



Tunable Falls Community School

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117 Upper Tuntable Falls Road Nimbin NSW 2480

16 May 2023, Term 2, Newsletter 6, Next issue due 30 May 2023

Parent Update:

So much good news this week! Happy 50th Anniversary of the Aquarius Festival – Nimbin is abuzz with music, talks, workshops and many reunions of old friends. Some TFCS kids participated in the Lantern Parade on Saturday which was very cute. It's hard to believe we're at the 50th now, I remember the 10th a little and the 25th very well, which makes me feel a little old.

Tunable community celebrates the 50th Aquarius anniversary this coming weekend with a **fundraiser gig** on Saturday at the Hall from 5pm. Food stalls, bar, and a great line-up of musicians. Tickets are \$20 and kids under 15 are free. (pre-sold tickets available online or limited tickets at the door).



The school was successful in receiving a **\$25K upgrade grant!** Work to classrooms, kitchen and garden will be completed over the year to get our school looking and feeling loved.

Back to School vouchers can now be used for camps and excursions – big thanks to Adjana for arranging this. Get in touch with the office for details on how to use your vouchers.

Speaking of camps – **Guruman and Yuruugin are on camp this week** Wednesday to Friday – have fun everyone!

There will be a K-Yr.4 excursion to **Djanbung Permaculture gardens** coming up on 23 May, be sure to return your notes as soon as possible, you don't want the kids to miss out on seeing this beautiful example of permaculture in action.



The kids enjoyed a wonderful **Buddha Bowl for school lunch** last week! Thank you to the parents who helped prepare it. So nice to have school lunches happening again. Zeem and Sky will be coming in on regular Thursdays to make TFCS's iconic curry to warm us up over winter. Text notifications will go out when this is happening.

Have a wonderful fortnight – stay cosy – and maybe see you on the dance floor on Saturday! Love, Elowyn 😊

School Calendar:

- **Term 2 Ends**
Fri, 23 June 2023
- **Term 3 2023 Begins**
Mon, 17 July 2023

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, 25 May, 3:15pm
(At school, subject to change)

Fingal Head Camp

Yuruugin & Guruman.
Wed-Fri, 17-19 May

Djanbung Garden Excursion

Buribi, Gooarng & Yuruugin
Tue, 23 May

Garden Day

Wed, 14 June

Winter Solstice

Thu, 22 June, 5pm

TERM 2 SPORT: Soccer

Ruben is running soccer drills on Fridays.

Drink Bottles:

All children are to bring their own drink bottles.

Especially important on Thursdays for CIRCUS.



Birthdays

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



Communication:

Please visit our website for full details on the most recent COVID-19 advice from AIS NSW, issued 14 Oct 2022.
<https://www.tunablefallsschool.nsw.edu.au/covid-safe>

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=tunableschool%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/tunableschool%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
Melody Atkinson	President	0422 751 508	miss.melodious7@gmail.com
Contact regarding complaints/compliments.			
Adjana Flow (Kristoff Brunet de Courssou)	Treasurer	0481 090 348	adjana.tfcs@gmail.com
Contact regarding fees, and social media.			
Zachary Rook	Secretary	0401 243 515	zacharyrook@gmail.com
Contact regarding liaising with teachers.			
Bart Bunting	Member	0400 398 603	bart@bunting.net.au
Contact regarding liaising with teachers, and maintenance concerns.			
Blossom Gillard	Member	0497 800148	blissbloss@gmail.com
Contact regarding liaising with teachers, TFC liaison, TFC work levies.			

Dyslexia Infosheet

Dyslexia is difficulty learning to read

Children and adults with dyslexia often have difficulties with accurate and fluent word recognition and may also have difficulties with spelling, writing, reading comprehension.

Dyslexia is the most common learning difficulty affecting between 5-10 percent of people. Dyslexia does not impact on a person's intelligence and is not caused by vision difficulties.

