



Tunable Falls Community School

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5 March, Term 1, Newsletter 3. Next issue due 19 March 2024

Wow, the weeks are flying by!

Last week was action-packed for the **Yuruugin class** who had their fantastic **camp at 100 Tents**. A great local campground to discover, with plenty of fresh creek swims, shared games, meals and dance-offs, and Scott's wonderful Rewilding workshops. An **enormous thanks to Nicole** who stepped in at the last minute to make it all happen when Ruben was unwell, and to all the parents who helped, and of course the awesome kids! Guruman and Gooarng have their camps in the coming weeks - I hope you all have just as much fun.



A **belated thanks** goes out to these lovely mamas, and all the other parents who helped make the **welcome dinner** so delicious and delightful. These shared meals are a beautiful way to reconnect with the school community after the holidays.

Also belated - **Welcome to our newest Tuntable School family**: Anna and Sean McKinney, with their children Aveline (Kindy), Owen, (Yr.2) and Sofia (Yr. 5). It's a pleasure to have you as part of our school community.

This week **parent-teacher meetings** are underway; get in touch with your teacher or the office to schedule a catchup.

Next up are the **NAPLAN** tests which begin from the 13th of March - if you'd like more information, contact Rene or your class teacher.

Harmony Day will be celebrated on the 20th of March. 21st of March is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Harmony Week is celebrated in schools across Australia in the week that surrounds the 21st of March and is focused on Australian multiculturalism. Families are invited to enjoy the fun: there will be a feast, so **kitchen helpers** are needed. Everyone is also invited to **dress up** in cultural dress, or otherwise in something orange.

A couple of requests from admin:

Please remember to **contact the office to notify when your child is absent**, rather than just your class teacher. Rene and Nina are our record keepers; a call, email, or text to them helps them keep it all ship-shape and stops them worrying about the kids :)

Please also **only use the school car park on the North End side of the school**, rather than parking in the passing bay near the creek/bridge.

School Calendar:

- **Term 1 Ends**
Fri, 5 April
- **Term 2 Begins**
Mon, 29 April

Easter Long Weekend

29 March – 1 April

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
- **After school supervision ends 3:15pm (undercover area)**

Committee Meetings:

Thu, 22 Feb, 3:15pm

Thu, 29 Feb, 3:15pm

(At school, subject to change)

Guruman Brisbane Excursion, 2 nights

6-8 March

Gooarng Camp, 1 night

13-14 March

Harmony Day: 20 March

Garden Day: 27 March

Family members welcome.

Closed Shoes

All children need closed shoes on **Wednesdays** for Garden & Kitchen time.

Drink Bottles:

All children are to bring their own drink bottles.

Especially important on Thursdays for CIRCUS.

Finally, some parents may not know or remember that we have a great **Parent Portal on the website**. It is password protected and gives you access to additional photos of all our events and special happenings around school and the community. Get in touch if you need more info on how to access this resource, or if you have pics you'd like to share. The website also has our calendar, lots of great info on our staff, curriculum, history, our policies, and enrolment information. Visit www.tuntablefallsschool.nsw.edu.au/ to check it out.

Until next time, enjoy!

Elowyn



Birthdays

We would like to congratulate the following students on their birthdays.

Happy birthday precious possums!



Communication:

Calendar of Events:

On the school's website:

All events and excursions are added to the calendar of events, available from our website

<https://www.tunablefallsschool.nsw.edu.au/calendar-of-events>

Integrating the school calendar with your existing digital calendar:

Access the Google Calendar to get timely notifications of events and excursions.

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=tuntableschool%40gmail.com&ctz=Australia%2FSydney> In the bottom righthand corner, click to add



Use this link to access the calendar from applications other than Google Calendar.

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/tuntableschool%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>

Absentees:

- It is important to **call the Office by 9:30am** if your child is unable to attend school for any reason.
- If children arrive after 9:05am, or are picked up before 2:45pm, parents/carers need to sign the **Late Arrival/Early Pick-Up Register** in the office.
- 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
Zachary Rook Contact regarding liaising with teachers.	President	0401 243 515	zacharyrook@gmail.com
Adjana Flow (Kristoff Brunet de Courssou) Contact regarding fees, and social media.	Treasurer	0481 090 348	adjana.tfcs@gmail.com
Cameron Blair Contact regarding liaising with teachers and complaints/compliments.	Secretary	0466 981 733	cameronblair@live.com
Hannah Gash Contact regarding liaising with teachers and complaints/compliments.	Member	0472 615 023	hannahpearl@hotmail.com

