TPS Turns 125!

This year marks the 125th year of supporting the education of the children in the Rutherford and Telarah area for our school and we are very excited to be working with a range of community members to prepare to celebrate in style. Mr John Quinn, former Principal of our school, has volunteered to chair a committee to organise the celebration which includes past P & C Presidents and staff members. Mr Quinn will be adding some value to our newsletter each fortnight by writing about some of the history of our school. His first piece talks about when the school opened and provides an outline of some of the proposed activities.

We are very appreciative of Mr Quinn’s time and the support he and his team are offering our school.

Class Changes

Last week’s class re-adjustment has gone very smoothly, I’d like to thank our community for their patience and understanding. Teachers will be sending their annual class note to parents later in the week.

Tell Them From Me

Later in the newsletter there is a letter regarding a survey called Tell Them From Me. The aim of this survey is to provide feedback to the school about our operation and comprises opportunities for students, parents and teachers to participate. We are beginning with the students survey, the note attached allows you to opt your child out of participating if you wish.

Tony Gadd
Principal

QuickSmart

QS has now moved upstairs to the Multi-Purpose Centre (MPC), through the main doors and first door to the right. There were some disruptions to lessons over the past week whilst moving and setting up has been taking place. QS is now ready to go again and will be up and running again this week. Don’t forget your allocated times and be ready to go.

Remember please feel free to drop in any time with questions or concerns or just to see our new space.

The QuickSmart Team
Library News:
Please remind your children to bring their Library bags to school on their Library day.
We have so many beautiful new books being added to the Library each week.
Library days are:
Monday: 2/3E, 2C, 2P, 1B, 1K
Tuesday: 6P, 6W, 1/2L
Wednesday: Pre School, 4K, 4W, 5T, 5/6H
Thursday: KC, KN, KB, 3C, 3R

Kindergarten Tennis Morning – Friday, March 6:
All kinder classes will have a tennis skills session from 9.30am until 10.15am on Friday, March 6. During this time the classes will practise some simple tennis skills with the assistance of our school leaders.
All parents are invited to participate in this fun session as well and we will also be asking parents to log on to the Hot Shots website during that morning. Each family that logs on will earn our school $5 toward the purchase of sports equipment. Our Hot Shots t-shirts and mini racquets for all kinder students should arrive at school soon.

This year, in order for students in Years 1 to 6 to get a free t-shirt, it is necessary to return the Hot Shots note sent home previously, complete with size and colour required. For each child that completes this note, the school earns $2.00 towards sports equipment. Further notes are available from the school office if required.

Year 1 Home Readers:
Please check to see if you have any readers that should have been returned last year. This year’s Kindergarten classes are already using our school reading books and the return of any missing books would really be appreciated.

Preschool Grounds:
Our preschool grounds are looking wonderful. Thanks to both Mrs Williams and John who have been here to work in the gardens. Thanks also to Cathy Tranter who has also done a marvellous job over the past fortnight. We really appreciate your generous support.

Vision Screening:
Hunter New England Health came in last Tuesday and screened all kinder children who had not been checked at their preschool setting. This was a free service.

Fundamental Movement Skills:
Now that all classes are settled, each class will have three sessions a week learning and practising fundamental movement skills. All students need to have safe, appropriate footwear and hats for these outside sessions. The lessons teach the basic skills required in all sports such as balance, striking, running etc.

Clean Up Australia Day:
We will be doing our clean up at school this Friday, 27 February. All classes will be allocated an area to look after. If you want your child to wear gloves, please provide a pair of gardening type gloves. We will not be providing disposable gloves as most of our litter is paper and snack wrap material.

KN Best Start Interviews:
Ms Nugent will hold her Best Start interviews on Thursday this week (26 February). They will be held in the MPC, above the office.

Inter School Sport Days
The Inter School Sporting Competition will be starting on Friday, 27 February for 4 weeks. Students who have been selected to play in the teams of OzTag, Netball and Soccer for both senior (Years 5 and 6) and junior (Years 3 and 4) have been given a note. If your child was selected in a team, please return the note and money to their coach before Thursday.

Zone Representatives
Congratulations to Kaia Isaac and Sebastian Sanderson for making the Maitland Zone PSSA Basketball team and to Brodie Christiansen for making the Maitland Zone PSSA Rugby League team. Well done boys and best of luck for the next level of trials in the coming weeks.

