

TORRENS PRIMARY SCHOOL **Ritchie Street TORRENS ACT 2607**  
**OUR PHONE NUMBER HAS CHANGED TO: 6142 0777** Email: [admin@torrenspss.act.edu.au](mailto:admin@torrenspss.act.edu.au) Web: [www.torrenspss.act.edu.au](http://www.torrenspss.act.edu.au)



### Dates to remember:

- \* **Fri 3 Aug** - Nelson Mandela Day and SRC Assembly 12.15pm
- \* **Wed 8 Aug** - Yr6 Oztag Gala
- \* **Thur 9 Aug** - Wakakirri heat rehearsal 10.30am and performance 7.15pm
- \* **Tues 14 Aug** - Yr6 Combined Band at Farrer PS
- \* **Fri 17 Aug** - Book Fair 8.30am-9.15am
- \* **Thur 23 Aug** - Yr3-6 Author visit and workshop
- \* **Fri 31 Aug** - Book week dress up day and Assembly
- \* **Wed 19 Sept - Fri 21 Sept** - Yr6 Sydney Trip

**For further dates please go to**  
[www.torrenspss.act.edu.au](http://www.torrenspss.act.edu.au)

### Notes & payments due:

- \* **Fri 3 Aug** - Wakakirri rehearsal
- \* **Fri 3 Aug** - Yr6 Oztag Gala Day
- \* **Fri 3 Aug** - Nelson Mandela Day gold coin
- \* **Wed 8 Aug** - Yr6 Combined band
- \* **Fri 17 Aug** - Yr3-6 Author Visit
- \* **Fri 31 Aug** - Yr6 Sydney Trip

### **From the Library:**

## **Book Week is Coming!**

### **Children's Book Week 2018**

#### **Find Your Treasure**



Recently the 2018 Children's Book Council of Australia shortlist was announced. This shortlist represents a group of books considered by the Council to be the best Australian childrens' books published within the current year. It represents the final list from which the winners of each category will be announced at the commencement of Childrens' Book Week later in August. Apart from being a useful focus for teachers, this list is a helpful guide for parents in selecting quality Australian books for their children. This list may be accessed on the Council's website: <http://cbca.org.au/>.

In the coming weeks books from this list will be studied in library lessons in preparation for our annual Book Week celebrations at Torrens. After Book Week all of these books will be available for loan to students.

Planned Book Week activities include:

- a Carnival Book Fair in the library where students and parents are welcome to browse and select books for purchase on Friday, 17 August from 8.30 am to 9.15am (Week 4). Please note that EFTPOS is available at the Book Fair which will significantly reduce time waiting to purchase books.
- Writing workshops, with published author Harry Lainge, for students in Years 3 to 6 on **Thursday, 23 August** (Week 5).
- a book cover competition for senior students and a colouring in competition for junior students, with prize winners being determined by student voting.
- a *Dress as a Book Character* day as part of our Book Week Assembly on **Friday, 31 August** to which of course all parents are invited.

These celebrations will all act to highlight the value of books and reading as we encourage our students to read widely and appreciate quality literature.

**Christine Hynes - Librarian**

### **Gold Coin donation to mark Nelson Mandela Day - Friday, 3 August**



As stated in last week's newsletter, tomorrow Torrens Primary School will commemorate Nelson Mandela Day in the year that would have marked his 100th birthday, with a collection of gold coins to go to the Kids Foundation charity. For more information regarding Kids Foundation, visit their website at [www.kidsfoundation.org.au](http://www.kidsfoundation.org.au). Thank you, *Zanie R - 6G*

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." -Nelson Mandela*

## HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO ....

**Riya B, Ebony L, Elva O and Indie T for being accepted into the Australian Girls Choir.**

For more than 30 years, the **Australian Girls Choir** has been proud to play a role in the growth and development of girls across the country; providing high quality **performing** arts education and exceptional **performance opportunities**.

If you are interested in joining a choir, Torrens has two available. The Junior choir (Years K - 2), rehearses every Wednesday morning in the New Hall and the Senior choir (Years 3 - 6), rehearses in the Performing Arts room also on Wednesday mornings. Both from 8:30am - 9:00am.



