From the Principal

I will be absent from school after this week whilst on Long Service Leave, the beach on a pacific island has a nice shady spot with my name on it. Whilst I am away Mrs Reedman will be relieving as Principal. I will return on the 11th December.

A farewell to an old member of our school

It was a day where a long time icon of the school had to be removed. The target board has stood over the oval watching everything for a long time, unfortunately due to OH&S restrictions on its height and safe play surface it has had to be removed.

Mr Jim Irvine planned long on how to do this. Heavy lifting jacks were put in place and pressure was applied, nothing moved, the board was refusing to budge.

Jim scratched his head and applied water to the supports to loosen them, one began to lift. The concrete pillar which came out was as tall as most of the students at the school.

They had been put in to last, Jim decided that it would be easier to break up the other pillars and cut the pipework down to a safe level. Once the posts were cut through the board began to fall.

The view across the oval is now very different and no longer do we have a line to use as a separating point for sport. The memory of the climbing frame used by many ex parents is now just a memory.
However the area now empty is designated for a new outdoor all weather sports surface for all students to use.

Uniform
I have disappointingly noticed over the last few weeks how some of our students are not wearing correct school uniform to school. This is disappointing especially for the more senior students; ‘pride in our school’ is a virtue valued by all schools and gives the school an identity of which we can all be proud of. If there are any issues with your child not wearing uniform or appropriate school shoes to school please make an appointment to see me and discuss them.

Staff Development Day Term 4 2013 - Thursday 19 and Friday 20 December
These are staff development days. Toongabbie West Public School staff will be involved in professional learning activities on these days. The last day for students is Wednesday 18 December. Please make alternative arrangements for your child(ren) for the Thursday and Friday. The school's before and after school service will not operate on these days.

Parent Helper Morning Tea 2013
Our annual parent helper morning tea will be held on Thursday 5th December. On this day the staff at Toongabbie West Public School will host a special morning tea to thank all those parents, grandparents and carers who so freely give up their time to assist with the many programs and activities happening across the school. All of the staff look forward to sharing a cuppa with all of our wonderful parent helpers and personally saying thank you for supporting us in the provision of the quality education that our children receive.

Parent Visitors
If you need to visit the school through-out the day please drop in to the front office and sign in, and the office ladies will point you in the right direction. This is a very important process and is in place at all schools as it’s important we’re aware of who’s on the school grounds at all times.

Presentation Day 2013
This year’s school presentation day will be held on Friday December 13th. Together our school community will celebrate the many successes and achievements of not only those students who will receive awards, but the achievements of all students who have worked so wonderfully ensuring that 2013 was not just an outstanding year, but a magnificent one for Toongabbie West Public School and our students. It has been a year filled with exciting achievements in the academic area, in the sporting arena, in the area of the performing arts and in leadership. I would encourage all mums and dads to join us on the day and help to acknowledge and celebrate what was a truly and educationally rich year.

With our thoughts on Presentation day when we reward students for their efforts and hard work it is time to revisit the partnership between home and school. My personal experience and published educational research shows the main factor is the parents attitude and expectations which has made the largest contribution to students results in addition to having the best teachers teaching them. If parents expect their child to do well at school, that child usually does. If parents are negative regarding the value of education and learning, the result is that child will accept less because learning is not so important. A remember that if you are negative about school in front of your children then the result will probably be that it will rub off on your child and they may come to school with a poor approach to learning and subsequently not succeed as they could or should do.

It is with some pride that I can say that the majority of students are achieving at their highest level, however there are always a few who could do better. Teachers are continually striving to encourage students to work to their potential, this is best done in partnership with a child’s family where everyone wants the success to be the child’s highest level of achievement. If we work together then we can ensure that all students succeed to their highest level.
The Safety of Our Students – Car Park

A reminder that the parking of cars in the school car park during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up is discouraged because of the obvious safety risks to children, especially our students with a hearing problem. After 8.15 in the morning only staff and special taxi transport cars are allowed to enter the school grounds. In the afternoon no cars should be coming into the car park until after 3.30pm. Children are not often as aware of what is going on around them, especially in the excitement of going home at the end of the day and when talking to their friends. The school reminds our wonderful families that entry and exit into our school is through the pedestrian gates only, not through the staff car park.