After School Sport Program – Term 1
The after school sport of CYCLING starts tomorrow, Wednesday, 25 February from 3.15pm – 4.15pm. Notes were handed out yesterday to interested students; places are limited so return notes to school office as soon as possible.
**Bring your Bike BBQ and Workshop**
The whole school is invited to the “Bring your Bike BBQ” which will be held on Wednesday, 11 March from 4.30pm until 6.30pm. This will be held straight after the After School cycling sport. Scott will stay on, with some helpers and do checks of students’ bikes. Everyone is welcome to bring in your bike and stay to enjoy a sausage sizzle.

**Preschool News:**
**Reminder to pick up your children by 3pm.** If staff need to leave before children are picked up, you will have to collect your children from the School’s main office.
Please supervise your children, including older and younger siblings, in the morning before preschool opening.
Thank you.

**Year 6 – Maitland Agricultural Show Excursion**
Last week the Year 6 students had a fun filled day at the Maitland Show. We made a God’s Eye, patted the animals and voted for the best flowers in Show. What a great day!

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**TELARAH PUBLIC SCHOOL – 125 YEARS**

*Did you know that Telarah Public School celebrates its 125th anniversary this year? That is a long history for a school in our country.*

Telarah Public School commenced its work as Homeville Public School and the first students were admitted on Monday 13th October, 1890. The school became Telarah Public School in 1950. This came about because on 14th February, 1950 the Maitland suburb of Homeville was renamed Telarah and the school name was also officially changed to Telarah.

Although the first students started school at 9.30am on 13th October 1890, the process of getting a school for the community started earlier. The first application appears to have been lodged with the Department of Public Instruction’s Inspector in charge of the Maitland District. He was Mr Timothy Dwyer. The application was made by Mr G.O. Hyde, who was the Managing Director of the Maitland Coal Mining Company. It operated the Homeville Colliery and most of the adult male residents of the Homeville and Farley area were employed at the mine.

A second application was lodged with the Department of Public Instruction in June 1890 and this was supported by the Methodist Church. The proposal was for a school with the building to be used for a Sunday School each weekend. The application also stated that a total 32 families promised the enrolment and regular attendance of 79 children at the proposed school. The application was formally granted by the Minister for Public Instruction, Mr Joseph Carruthers, on 9th July 1890. The original building was erected on the corner of Bridge and Station Streets. (now Bligh and Brooks Streets) The room was furnished and supplied with desks, forms, books, maps, slates, pens and pencils from Branxton Public School. Mr Frederick Dove was appointed as the first Teacher in Charge (Principal) of Homeville Public School.

And the rest is history…………………

This information was obtained from Telarah Public School Centenary Book, 1990.

To celebrate the 125 years the school has plans for several activities. These include:

- A STUDENT ASSEMBLY to be held on Tuesday 13th October to mark the actual birthday of the school. It is hoped the assembly will include the display of the original school bell.
- The SCHOOL MUSICAL will celebrate the history of the school and the local area. Dates proposed are Tuesday 15th September at 7pm, Wednesday 16th September at 10am, Thursday 17th September at 7pm.
- An OPEN DAY at school to celebrate Education Week and the school’s 125th year.
• A COMMUNITY OPEN DAY which will include historical displays, tours of the school, BBQ and a picnic in the school grounds. Proposed date is 18th October 2015.
• A FORMAL DINNER. Proposed date is Saturday 17th October 2015.
• Reprint and Update of the Telarah Public School Centenary Book.
• TIME CAPSULE. A time capsule was created in 1990. It is hoped to inspect and display the original contents of the time capsule as well as adding information from the past 25 years.

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### NOTES & PAYMENTS DUE

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<th>Note</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Action Required</th>
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<tr>
<td>Canberra Excursion</td>
<td>Year 6 Students</td>
<td>Deposit $100</td>
<td>2 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Aussie Bush Camp</td>
<td>Year 5 Students</td>
<td>Deposit $100</td>
<td>30 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter School Sports Day</td>
<td>Selected Students</td>
<td>Permission Note &amp; $12.00</td>
<td>Now</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Shot Tennis Program</td>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>Permission Notes to be returned</td>
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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This term, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed online and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by Friday 27 February.


Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation
Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 27 February 2015.

I (print name) .......................................................... DO NOT give consent for my child/children (print name/s) ..........................................................
of class/es ......................to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Signed.......................................................... Date........................................
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0407 917 381
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<td>6 – 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maidland</td>
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<td>Gorman High School</td>
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<td>Thornton Public School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teralah Public School</td>
<td></td>
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