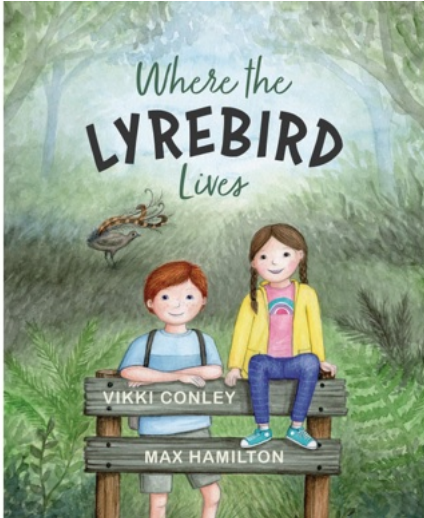


What's New in the Library

EARLY YEARS

Where the Lyrebird Lives, by Vikki Conley

Winner, Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) Book of the Year 2023, Early Childhood



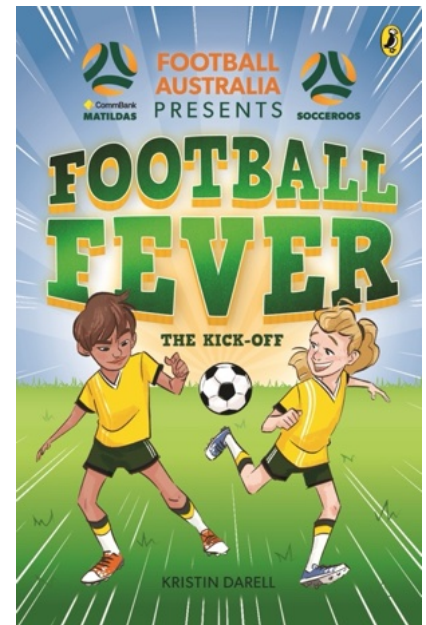
High in the mountains through the sleepy clouds.
Deep in the forest past the chiming birds.
Will we see the lyrebird? I don't know. Tip-toe, tip-toe.

The beauty of the Australian rainforest and the magic of family-time come together in this lyrical and delightful story of intergenerational connection, habitat and adventure.

MIDDLE PRIMARY

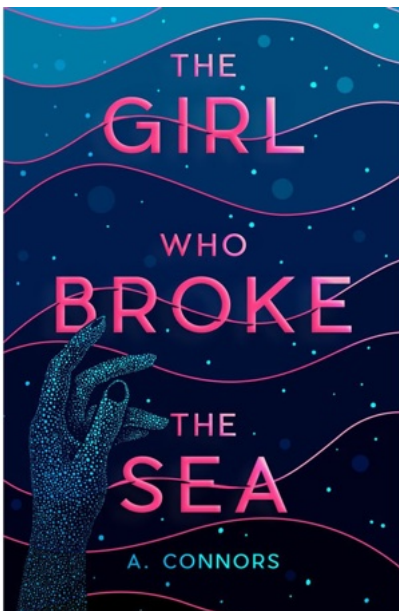
Football Fever: The Kick Off, by Kristin Darell

It's a new season for the Under 11s Merridale Fever! Kyra's the star striker and can't wait to meet the team's new recruit, Sam - all the way from England. But Sam has a secret - he's never played on a mixed team, and it's shaking his confidence. Will advice from some very special football superstars help Kyra and Sam join forces so the team can kick off the season with a bang, or will it end in disaster before it even begins?



UPPER PRIMARY

The Girl who Broke the Sea, by A. Connors



Lily's emotional problems run deep seven miles deep. After she gets kicked out of school for her destructive behaviour, Lily agrees to an unusual fresh start: going with her scientist mum to live at Deeptaven, an experimental deep-sea mining rig and research station located at the bottom of the ocean. Lily instantly regrets her decision: claustrophobic and isolated, it's hardly her idea of home. Turns out, Deeptaven has problems of its own. The head scientist, they quickly learn, has disappeared just as he was on the brink of a shocking discovery. In the darkness of the deep, something is stirring ... something dangerous. And it's calling out to Lily.

A mind-expanding thriller set in the ocean's depths, a terrifying struggle for survival and the story of one girl's path to self-acceptance.



Buribi (Kindy)



The Buribi home visit program has been in full swing as we reach the halfway point of term 1.

We have been lucky enough to visit Eva's, Esther's, Perry's and Lucy's houses. Each visit a beautiful insight into their life at home and background. The children love the opportunity to build a connection and learn about their peers' homes.

Next week we will be visiting Freya's house at the Channon and in the coming weeks, Mabel's and Alice's houses. Aveline's house is still in Brisbane, and we will postpone her home visit until they are settled in next term.

In **literacy**, we have built on our initial sounds S, A, T, I, M to also include P, N, O. **You will find homework folders in your child's bag; please encourage learning at home.** A little bit goes a long way when it comes to learning to read and write. Please ensure they have had a nice snack and drink before embarking on extra learning so as to make it a positive experience.

