

2025



Phone: (02) 4840 2047 Fax: (02) 4840 2152 Striving is our Aim

Email: taralga-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Mahaita, www.taralga, naahaalanawadu ay

Taralga Public School

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Taralga Public School.

We hope you and your child will settle happily into our small, family-oriented school and community. Taralga Public School offers quality education for students in a happy and high achieving environment. This booklet contains information to help you become familiar with our school.

Taralga Public School provides opportunities for students to excel in academic and sporting fields. Our experienced teaching staff deliver quality educational programs for all students so they can develop a strong foundation to become lifelong learners and reach their full potential.

Taralga Public School is well-resourced, with interactive whiteboards, iPads and computers in all classrooms to successfully integrate technology into all aspects of teaching and learning.

Our school welcomes parental involvement and we are happy to discuss your child's progress throughout the year. Taralga Public School's P & C Association is a highly committed and dedicated group who usually meet once per term. The staff and P & C work actively together to benefit the students and school. The P & C assist in fundraising, working bees and in planning the direction of the school.

Taralga Public School prides itself on positive parent-school relationships and your support of your child's learning at home is valued. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education, please make an appointment with the school. At Taralga Public School we believe in being partners in the education of your child.

We look forward to seeing you and sharing in the wonderful educational and social opportunities provided for all our students.

Regards,

Liza Duncan

Elizabeth Duncan PRINCIPAL





Ms Elizabeth Duncan Principal / Teacher



Ms Martha Grahame **Curriculum & Instruction**



Mrs Sharon King Teacher/ Assistant Principal Relieving School Administrative Manager



Ms Sherree Towsey



Mrs Linda McDade **Classroom Teacher**



Ms Sam Long School Learning Support Officer



Mr Warren Peck **General Assistant**

School Cleaner - Ms Sam Long

School Contact Details

Taralga Public School 95 Orchard Street, Taralga NSW 2580

Phone: (02) 48402047 (02) 48402152 Fax:



Mrs Michelle Bennett School Learning Support Officer



Breakfast Club

9:00am Assembly/Morning Session

11:00am Recess
11:25am Mid Session
12:45pm First half lunch
1:05pm Second half lunch
1:34pm Afternoon Session
3:00pm School finishes



Enrolment

Children who turn 5 on or before 31st July of a given year are eligible for enrolment at school. Parents may seek an application to enrol at any time during the year. An **Online Enrolment Form** can be accessed from the Taralga Public School website. Documentation providing proof of age, such as a Birth Certificate, is required on enrolment. Proof of immunisation status and home address is also required. NSW schools have zoning requiring schools to draw from specific areas. If parents are out of the drawing zone but wish to enrol their child at Taralga, they are welcome to complete an "**Out of Area**" application form (via the school website) and make an appointment with the Principal to discuss their request.

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation sessions occur during Term 4 each year. They provide opportunities for children to visit our school, to become familiar with the school environment, staff and routines. Kindergarten Orientation provides opportunities for children to develop friendships, social/academic skills and for parents to decide on their child's "readiness" for school. The school works closely with the neighbouring childcare centre to ensure any children attending are provided with opportunities to interact with our school.

Kindergarten 2024



School uniforms are a wonderful way to instil school pride in our students. We expect all students to wear correct school uniform at all times. All items of student property should be clearly labelled with the child's name. Hats are to be worn throughout the school year, "No Hat, No Play" is policy.

Long hair is to be kept neat and tidy, tied back with school colour ribbons, flat clips or plain headbands. No nail polish or make-up is to be worn by students. Earrings should be stude or sleepers.

School uniforms are sold through our P & C and are available for purchase from the front office.

Girls	Boy
-------	-----

- Pale blue check A-line dress
- White socks

Summer

Black leather school shoes

Sport

- Southern Cross Polo Shirt
- Navy blue shorts/track pants or skort
- Navy blue socks
- Runners

Winter

- White shirt
- Navy blue jumper with school logo
- Navy blue slacks
- White socks
- Black school shoes
- An optional school jacket may be ordered through the school.

ys

Summer

Blue shirt Grey shorts **Grey socks**

Black leather school shoes

Sport

Southern Cross Polo Shirt Navy blue shorts/track pants

Navy blue socks

Runners

Winter

Blue shirt

Navy blue jumper with school logo

Grey trousers Grev socks

Black school shoes





contact the parents or nominated person in case of sickness or accident. Please keep the school updated of any changes in address, telephone or emergency contact numbers.

