily (and nightly) communication that occurs. I am thankful to work alongside this caring bunch of humans!



Over on the Westside, the Yuruugin tribe have had the absolute pleasure of engaging with Ginger's fun STEM lessons, planning, designing, and experimenting with floating homes made from natural materials as well as getting stuck into their literacy and numeracy activities.

A huge thank you to the parents for being understanding and patient whilst we work to a "day by day" guideline. Unfortunately, homework books and some explicit lessons have been put on hold to ensure equitable learning amongst the class. This will resume once we are all back together at Tuntable.

Once again, my heart goes out to all those affected by the recent floods and landslides. Looking forward to enjoying some quality whole-class days together before the Term disappears behind the rain clouds.

All the best, Angie

Guruman (Years 5&6)

What a very interesting time it has been for our school in the last two weeks, while waiting for the progress of the road repairs to our school. It was very different being in town for so long, away from the beautiful landscape, gardens, trees and buildings. Handy access to the tennis courts, basketball courts and skatepark is a big bonus of being in town, and it was impressive to see some good developments in skills.



Max, Jaavren and Sunny worked on their tree scaling skills and managed to conquer the too-high-to-climb-alone tree above the sandstone blocks outside the Nimbin Community Centre. Max discovered that there is broken glass up there, so climbers be careful. While at the skatepark, we also discussed the need to be careful and watchful to avoid needle stick injuries in parks.

In the shared classroom space, as well as our literacy and numeracy work, we learned some macramé and beading skills, looking at repetition of patterns and variations of texture, while creating some very cool bracelets. We also began an exciting drama project where we are learning a play, acting it out, experimenting with theatrical movement, looking for best angles of filming and working towards making a short (very short) film which will eventually be available for viewing on the Parent Portal.

Speaking of the Parent Portal, another video soon to be available for viewing is of Arlo performing an amazing skill with his basketball dunking. Out at the school, our basketball focus has been on improving our basket average which has been great to see developing. We have also accurately measured out the Cross-Country track finding the 100m tree, the 200m tree and the 1km tree, which is quite an impressive tree beautifully covered in staghorns and birdsnests. (See photos)



100m tree.



200m tree



1km tree



While out and about, we gathered lots of creek pebbles and had an enjoyable time playing with the concept of dividing into equal sized groups, with or without remainders. Creek maths is always lots of fun.

With Ginger, we explored engineering skills and designed some very innovative houses that could potentially avoid destruction in a flood event. We then put them to the test with small models and saw some great successes. What an imaginative team of future engineers we have.

We have been so lucky at the school to be able to go up to the Community Shop for lunch each day. Thank you very much to all parents who were involved in the cooking and food preparation.

It's all been very different, but it's been great.

Joe.



Important Notices:

- No toys, sweets, money, or mobile phones are allowed to be brought to school or on the bus.

2022 Term 1 COVID-19 Risk Management Plan:

- Students who are unwell, even with mild symptoms are required to stay home and undertake a RAHT or PCR test. If students test negative and symptoms continue your child should stay home and take another RAHT or PCR test in 24 hours. If that test is also negative, your child may return to school if another diagnosis is confirmed by a GP, such as hay fever.
- Two RAHTs are available per child/per week so families have these available to use if their child/children are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19.
- Staff and students who get a positive rapid antigen test result must register it on service.nsw.gov.au or the Service NSW app as soon as possible. Staff and students who receive a positive RAHT or PCR test result must tell their school as soon as possible and follow NSW Health advice.
- Students who are household/close contacts must isolate at home for 7 days from becoming aware of this, or 7 days from the onset of symptoms themselves in accordance with NSW Health advice.
- The school has advised families that Covid-19 vaccinations now available for 5-12 years.
- Families have been advised that students wearing masks in indoor setting is an effective way to reduce potential Covid-19 transmission, and that families wanting to do this will need to supply their own mask and instruct their child/children how to wear them.
- Staff members who are close/household contacts can attend work each day after a negative RAHT is completed.
- Masks are mandatory for all staff, contractors, parents/carers and any visitors onsite in indoor settings.
- All camps and excursions will be suspended for Term 1. This will be reviewed going forward.
- All sporting activities will be undertaken within the child/children's individual cohort. All equipment will be sanitised between use by each cohort.
- **Parents/carers are advised to only come onsite if necessary and are encouraged to pick up and drop off at the gate. If parents/carers must come onsite they are encouraged not to linger unnecessarily.**
- All roster day involvement is temporarily suspended and fees are waived for term 1.
- **Outdoor family workdays will go ahead Term 1.** Two will be held to reduce potential numbers onsite, no food or refreshments will be serviced, and parents will be required to work independently in a safe and socially distanced manner.
- Contract cleaner is providing touch point and surface cleaning services daily.
- Teachers/teacher's aides are reminding children regularly about maintaining good hygiene practice and why this is necessary as part of daily class activities.
- Where practically possible children are encouraged to maintain social distancing.
- **Families are directed to discuss WHS concerns with committee members.** If staff are questioned by parents/carers, staff are encouraged to direct them to a committee member. This can be done via phone/email or Zoom if required.



Mental Health Services and Support

Beyond Blue

24/7 mental health support service

1300 22 4636
beyondblue.org.au

headspace

Online support and counselling to young people aged 12 to 25

1800 650 890 (Sun-1am daily)
For wechat, visit: headspace.org.au/headspace

Kids Helpline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services for children and young people aged 5 to 25

1800 55 1800
kidshelpline.com.au

1800RESPECT

24/7 support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic violence and abuse

1800 737 732
1800respect.org.au

Lifeline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services

13 11 14
lifeline.org.au

Suicide Call Back

24/7 crisis support and counselling service for people affected by suicide

1300 659 467
suicidecallbackservice.org.au

Mensline

24/7 counselling service for men

1300 78 99 78
mensline.org.au

QLife

LGBTI peer support and referral

1800 184 527 (open-10pm daily)
qlife.org.au (online chat 3pm-12am daily)

If you are concerned about someone at risk of immediate harm, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.



with delivery partners



Funded by



- Parent Line NSW: 1300 1300 52

Parent Line is a free telephone counselling and support service for parents and carers with children aged 0 to 18 who live in NSW.