In **Maths**, we are strengthening our number sense with numbers 0-20 and some extending to 0-30. We practise counting, ordering, and forward and backwards games daily and these can also be played on the journey to school.

Some examples are:

"Start at 5 and count forward?"

"Start at 10 and count backwards?"

"What number comes before 16?"

"What number comes after 12?"



Thanks to all the wonderful parents or grandparents that have helped in the school recently. There's nothing sweeter than the children seeing their families in the school.

Peace, love, and home visits.

Ginger





Gooarng (Yrs 1&2)

The Gooarng class continue to build their **vocabulary of Bundjalung animal words** through recognising the animals that we share our environment within our acknowledgment of country every morning. They particularly like saying jugi jugi (bush turkey) and mimicking scratching in the leaves.

Lindall has been with the class on **Fridays** for their learning with **Mitch King** and writes...

"Each Friday afternoon Gooarng has the privilege of learning how to communicate ideas, emotions and stories using movement, rhythm through body percussion, and sound. Mitch King and his lovely team led the students through a series of activities that encourage a deeper understanding of culture and the connection between language and culture. Through story re-enactment the students also explore character development and the skills of performance. This complements the kids writing, where they have been recounting stories or experiences."



In **Maths** we are practising our 'friends of ten' (the pairs of numbers that add to ten). We are endeavouring to have this knowledge on quick recall so any games/practice at home would be very beneficial, such as memory game: throwing a ball, you say one number and your child catches the ball as they call out the pair that equals ten. We are moving to 'friends of 20'.

Big thanks to all parents who have reached out to me to take on **jobs for camp**. Importantly we still need someone to pull the school trailer and more hands to unpack the trailer at the end of camp.

Up we grow,
Ishta





Yuruugin (Years 3&4)

Yuurugin Camp at 100 Tents, Kungar

This class was amazing last week at camp and it makes a teacher proud when an organiser of the group's activities praises the kids. Scott Poad from Rewild was very impressed with our students and made it very clear that it's not usual for him to take local schools on. We are one of a special few.

Activities last week included:

A high ropes activity where the kids climbed a ladder then onto a tree to a platform 8M off the ground. They then could have taken a leap of faith in an attempt to catch a static trapeze bar suspended in front of them. Every student attempted the climb and just about everyone made a jump for it, even if their every being was saying "NO!". It was fun to watch the parents have a jump and even I gave it a go.

Next was mapping and orienteering. The students learned how to use a compass, learned what contour lines were and how to set and read a bearing. They were required to work in teams and work together.



A whole day on survival 101 was a great learning experience for us all. I know that some of the kids will want to spend some of their pocket money on some of the cool water filtering devices that enable you to drink from puddles and ponds.

Students learnt how save themselves in case of a snake bite, throw a spear, and how to make fire using various methods, and

finished off with a favourite: damper on a stick.

What would a day with Scott be without a game of camouflage? Running around in the forest at its best.

So many questions asked and answered. Learning outdoors, in nature and from someone who actually lives and breathes it, is always the best fun.

Thank you so much to the parents who make these camps doable. It is without a doubt a massive task to take kids away and have as much fun as you can in the bush next to a creek, without all of the adult support.

Thank you so much to all of the teachers who take our children away on these camps. It's a long and tiring few days, even with the parents, and it is with my deepest gratitude I say thanks.

Nicole Devery







Guruman (Years 5&6)

In the world of **Numeracy**, Guruman have taken a big step in the last two weeks, with the beginning of their Long Division journey, one of the major landmarks in number manipulation. It's impressive that many have picked up the skill very quickly and it's also very impressive that many haven't, but are persisting in facing the challenge. It may well be a skill that is under-utilised in many people's later life, but it is such an excellent brain gym, with a wide array of skills needing to be brought together.

Also in **Numeracy**, we have looked at the application of Maths to the use of money: how to make any amount of money with a variety of note denominations. This is useful of course in future use of cash, but even more useful when travelling the world, dealing with a variety of currencies and amounts.

In **Literacy** we have broken the codes of suffixes with Word Crackers, investigating the patterns of spelling in the various vowel/consonant combinations, learning when to Add, Double, Drop or Change for each word and suffix.

We have also expanded our analysis of **Fairy Tales**, examining them from unusual perspectives like that of the witch, the giant, the wolf or the step-mother. I have been very impressed by the level of maturity, empathy and insight demonstrated by Guruman in classroom discussions about identifying the hero or the villain in situations.

On a **Grammarly** note, me and Guruman worked out why it should be Guruman and I, except just then that should have been Guruman and me; subject-verb-object structure and its effect on pronouns. This then led to some wonderful Silly Sentences in our random dictionary games.

We have also had some excellent highly engaging sessions with **Mitch King on Friday's** doing a variety of Drama games.