Child Custody

From time to time, this affects our school. We require that we have in writing the legal aspects of who is responsible for picking children up if this matter arises. Please notify the school immediately if there has been a change in your family's circumstances.



Evacuation Procedures

As per DEC guidelines, our school has in place an evacuation and lockdown procedure for all emergencies. Teachers and students practise these procedures each semester. These may include a fire drill, bomb scare or any hazard to the students.

Accident and Illness

Any students needing First Aid will be treated using basic emergency care in the first instance. Parents will be contacted immediately should their child become ill or hurt. The ambulance will be called in the event of serious accident or illness. Parents must supply emergency contact numbers upon enrolment. These people will be contacted in the event of a parent being unavailable.

Ambulance

The NSW DEC contributes to the NSW Ambulance Fund covering the cost of transporting students within NSW where necessary. An ambulance will be called if it is felt that a student's health is at risk. Parents or contact persons will also be contacted as soon as possible should an ambulance be deemed necessary. Students will be accompanied to hospital by a staff member if a parent is not available.

Attendance

Children are required by law to attend school regularly. Regular attendance at school is important to

ensure satisfactory progress is being made in all aspects of school development. If a child is absent, a note explaining the reason for absence should be given to the teacher or front office on the child's return to school. It is not acceptable for parents to keep their child away from school for activities such as birthdays, shopping, minding other children etc. Absent note proformas may be obtained from the



school, by the shortest, safest route. Bicycle riders, who should be at least ten years old and be wearing an approved safety helmet, are urged to exercise extreme caution and to obey the rules of the road at all times. For reasons of safety, bicycle riders are instructed to walk their bicycles across the Pedestrian Crossing when coming to and leaving the school.



THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING MUST BE USED

When crossing Orchard Street, it is essential that the Children's Crossing be used in the morning and in the afternoon by all persons entering and leaving the school.

The following are motor traffic laws which MUST be obeyed:

- When flashing lights are displayed at the crossing, drivers must stop at the stop line marked on the roadway for any pedestrian on the crossing whether or not there is a danger of collision.
- Vehicles must remain completely stationary until the crossing is completely clear of pedestrians. If a vehicle is already on a crossing and a pedestrian commences to cross, the driver must stop the vehicle immediately and remain stationary until the crossing is clear.
- Vehicles must not stop in areas between "No Stopping" signs and the crossing or in the bus stop area.

The special children's crossing rules apply only when the lights are flashing. The crossing will operate in the morning when the children are coming to school; in the afternoon when they are leaving school to go home; and on other occasions when required by the school, such as recess, lunch time, sports or excursion days.

At 3:00 pm children will be escorted to the bus stop and the crossing by teachers who will supervise entry onto buses and movement across the crossing.

Bicycles

Students riding bikes to school need to wear their helmet. Students must walk their bikes within the school grounds. A bike area is allocated in the school grounds for bikes and scooters to be parked. A duty teacher escorts the bike/scooter riders and walkers across the crossing each afternoon. Parents are



regulations are circulated periodically explaining bus travel rules.

Misbehaviour can result in refusal to carry the student concerned. Pupils are supervised until boarding the bus each afternoon. They are assembled in bus lines under the covered area. All infants - children (K-2) are entitled to free bus travel irrespective of their distance to school. It is essential that parents notify any changes of address as bus travel is funded only to the home address.



Students who live in isolated areas where parents must use their own vehicle to transport children to the nearest bus route are entitled to a Conveyance Subsidy where that distance is over one and a half kilometres from the bus route. For more information on bus and private conveyance applications, please contact the office.

General Walking Note

Parents are encouraged to sign a General Walking Note. This is done at the beginning of the school year or when a new student enrols. This note covers all times that the student leaves the school with a teacher to walk in Taralga, eg: Jamieson Hall, Memorial Hall, Sunset Lodge and the Showground. Students without a note are unable to leave school grounds between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Communication

Assemblies

Parents and community members are encouraged to attend our weekly school assemblies. This is a great opportunity for us to come together to celebrate the achievements of our students. Class items are performed on a rotational basis and the students love to have an audience.