## Traffic issues around Torrens

Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) and the Education Directorate consult regularly about issues associated with traffic management around schools as well as parking issues associated with parents and carers dropping off and picking up their children. Unfortunately some motorists undertake unsafe, inappropriate and risky behaviour leading to concerns for the safety of children and increasing the likelihood of accidents. In addition, some parents are parking illegally around schools.

TCCS request that we take care in school zones and carparks and remind us that parking inspectors do visit school sites and surrounding streets and will book drivers parking illegally. While schools can become congested during the peak times, illegal parking cannot be tolerated as it creates an unsafe environment for children. Parents are welcome to park on side streets around schools, but please remember to park legally.

Infringements for parking on nature strips, footpaths, verges, street corners and near children's crossings start from \$114.

If you need to drive, park a little further from the school and walk to meet your child, or arrange a meeting point so they can walk to meet you. It's a great way to avoid congestion and is also one of the most time efficient ways to ensure children receive the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity every day.

## Reading Helpers Wanted

To provide students with more opportunities to read with an adult, Year One are looking for volunteers to read with small reading groups. We would love to have parents, carers, grandparents, aunts, uncles or any other special adults from our community join us for reading. All resources would be organised and provided by the Year One teachers.

Reading groups will run 9:20am-9:50am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week. If you are able to assist with reading on any of these days please contact Mrs Thomas in 1T via the Front Office or by emailing [admin@torrensp.s.act.edu.au](mailto:admin@torrensp.s.act.edu.au)

We look forward to working with you,

Year One Teaching Team

## HOMESTAY

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STUDYING  
IN CANBERRA HIGH SCHOOLS AND  
COLLEGES NEED HOST FAMILIES.

This is a unique opportunity to participate in cultural exchange.  
Suitable host families will be reimbursed up to \$300 per week.

For more info and applications, contact the Homestay Coordinator, International Education Unit, ACT Education Directorate on [ieu@act.gov.au](mailto:ieu@act.gov.au) or 6205 9194

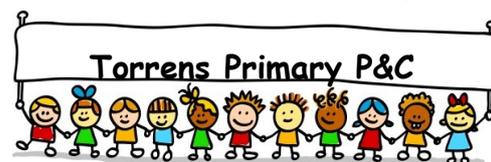
[www.education.act.gov.au](http://www.education.act.gov.au)

CORGE Registration Number 004632 ABN 7520411213



# Parents' Corner

*Every parent and carer is part of the P&C!*



## Key dates

- Second hand uniform shop - Fri 3 August (Week 2)
- **P & C Meeting - Mon 6 August (Term 3 Week 3)**
- Torrens Autumn Fair - Sat 30 March 2019

## P&C Meeting Change

DO NOT PANIC TREATS WILL STILL BE SERVED!

But please note that this term's first meeting has been moved to a Monday instead of a Tuesday. We are trying to help those parents and careers that can't make it on Tuesdays, but really want to come. We would love to have the pleasure of your company in August so we will see you all on Monday, 6 August. If you have any items you would like added to the agenda for the meeting please email us.

## A Special Thank you from Mich Allen

To all the Torrens community

Again, I wish to thank you for your nomination for an ASG National Excellence in Teaching Award last year. As some of you might be aware, that led to me being selected to attend an International Space Camp for Educators in Huntsville Alabama at the National Space and Rocket Centre in the July holidays. Oh my goodness, what an experience! I have come home with so much new educational based knowledge, resources and brilliant ideas for making the learning about space and STEM (science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) so exciting and relevant to students. More than that though, I got to work closely with brilliant teachers from all corners of the earth and this has flourished into what I think will be lifelong personal and professional friendships. I am fortunate now to have access to brilliant international teachers, their programs and resources.