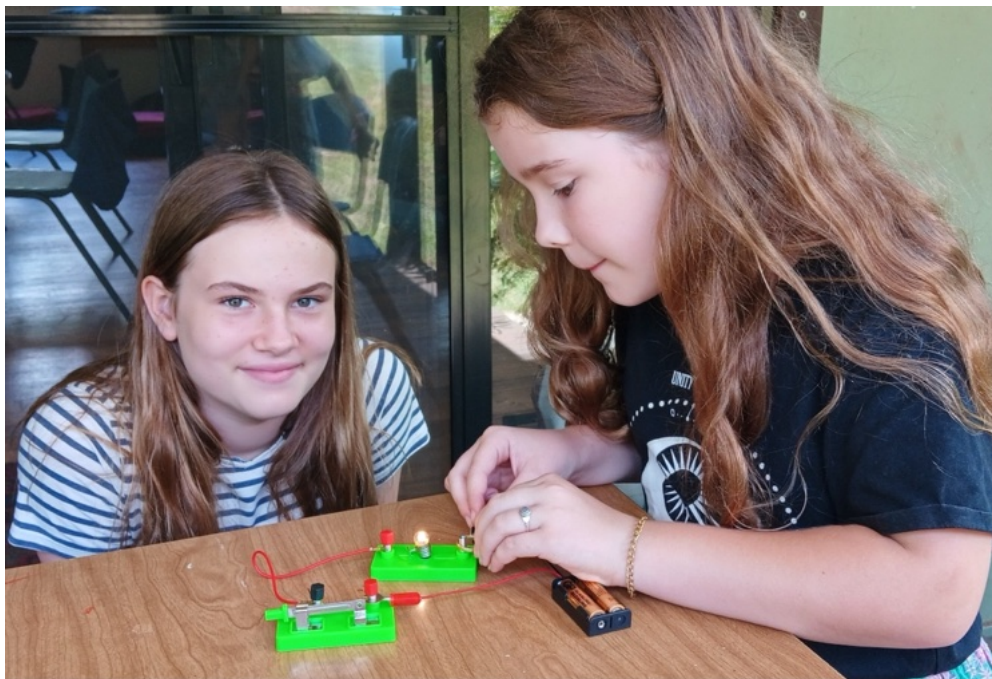
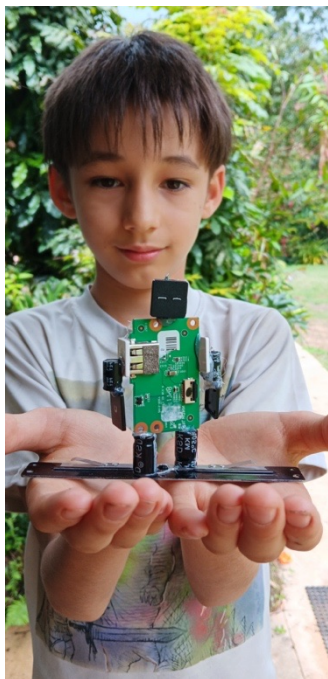
This week of course we are off on our big **Brisbane adventure**. Many tales to tell on our return.

Leaps and Bounds,
Joe



SEE/STEM with Emmy and Akash

- **Guruman** had great fun pulling apart laptops and repurposing the parts into jewellery or robot figures; continuing to explore mechanical computers with the Turing Tumble, and are starting to research the impacts of our computerised world. With Akash they have cooked up delicious dahl and flatbread.



- **Yuruugin** honed their investigation skills by testing the strength, flexibility and flammability of a range of plastic items, as well as getting serious about the affects of plastic pollution in our soil, water and atmosphere. With Akash they have helped wrangle the weeds in their garden bed and pop in some seedlings.
- **Gooarng** shared their ideas about how the Earth and humans have come into existence, learned about different cultural and scientific theories about creation and evolution and have begun to explore how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people used natural resources to live sustainably. With Akash they have been busy in the garden helping to get it back to a productive patch.
- **Burubi** were thrilled to see their "baby" seedlings had sprouted and to mark out their plots in the garden. With Akash they helped to harvest cucumbers and make dough.

All going well we will have a **film crew affiliated with the Stephanie Alexander program** with us on Wednesday 6th March to capture some footage of our kitchen/garden classes in action.

Families, we beseech you, **please come and help in the kitchen or garden!** These spaces are so great for our kids, but they do need lots of help from adults to stay clean, productive and enjoyable. Every little bit counts towards your roster hours. Please talk to us or René for more information.

Emmy & Akash





NCIS Swimming Carnival

Well done to Sibella, Juno, and Escher for giving it a good go at the NCIS Swimming Carnival on 22 February. We are very proud of you.

Thank you to Nicole for organising it and making it possible for our kids to participate and test their skills.