Each morning we have a mini-assembly to discuss important events and celebrate student achievements.



Newsletters

Every Thursday, a school newsletter is given to the eldest child in each family to take home. In this invaluable source of school information, you will find a list of all important school dates, upcoming events and messages. Also, keep up to date on our Facebook page.

A copy of the newsletter can be found on our school website: www.taralga-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Parents & Citizens Association

The central aim of the P & C Association is to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, pupils and teaching staff into close cooperation; to assist in providing equipment and to assist the staff in the development of school policy. We welcome you to join our P & C and become an active

service is available to all children who sometimes need a little "pick me up" before school. Toast & milk are provided.

Crunch & Sip

Crunch & Sip involves a 5 minute snack time each day. "Crunch & Sip" is designed to encourage



high fibre, low fat, low GI fruit and/or vegetable snacks. The aim of "Crunch & Sip" is to provide a supplementary energy source to students, including a drink and toilet break. It can be a long time between breakfast and recess and for those students who have breakfast early or have little or no breakfast, "Crunch & Sip" will help top-up and maintain their energy levels for learning.

Parents are requested to provide a fruit or vegetable snack for their children that can be easily consumed within 5 minutes. ALL FRUIT MUST BE CUT UP INTO PIECES FOR EASY EATING for K-1-2. Please, NO tinned fruit, jelly cups or anything that requires spoons.

Some suggestions are:

- Fresh fruit apples, banana, grapes, watermelon, kiwi fruit, rock melon, berries, mandarins, pineapple;
- Dried fruit sultanas, apricots, apple, pineapple etc.;
- Raw vegetable pieces carrots, snow peas, celery, ALL cut up into bite size pieces;
- Cheese sticks, cheese cubes/slices.

Please do not send roll-ups, muesli bars, chips, lollies, baked goods (e.g.: biscuits, slices, cakes) or nuts for Crunch & Sip.

Technology - NO MOBILE PHONES ARE ALLOWED AT SCHOOL

Our school has a rapidly expanding computer network with current operating systems and software; we are able to integrate technology into all aspects of teaching and learning. Our classrooms and library have computer hubs, enabling every student to work at their own computer or laptop. Every classroom is equipped with a SmartBoard enabling highly interactive lessons and through access to the internet the most up-to-date information for use in lessons and student research tasks. Students also have access to iPads loaded with educational apps to consolidate learning, especially in the areas of literacy and numeracy.



Internet use is viewed as another opportunity to develop our students' communication, social and

learn basic skills and play a variety of games-based modified sports. Gross motor skills are developed through practice of games such as soccer, cricket, touch football, basketball, hockey, athletics, dance, cross country, tennis and gymnastics. All possible safety precautions are followed and activities are age/skill appropriate.

The school competes in cross country, athletics and swimming carnivals against other small schools in our district. Athletes who excel at these carnivals compete in the PSSA District, Regional & State Carnivals.

We also offer internal sports coaching programs for specific sports throughout the year, qualified coaches attend our school for intensive sports coaching including basketball, gymnastics and tennis.



The Primary Schools Sports Association (PSSA) provides a further avenue for competition in a variety of sports. Children are selected to represent their school in either teams or on an individual basis and successful competitors progress to state and even national levels.

Individual students participate in a wide range of team sports, athletics, cross country and swimming carnivals up to State level. State teams are selected only from the individual trials, not from school teams that enter knockout competitions.



Fitness

The school fitness program, which occurs throughout the week, provides all students with the opportunity to improve fitness levels while developing Fundamental Movement Skills. Activities are designed to promote healthy lifestyle choices in a fun and engaging manner that caters for individual performance levels and allows all students to experience success.

Swim School

Our school participates in a swimming school each year. This is held during Term 4 at the Goulburn Aquatic and Leisure Centre. Lessons are conducted by trained swimming instructors with supervision by school staff. Swimming lessons provide students with lifelong water safety skills.



Houses

each week. Students may borrow up to two books each week provided they have a suitable library bag. Children are expected to treat each book carefully and parents should notify the school in the event of damaged or lost books.

Book Club & Book Fair

The school participates in Ashton Scholastic Book Club. This scheme enables students to purchase books for themselves. This service is usually offered twice each term.

