

TORRENS PRIMARY SCHOOL **Ritchie Street TORRENS ACT 2607**
OUR PHONE NUMBER HAS CHANGED TO: 6142 0777 Email: admin@torrensp.s.act.edu.au Web: www.torrensp.s.act.edu.au



Dates to remember:

- * **Fri 27 July** - NAIDOC Assembly 12.15pm
- * **Mon 30 July** - Kindy 100 days
- * **Fri 3 Aug** - Nelson Mandela Day
- * **Wed 8 Aug** - Yr 6 Oztag Gala
- * **Thur 9 Aug** - Wakakirri heat rehearsal 10.30am and performance 7.15pm
- * **Tues 14 Aug** - Yr 6 Combined Band at Farrer PS
- * **Fri 17 Aug** - Book Fair 8.30am-9.15am
- * **Thur 23 Aug** - Yr 3-6 Author visit and workshop
- * **Fri 31 Aug** - Book week dress up day and Assembly
- * **Wed 19 Sept - Fri 21 Sept** - Yr 6 Sydney Trip

For further dates please go to www.torrensp.s.act.edu.au

Notes & payments due:

- * **Fri 27 July** - Kindy 100 days
- * **Fri 3 Aug** - Wakakirri rehearsal
- * **Fri 3 Aug** - Yr 6 Oztag Gala Day
- * **Fri 3 Aug** - Nelson Mandela Day gold coin
- * **Fri 31 Aug** - Yr 6 Sydney Trip

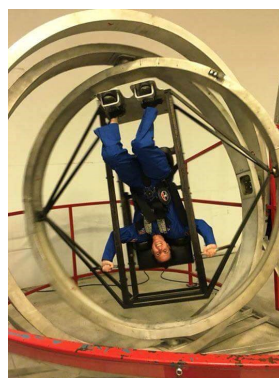
From the Principal - *Rachel Matthews*

National Excellence in Teaching Award

Mich Allen, our former Science and EALD teacher, has just returned from a week in Space Camp in America. Mich won this prize after our P&C nominated her for an ASG National Excellence in Teaching Award last year. Mich was selected from over 1450 nominations for her incredible work at Torrens. A magazine article quoted her as saying 'learning by doing' is definitely her motto.

"I love the hands on nature of teaching science and watching students learn through full immersion in exploring and investigating their world. In my classroom, there are no standardised worksheets in sight, but there's plenty of noise as students brainstorm, employ thinking skills to problem solve, perceive and share observations of pattern and outcomes, explain to peers what they've accomplished and that it takes time to think through an idea. That idea may look like hands covered in a slimy concoction, ducking marshmallows zipping across the room from catapults designed and built by the students, or exploring phenomena outside. This is what engagement looks like; something I strongly believe is a crucial element to students achieving success."

Mich has returned from the US saying "I cannot thank Torrens enough. It was a personally and professionally transforming experience." Mich will drop into Torrens in the near future to share her experience and new STEM resources with staff and students.



NAIDOC week 2018

Tomorrow Torrens Primary School will celebrate NAIDOC week, with students grouped from across the school, to participate in sporting, literary and art rotations. Stories and learning will be shared and celebrated at a special NAIDOC assembly at 12.15pm. See over the page for more about this year's NAIDOC week theme, ***Because of Her, We Can!***

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BECAUSE OF HER, WE CAN!

8-15 JULY 2018

Under the theme - Because of Her, We Can! - NAIDOC Week 2018 was held nationally during the school holidays. As pillars of our society, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have played – and continue to play - active and significant roles at the community, local, state and national levels. As leaders, trailblazers, politicians, activists and social change advocates, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women fought and continue to fight, for justice, equal rights, our rights to country, for law and justice, access to education, employment and to maintain and celebrate our culture, language, music and art. They continue to influence as doctors, lawyers, teachers, electricians, chefs, nurses, architects, rangers, emergency and defence personnel, writers, volunteers, chief executive officers, actors, singer songwriters, journalists, entrepreneurs, media personalities, board members, accountants, academics, sporting icons and Olympians, the list goes on. They are our mothers, our elders, our grandmothers, our aunties, our sisters and our daughters.