Dyslexia is also known as a **specific learning disorder in reading**. Dyslexia is a brain-based (neurological) disorder or disability. People with dyslexia have difficulty working with the sounds in language (phonology) and the written form of language (orthography).

Children and adults with dyslexia often have a family history of dyslexia or other reading and/or spelling difficulties.

What are the indicators of dyslexia?

Young children with dyslexia may have difficulties with:

- delayed speech or difficulty pronouncing words
- rhyming (in nursery rhymes or songs) or identifying the initial sounds in words
- learning the alphabet
- writing their name
- early literacy activities at pre-school



Primary school aged children may often:

- have difficulties learning letter-sound relationships and how to blend sounds
- attempt to guess words rather than decode words
- have frequent errors when reading or read slowly without expression
- avoid reading, especially reading out loud, and show stress when asked to read
- have poor reading comprehension (they may also have stronger oral comprehension)
- be slow to complete literacy tasks
- show anxiety about school or signs of low self-esteem
- have difficulties with working memory



High school aged students:

High school students will have many of the same difficulties as primary school aged children and they may generally avoid reading, they may also have a reduced vocabulary or oral language skills and increased school-based anxiety or low self-concept or self-esteem.



How is dyslexia identified?

An educational assessment or diagnosis can be an important step in identifying strengths and weaknesses, assessing the best approach to intervention and ruling out other causes and comorbidities for a child or adult who has difficulties reading.

Dyslexia is generally diagnosed by a psychologist. (The diagnosis of a specific learning disorder cannot be made by someone who assesses vision, hearing, movement or any other skill in isolation.)

The psychologist will investigate learning strengths and difficulties. Tests used in an assessment may include standardised measures of:

- intellectual ability and cognitive skills
- expressive and receptive language ability
- underlying processing strengths and weaknesses
- academic achievement across a range of domains

Before a diagnosis of a **specific learning disorder in reading** (or dyslexia) is able to be made, it is essential that the child or adult being assessed has received at least six months of intervention focused on improving their reading skills.

“prior to a formal assessment, it is important to ensure that children are provided with well-designed instruction targeting the area in which the child is struggling. This instruction should be explicit, systematic and cumulative and needs to form the basis of an intervention that continues for at least six months.”

Understanding Learning Difficulties Guide for Parents, 2019

Before seeking an assessment or diagnosis of dyslexia it is also important to check eyesight and hearing. A GP or audiologist can assist with screening of hearing and an optometrist can screen eyesight.



Buribi & Gooarng (K, Yrs1&2)

The Gooarng/Buribi class are back in the swing of **Investigations**. The kids have been making appointments at the hairdressers, painting, creating bug headbands, and terrariums. You may have seen a few of these creations that the kids have brought home. They have also been **exploring numbers** through the book *One is a Snail, Ten is a Crab - A Counting by Legs Book*. To support your kids ongoing counting and number learning at home a great activity is to count coins - this is excellent for learning counting by tens and fives.



The kids enjoyed demonstrating their **2D shape learning** by building shapes outdoors and identify sides and corners.



Bug Soup dinner was a buzz thanks to all that came along. It was lovely to connect with you and eat some nutritious, protein filled soup.



The next fortnight sees us starting our bug information posters and visiting **Djambung Gardens Permaculture Institute on Wednesday, 23 May**. Please ensure you've returned the permission slip in the coming week.

What to bring: backpack, water bottle, packed lunchbox, closed shoes, jumper, and a hat.

We're still in need of a **parent or two** to ensure the classroom is stocked with **kindling and firewood** in the coming winter months. This is an important job that really makes a difference in having our toasty fire going, rather than the heater. Please let us know if you can help.

Warm Regards,
Ishta and Heather

Yuruugin (Years 3&4)



The big and obvious highlight in the coming weeks will be **Week 4's Fingal Head camp!**

In **Maths**, we will all be going over subtraction strategies, such as grouping in 10. After that, Year 3 will be looking at fractions, whilst Year 4 students will be looking at the related topic of decimals.