Plans are already underfoot to share ideas and resources with Torrens staff and it is my genuine hope that I can do the Space Camp program justice by inspiring Torrens teachers to implement ideas, use resources I share and build your children's interest in space and man's amazing endeavours in space exploration, both past, present and future. The international endeavours currently being undertaken beyond earth are just incredible and so much is readily accessible for us back down in the land of gravity!

My experience in the US was both professionally and personally transforming and one I would not have had had it not been for the Torrens community's nomination for the NEiTA award. That nomination remains so dear to me, far more important than the actual winning of one, but now I am even more indebted to you all for the doors it has opened for me.

So, that said, I remain wishing to repay my gratitude in any way you see fit. Put me on a stall at the Twilight Fair, have me turn sausages at a Bunnings BBQ and let me continue to donate wine to the Trivia Night (as well as join the teachers table to receive the honour of further wooden spoons!). I can pretend that is work, but it would be such a delight to see you all and your kids, so any excuse...

Please pass on this heartfelt note to one and all via the newsletter, the P&C Facebook page, an aerial letter drop... I sincerely want all the Torrens community to know of my appreciation and genuine warmth for you all.

Much love and huge dose of missing you.

Astronaut-in-training,

*Mich Allen*



<u>School Sport ACT – Trial Information and Registration Process</u>	
Age Group (12&U or 13&O)	12&U
Sport	Tennis
Date(s) of Trial (Must attend at least one)	Sunday 5 August Results from 3 May event considered
Venue	Canberra Tennis Centre, Lyneham
Time	Girls 9am-12 or as needed Boys 11am-2:30pm or as needed Players should complete their own warm up and be ready to play matches at these times.
Requirements (Specific gear)	Tennis attire
ACT Event Details (if trial is for a regional team)	This was played 3 May
Cost of the Regional Event	
Eligibility	Students born 2006, 2007 and 2008 and those born after 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2005 (age exemption) Up to 4 students only can be selected under the age exemption.
Further Information	<p>The Bruce Cup runs for 7 full days with all players competing in 3-4 matches on every day. The teams event occurs in the mornings with the Singles event in the afternoon.</p> <p><b>Students must satisfy the following criteria to participate in trials. This is not optional.:</b></p> <p>If you played in the event 3 May, players need to have reached the <b>quarter finals or better</b> of the draw.</p> <p>Players should have a National Australian ranking. Please indicate this on the nomination.</p> <p>Players should be regularly playing tournaments both locally and interstate. Please indicate recent tournament experience in Australian Ranking tournaments, Junior Development Series events or overseas.</p> <p>Trials will take the form of full matches and players may be required to stay longer than times indicated to complete the trials.</p> <p>Please indicate the name and a contact number for your coach.</p> <p>If you have questions as to the expected standard or your child's suitability to attend trials please contact Alun Jones at Tennis ACT or Margaret McCaskie 61636476.</p>

**Registration Process** School Sport ACT now collects all registration information online – this is to prevent the movement to and fro of a paper note and have all information readily available to officials prior to the trial. As this process incurs a fee for data storage, system maintenance and admin a small \$3 fee payment via credit card will be required.

Go to the School Sport ACT website – [www.schoolsportact.asn.au](http://www.schoolsportact.asn.au)

Click Register (top right corner of homepage) for an Account – enter parent details and password

A confirmation email will be sent to your chosen email that will contain a link that you must click on to verify the email account.

Click Log In (top right hand corner of home page) enter password then click on top tab My Profile

You will see a 'dashboard' of your information, click green box to Add Student – enter student and medical details and save.

Go to the Sports Tab – choose your specific sport, click on Trial Information box then click on the Register to Trial link.

Select your child's name from the dropdown box and then enter the optional fields for Playing History, Preferred Position (if applicable) and Representative Experience.

Make the \$3 credit card payment then click to register.

An automated email will then be sent to your Principal/School Approver for their approval to trial (no need to take anything to school for the Principal to sign).

You will be able to see the process has been complete back in My Profile – once your Principal/School Approver has completed the approval process your child's information will be collated onto a list for the Team Manager and Coach prior to trial.

Note the registration process closes two days before the trial date to allow time for approval and sharing of collated information.