YEAR 6 GALA DAY

It’s almost here boys and girls, Gala Day is fast approaching. Gala Day will be held on Wednesday the 27th of November, starting at 11:45am and finishing at 1:45pm. All families are welcome to come enjoy the activities and support our Year 6 students. Tokens are on sale starting Monday next week before school. Look for the Gala day stall in the playground. Tokens will be 25 cents each or 5 for $1. Make sure that you bring your money in so that you can go on the jumping castle, buy a sausage sizzle and of course enjoy the fun and the games that the Year 6 will provide for you.

We will also be running a raffle. Please return the ticket booklets and money to the office. Our prizes are as follows:
1st Prize: Car Service at Diamond Automotive valued at $359.
2nd Prize: Family Pass to Luna Park.
3rd Prize: Good Guys Pack valued at $150.
4th Prize: Two Adult Passes to Taronga Zoo.
5th Prize: Family Pass to Jenolan Caves.
6th Prize: Two Passes to Tree Top Adventure Park.
7th Prize: Five Passes to Clown Town.

Raffle tickets are 50 cents each or 3 for $1. The raffle will be drawn at 1:45 p.m. on Wednesday 27th November 2013.

If you have any questions, please see Mr Warren.

SRC NEWS

Talented students,
This is the last week to submit your nomination form for ‘Toonie West Got Talent’. Remember the following:

- An item can be by an individual or pair or small group.

- It can include: Dancing, Singing, Playing a musical instrument, Magic tricks, Boy/Girl Band, Gymnastics, Jokes, Poetry and so many more things.

Each item will go for no more than 2-3 minutes. Auditions will be held on Week 8 and 9 at lunch and afternoon recess time. You will receive your audition date on Week 7.

If you are selected, the ‘Final’ will be on Week 11: Wednesday 18th December, 2013 in the school hall.

Prayers for the Filipino people

In the aftermath of the super typhoon Haiyan’s impact on the Philippines, we are growing with the potential knowledge of a massive casualty rate. In addition to the loss of life, the areas affected by the typhoon have had their houses, roads and shops devastated to the extent that it will take years for the country to recover fully.

At Toongabbie West, we have a number of Filipino people in our community. My family and other members of the community have relatives directly affected by this event.

Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers at this time.

Mrs Joan (Palenzuela) Marks
SRC Co-ordinator

Commonwealth Bank Student Banking

We have been advised that “treasure” has been found and they are going to share it with students. Students simply need to make two or more School Banking deposits from 21 October to 30 November. They will be automatically entered into the competition. Treasure Chest Prizes are 60 x Apple iPod touch 16GB and 100 X Adventure DVD Pack including Despicable Me, Despicable Me 2 & HOP. There are still two more Tuesdays to bank before the competition closes.

Craft Market and Antique Valuations for NSW Police Legacy

Our Lady Queen of Peace (OLQP) parish in Greystanes is again holding its highly popular Craft Market and Antique Valuation event to raise funds for NSW Police Legacy. This features up to 40 stalls from all over Sydney, Children can make their own stuffed bears. A unique drawcard of this Craft Market is the professional Antique Valuations. Each valuation $5.00. Profits from the Fair will be donated to NSW Police Legacy which assists families of deceased NSW Police Officers.

What: Craft Market and Antique Valuation
When: Saturday 23 November, 8am – 2pm
Where: OLQP Camilleri Hall, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes, 2145

For further information please contact: events@olqp.org.au
To our sponsors of the 2013 Halloween Carnival

THANK YOU!

SNAP Printing
152 Best Road
Seven Hills 2147

Kennards Hire
Cnr Old Windsor & Powers Rd
Seven Hills

Aussie Farmers Direct
Australian Museum
AVON
Baida Select Poultry
Bankstown Sports Club
Baulkham Hills Sports Club
Blacktown Aquatic Centre
Blacktown Workers Club
Bungaree Butchery
Calmesley Farm
Captain Cook Cruises
Cincotta Chemist
City Extra Parramatta
Cordina Chicken Farms
Discount Chemist Toongabbie
East Toongabbie Cellars
Edge Rock Climbing Centre

Elders Real Estate – Toongabbie
Manly Sea Life Sanctuary
McDonalds – Wentworthville
Merrylands Bowling Club
Olympic Aquatic Centre
Outback Steak House
– Wentworthville
– Northmead
Penrith Whitewater Stadium
Plus Fitness
Powerhouse Museum
Sinnali Sportswear
Sky Dive the Beach Sydney
Sydney Harbour Tall Ships
Taronga Zoo
Wentworthville Leagues Club