Our look into '**Micro-worlds Explored**' is ramping up. We have written information reports on Kombucha, and will focus next on miso as the topic. We were fortunate to have Motoko visit us in Week 3 to make **miso paste**. Big thanks Motoko! It will take a while to ferment, but with a previous taste test and the pot sitting in our classroom, we are pretty clued in so far.



In Week 5, Emmy will be working on an **aerated worm compost tea** with our students. That's the trick prize sized pumpkin growers use to make sure their soil is teeming with life.

The **spelling focus**, once we come back from camp, will be the '**air**' sound. There are 7 different spellings, all with 3 letters or more, so it will carry with this through Week 6 too.



Lanterns have started taking their triangular pyramid shape and we should all have our frames finished by the end of Week 5.

Thank you all!
Ruben



Guruman (Years 5&6)

MY ANIMAL BEST FRIEND

Out of all the animals in the world, I would pick an Ape as my best friend. I would pick this animal because they're the perfect size to play soccer with, even if they're bad. I would be a match because I could teach him. We could learn handshakes and play games. They're strong and will protect me with there life, I hope. Apes and I have a connection because we are both proud creatures (yes I am a creature.) If you have an ape, you need to show that you care about them. I would do this by feeding them often and loving them a lot.

- *Written by Escher*



MY FRIEND THE FOX

There was a time in my life that I had a friend that was a fox. I thought it would never happen but I was wrong. We actually have a lot in common. We both like running and we are both active. Even if I can't understand her, we are still best friends. Being a friend, you have to be respectful to them, and be nice and listen. We have so much fun. Foxy is a really good friend to me because we have so much in common and she is very kind. If I get hurt, she will help me. Yesterday we had a bake-off. It was really hard for Foxy but she did it somehow. A bake-off is when you have to bake something without using a recipe. Foxy is very unique. She plays with people she is very nice and I think I will never meet a fox like Foxy. That's why I love Foxy.

- *Written by Lieka*



SEE and STEAM with Emmy

Sunny blue skies, salad greens and citrus, can anything be more iconic for a Tuntable autumn? It has been such a joy these past two weeks being with the children and guiding their learning. Minor behavioural frustrations aside (many of which come down to Maslow's hierarchy of needs - Is the child breathing deep and calmly? Have they had enough sleep/ food/ water?) the kids are definitely settling into exploring all the fabulous lessons we share. The gardening is flourishing, again a massive thanks to Phillip, and it has been fabulous to share meals using what we grow. And hopefully all of the Yuruugin learning about soil will translate into more delicious produce.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT:

- **Guruman** are delving into *Young Dark Emu*, the incredible legacy of Aboriginal agriculture and our shared history.
- the **Buribi/Goorang Bug Soup** evening was a wonderful time with full bellies, laughter and... not many bugs!
- **Yuruugin** really excelled with their microscope drawings of soil, roots and critters
- **Guruman** keep cooking up a storm with dal and ooray plum jam

CALL OUT FOR:

- **old CDs** for an art project (Please drop in a box at the front office)
- interesting **seeds, seed pods or feathers** for making model bugs



KIDS FUN FEST



May 20th
11am-2pm

Bush Theatre, Nimbin

Free Kids Event
Great for the whole family!

THE ACTIVITIES

- Storytelling
- Face Painting
- Live music
- Comps and prizes

AGES 4-12+

hollytutin.com to find out more about the author and her audiobooks



Aquarius Festival Youth Day

Free Workshops
Saturday 20th May

Nimbin Town Hall
10:30am to 4:30pm

Morning

- 10:30 am
Body percussion with Greg Sheehan
- 11:30 am
Bollywood dancing with Asha Prasad
- 12:30pm
Ukulele with Andrea Soler (bring your own Uke)

Afternoon

- 2:30pm
Taiko drums with Peter Jaggle
- 3:30pm
Art - Make groovy fridge magnets with Marta Ribon Calabia



PEACE

Sign up on the day or
Book with Branka 0414781313



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