Sadly, Indigenous womens' roles in our cultural, social and political survival has often been invisible, unsung or diminished. For at least 65,000 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have carried our dreaming stories, song lines, languages and knowledge that have kept our culture strong and enriched us as the oldest continuing culture on the planet. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women were there at first contact. They were there at the Torres Strait Pearlers strike in 1936, the Day of Mourning in 1938, the 1939 Cummeragunja Walk-Off, at the 1946 Pilbara pastoral workers' strike, the 1965 Freedom Rides, the Wave Hill walk off in 1966, on the front line of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in 1972 and at the drafting of the Uluru Statement. Our women were heavily involved in the campaign for the 1967 Referendum and also put up their hands to represent their people at the establishment of national advocacy and representative bodies from the National Aboriginal Congress (NAC) to ATSIC to Land Councils and onto the National Congress for Australia's First Peoples. They often did so while caring for our families, maintaining our homes and breaking down cultural and institutionalised barriers and gender stereotypes.

Their achievements, their voice, their unwavering passion give us strength and have empowered past generations and paved the way for generations to come.

Special NAIDOC Week Assembly tomorrow in the Old Hall at 12.15pm

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.

Bank Draw Winners:

Aryan P, and Jackson W

Congratulations!

Celebrating Nelson Mandela Day at Torrens Primary on Friday, 3 August



Nelson Mandela was a South African leader who spent years in prison for opposing Apartheid, the policy by which races were separated and white people were given power over black people in South Africa. Upon his release from prison, Mr. Mandela became the first President of a black majority-ruled South Africa in which Apartheid was officially ended. In November 2009, the United Nations officially declared July 18, Nelson Mandela's birthday, as Nelson Mandela International Day, recognising Mandela's values and dedication to the service of humanity.

For the first time at Torrens Primary School we will commemorate Nelson Mandela Day next Friday, 3 August (Week 2). As part of the celebrations of what would have been Nelson Mandela's 100th birthday this year, please bring in a gold coin donation next Friday. Your donation will go towards the KIDS Foundation charity (www.kidsfoundation.org.au)

Thank you, kindly
Zanie R 6G

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.act.edu.au

We look forward to working with you,
Year One Teaching Team



HOMESTAY

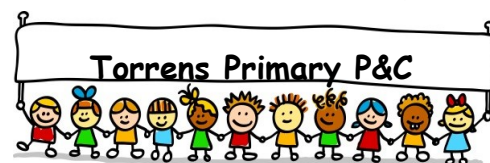
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STUDYING
IN CANBERRA HIGH SCHOOLS AND
COLLEGES NEED HOST FAMILIES.

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 or 6205 9194

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

Welcome back for Term 3.

We hope that all the students have had a good break and have returned refreshed and ready for another great term.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday August 6, 7pm in the school library. Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are provided. If you have any items you would like added to the agenda for the meeting please email us.

Thank you everyone for all your wonderful help. The Amazing Trivia Night Team has been assembled and are hard at work planning for the best Trivia Night that Torrens has ever seen!



P&C Meeting Change

DO NOT PANIC TREATS WILL STILL BE SERVED!

But please note that the first meeting in week 3 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.

Torrens Autumn Fair 2019

The next Torrens Primary School Autumn Fair is set for Saturday March 30, 2019.

If you know any companies or local business that would like to support our fair please let us know J

All fabulous ideas (and all ideas are fabulous) should be sent to Nada by email (torrenspnc@gmail.com) or by phone (0412111353). You can also text – whichever way suits you .

Keeping informed

If you would like to be kept informed of the latest P&C activities, like our Facebook page and sign up to our distribution list by emailing torrenspnc@gmail.com