In Term 4, our school holds a Book Fair. The money earned is spent on providing up to date literature which is added to our library for the student's use while at school.

School Musical

Each year Taralga Public School puts on a school play. Students are involved in every aspect of the musical production from creation of the set/props and costumes to the learning of lines and musical scores. The school musical, presented to the public in our local Memorial Hall, is a major annual highlight for our school. In past years we have presented various musicals including "Oliver", "Matilda", and "Seussical"

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

In Years 3/4/5/6 students learn basic conversational Indonesian and learn about Indonesia and its culture.

Homework

Homework for all K-6 students will be set each week. The amount and kind varies from class to class with the amount generally increasing as children move closer to high school. Homework is neither intended to be an imposition, nor too time consuming. Written homework is aimed at reinforcing topics covered in class. If your child has difficulty or you are unsure of the best way to help, contact the classroom teacher. We aim to have our students develop regular study patterns in preparation for continued life-long learning.

Music Lessons

Weekly ukulele lessons are provided by the school from a qualified instructor from the Hume Conservatorium during term 1 of the school year.

Parent Helpers

Our school has an open-door policy where parents are encouraged to take an active role of support in all school activities. If you can assist the school in any way, we would love to hear from you. Please complete the new online Working with Children Check at www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au and follow the procedure. When you have your number, please come and see us.



School Leaders who are elected by the whole school. They help lead Assemblies and run special events. All Year 6 students are leaders of our school.

Peer Support

Peer Support is a whole-school program led by Year 5 & 6 students which develops team building skills, cooperation, self-esteem and resilience. It is a part of the School Personal Development Program.



School Counsellor

The School Counsellor visits our school as needed. Their duties include diagnostic testing of children, interviewing and counselling of students; and conferencing with parents and staff. Our Learning Support Team may make a recommendation for student assessments to be done by our Counsellor. Parents must complete a permission note prior to any assessments being conducted by the Counsellor. A parent may request counsellor assessment or intervention, permission notes are available from the Principal.

Scripture

Religious instruction is usually conducted each Wednesday for Years K-6.

Excursions

School excursions play an important role in the education and social development of students. Before a child participates in a school excursion, parental permission will be sought. Permission notes are sent home prior to an excursion and must be returned by the date specified. Part-payment plans are available to assist families to make payments throughout the term. Students attending any excursion must adhere to our Welfare and Discipline Policy prior to their attendance.





medical information form detailing any allergies, asthma or other known health concerns regarding your child. Parents of asthmatic children will also be requested to provide an up-to-date asthma plan as supplied by their family doctor. Should children require prescribed medication at school, parents mush provide the medication in its original container and complete the "Prescribed Medication at School" form with detailed instructions for the administering of medication to the student and give to the front office. Staff are not permitted to administer un-prescribed medications to children during school hours. Children who suffer from Asthma are able to keep their puffer on them or in their school bag. You may also provide one for the office. The office has several asthma "spacers" and all preventative and reliever medications will be administered through the spacer and in accordance with their action plan. Taralga Public School is an "Asthma Friendly School."



Infectious Diseases

Good health is vital to school progress. Please check that your child has been immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, measles and tetanus, and be sure he/she has had his/her booster before commencing school. When enrolling, parents must provide full immunisation records for their child. If this is not produced your child will be excluded from school if there is an outbreak of any of the diseases for which he/she is not immunised.



The school also needs to be notified immediately of any other special health care issues (eg: allergies, asthma, diabetes etc). A health care plan may need to be devised in consultation with parents and health authorities to assist the school in caring for your child.

It is possible that at some time during your child's school career, he/she will contract one of the common childhood diseases.

The **NSW Department of Health** produces a detailed brochure on some childhood diseases and their treatment.

Lunch Orders

Students may order lunches from The General Store



and permission notes in a well-sealed and clearly labelled envelope. This should state the child's name, the amount enclosed and the purpose. Children should present any money envelopes to the front office upon arrival at school. Please ensure the envelope is taped down/stapled at the edges to ensure small coins are not lost on the way. Parents may also pay using "POP" via the school's web page. A very convenient way to pay.

