At Census we have 29 students enrolled. This gives us flexibility in staffing and resourcing our school.

Once our budget is confirmed, in the final week of March, it is probable that Bree will take up a short term contract from the start of term 2. We are also likely to advertise for further Education Support staff to work in the literacy and numeracy “blocks”.

CURRENT STAFF ROLES

OWEN:
- TEACH GRADES 3 TO 6; ON DEMAND TESTING; QUICKVic REPORTING; SCHEDULE A AND B REQUIREMENTS ACCORDING TO CONTRACT; STAFF PERFORMANCE PLANS; NUMERACY COORDINATION; CLUSTER/NETWORK/REGION REQUIREMENTS; RESOURCE AND HR MANAGEMENT; SCHOOL ONLINE PRESENCE; TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT....

LISA:
- TEACH GRADES PREP TO 2; NUMERACY FLUENCY ASSESSMENT; RELEVANT ASSESSMENTS ACCORDING TO REGIONAL REQUIREMENTS; LITERACY COORDINATION; ES STAFF COORDINATION FOR LITERACY AND NUMERACY, P-2; LIAISON WITH “SCOPE”; OTHER AS REQUIRED..

TINA:
- EACH TUESDAY
- CASES ADMIN AND FINANCE; NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION ON ALTERNATE TUESDAYS (WITH OWEN)

CATHY:
- EACH WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY (CONTRACT FOR THIS POSITION ENDS AT CONCLUSION OF TERM ONE BUT IS LIKELY TO BE READVERTISED WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS.)

...continued over page....
* CLASSROOM SUPPORT AS DIRECTED BY LISA AND OWEN WITH STUDENTS AS REQUIRED.
* PLAYGROUP COORDINATION

MARGARET:
MONDAY/TUESDAY THURSDAY FROM START OF TERM 2

- CLASSROOM SUPPORT AS DIRECTED BY LISA AND OWEN WITH STUDENTS AS NECESSARY.
- OH AND S IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE; RISK MANAGEMENT; EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN; OH AND S BOARD MAINTENANCE; FIRST AID; UNIFORM COORDINATION AND ORDERING; ALL LOGISTICAL ISSUES (STOREROOMS, FRIDGES; KITCHEN ETC....
- STAFF MEETING MINUTES.
- LIAISE WITH OTHER SCHOOLS RE OHS IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

SUE AND CHRIS OPERATE THE ART AND LIBRARY VANS RESPECTIVELY. JASON LOOKS AFTER OUR TECHNOLOGY FOR THREE HOURS PER WEEK.
WE ARE ALSO SUPPORTED BY “SCOPE” WHICH PROVIDES SPEECH PATHOLOGY SERVICES.

SOME OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS REPEATED FROM THE LAST NEWSLETTER

**Parents can be of great assistance in learning:**
Children should read for 20 minutes each night. If you can help by asking them questions it will reinforce understanding. RECENT RESEARCH SHOWS THAT READING TO YOUR CHILD IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE READING SKILLS.

Very occasionally some printed activity sheets will be sent as homework. Our policy on homework is simple: kids work hard during the day and need time with family and friends after school. The school has paid around $23 per student, in 2013, for access to Mathletics and Spellodrome. These are self-paced online programs in maths and literacy and can be accessed both at school and home. They are fun, challenging and provide “instant feedback” which is vital for learning.

**Welfare**
For many years we have encouraged independent learning. During the day children are taught and encouraged to work with their peers when solving problems. Only when they have exhausted all avenues do they then “ask the teacher”. Making a mistake is part of good learning and children are encouraged to “have a go” without fearing failure. We also expect “self-discipline” from all children but most particularly from those in grade three and beyond. This approach creates kids who ‘LEARN HOW TO LEARN’!! Each month we have a DVD and a fun morning to reward good behaviours. Use of DVD technology is an excellent way of encouraging children to ask – “How do they do that???” Our technology enables them to then try and create along similar lines.
We have “Zero Tolerance” regarding poor behaviour. Children know the rules and they are consistently enforced.
School Uniform must be worn at all times. Harston School Hats must be worn in terms one and four. **No hats in terms two and three!**
School Equipment

- Our technology resources are excellent. Prep children have already been introduced to IPADS and will access laptops as the year progresses.
- There is a variety of sports equipment that is freely available. Sport sessions are dependent upon weather. Extreme heat means no vigorous activity between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm (a department directive).
- We have a wide range of books and children in grades three to six are expected to choose their own readers.

EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF

These staff members are vital to the running of schools. They perform a range of tasks according to school needs and their individual areas of expertise and qualifications:

- Some work exclusively with students following the teachers advice etc..
- Some work exclusively in administration “looking after” finance and other mandatory requirements.

Often jobs are shared – particularly in admin areas.

ILLNESS

We have had a large number of children absent with the same complaint this term: Headaches, sore throats and upset stomachs. As you can imagine these viruses sweep through the school in no time.

PLEASE – when in doubt keep your child at home.

ABSENCES

Could parents please provide a note or a phone call so that we may enter any absence as an “approved absence”. This is very important.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Parents who have any issues or misunderstandings: Please call us or drop in for a cup of coffee. AND PLEASE FOLLOW UP ANY INFORMATION THAT YOUR CHILD EXPRESSES VERBALLY. THEY OFTEN GET THE INFORMATION MIXED UP.

SCHOOL COUNCIL VACANCIES.

PLEASE RETURN NOMINATION FORMS ASAP.

PUPIL FREE DAYS

THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY APRIL 18TH AND FRIDAY APRIL 19TH. LISA AND I WILL BE ATTENDING A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM IN MELBOURNE.

Looking forward to the rest of the year.

More soon.

Regards

Owen
PREP PHOTO FOR SHEPPARTON NEWS

On Thursday 7th March a photographer will attend the school to photograph our prep students. This photo will appear in The Shepparton News at a later date. We will advise the date when we have it.

Happy Birthday

Kahlí McNab
5th March

Kyla Luvara
7th March

COMMUNITY NOTICES

TATURA AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Autumn 2013 competition. For ages 8 to 16.
Registration: 6-7.30pm Wednesday February 13th and Thursday February 14th.
At Tatura Stadium, Albert St.
Competition starts on March 6th.
For further information contact Lisa Cullum on 0428242889.

TATURA JUNIOR NETBALL COMPETITION

The Tatura Netball Association is again running its highly successful Friday night junior competition in 2013.
Join a vibrant & friendly competition that frees up your weekend & gives your child the opportunity to play under the ‘Friday night lights’ (& continue to play in Saturday competitions).
Division 1 (grade 5-6), Division 2 (grade 3-4) & the fantastic Netta program for those just learning the game (Prep-2) will again be running.
Come along to the registration day on Thursday 28/02/2013, 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm at the Tatura netball courts, Hastie St, Tatura. The season begins on a one off Saturday on 13/04/2013 to coincide with the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Association that evening. The competition will run on Friday nights thereafter.
School based teams, community teams, friends & individuals of all levels are welcome.
Contact Kerry Casey 0418 562 554 caseyfamily4@bigpond.com or Simon Pogue 0417 3054 637 spogue8484@bigpond.com

MY GOLF PROGRAM

HILLTOP (Tatura) Golf Club is starting the above program to help juniors try out or start playing or develop their skills in golf.
The initial program will run for six weeks starting on Sunday 17th February 2013 at 9:30am at Hilltop Golf Club. The program will continue for the six Sunday mornings.
The program runs for one hour and is free for all participants. All equipment will be supplied by the Golf Club. The only requirement for participants is to wear a pair of runners or such for the protection of their feet when they are walking around.
If you have a young person who would like to try the program then contact the Club to register their interest.
Junior Coordinator: John Fanning 0409024438
Club Manager: Alex Howson 58252449