Student Reports

Reports provide an indication of student achievement as assessed through a series of standardised and class-based assessment tasks throughout the terms. Student reports are sent home at the end of Term 2 and Term 4. As well, students in Years 3 and 5 participate in the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). These tests assess students in the areas of Writing, Literacy and Numeracy. Once marked and analysed, detailed reports from these are sent to parents from the Department of Education. Teachers are available to discuss student results when parents receive the reports. The National Assessment Program is generally held during May in Term 2. Students in Kindergarten are assessed using the Best Start Assessment in Literacy and Numeracy. A detailed report is sent home to parents in Term 1, followed by further progress reports throughout the year.

School Photographs

School photographs are taken annually. Each class has their photo taken and each student is photographed, regardless of ordering. An envelope with the student's name and class is printed by the photographer and sent home when the time comes. Traditionally, these photos are taken during Term 4. There are varied packages offered at the time for you to purchase.

When ordering you may pay either by cash or credit card to the photographer.



the school community. The school policy on Student Welfare emphasises the importance of developing student self-esteem and self-discipline.

We promote three core expectations: Be a Learner, Be Respectful and Be Safe.

Our School rules are:

- Follow directions
- Use friendly talk
- Hands and feet to self.

Student behaviour will reflect these expectations and rules.

Taralga Public School Positive Behaviour System

These notes have been written so that students, parents and teachers will understand what kind of behaviour is expected and what will happen when students perform admirably or misbehave.

The aims of the Taralga Level System are:

- 1. To provide a consistent framework for the day to day encouragement of positive social behaviour.
- 2. To provide students and staff (including visiting staff) with clear consistent procedures to respond to student behaviour.
- 3. To reward positive social behaviour.
- 4. To record (in a convenient form) student behaviour for future analysis (when necessary).

The Taralga Positive Behaviour System supplements the existing policies of Taralga Public School and the DET and should be read in conjunction with:

- * Taralga Public School Student Welfare and Discipline Policy;
- * Taralga Public School Procedural Fairness Policy;
- DET Anti-Bullying Plan;
- * DET Suspension & Expulsion of School Students Procedures.

For the Students

Your behaviour matters and you are the best person to control that behaviour. This system means that you have to make decisions about your behaviour. The student whose behaviour deserves commendation will not go unnoticed. The misbehaving student can decide to make some positive change or to accept the consequences described in these notes.

For the Parents

The notes below provide information that will assist you when discussing behaviour problems with your





Positive Behaviour

Student's positive behaviour that is noticed by staff is documented on the weekly behaviour sheet. These students will be acknowledged in the Newsletter, and may receive a Quincy Quoll PBL Award. Students who demonstrate positive behaviour all week receive 10 minutes of extra play on Fridays and may be entitled to other term rewards.

Negative Behaviour

A negative placement on the weekly behaviour sheet will not usually be made as a first response to negative behaviour. Other methods will be used to first draw the student's attention to the need to change their behaviour. Eg:

- 1. Clear verbal reprimand;
- 2. Name on the board/time out in the playground/removal from game or activity.

Students who have a negative placement will usually spend some of their playtime in thinking time on the same or next school day; these students may also be excluded from school privilege activities and may need to complete a behaviour reflection form.

Teachers will make it clear to students that they are being placed on the behaviour sheet and the reason for this action. The student is counselled by a teacher and positive behaviour strategies are discussed.

If this behaviour continues three times in a week, a letter is sent home to parents to invite discussion about the student's behaviour. The student may also be excluded from attending school excursions. Please see our Student Welfare & Discipline Policy for more information.





Reader Awards; 10 Maths Awards or 10 Quincy Quoll PBL Awards = 1 Progress Award.



10 Progress Awards = 1 Honour Ribbon









2 Certificates of Commendation (60 Progress Awards/6 Honour Ribbons = Award of Excellence Banner







Our little school we're so proud of, we gladly stand alone With colours red and blue, and "Striving is our Aim"
Our school keeps marching on.

CHORUS Taralga Public School forever

Glory, glory to our school Taralga Public School forever Our school keeps marching on

Taralga Public School began in 1858
A proud and friendly school you'll find to which we all relate Kangaroos and Emus are the houses we contest
Our school keeps marching on.

REPEAT CHORUS



Taralga Public School is proud to be a part of Gundungurra Country.







