Towamba PUBLIC SCHOOL

Magpie Murmur

TERM 1 | **WEEK 7** | **THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026**

Coming Events

11-23 Mar	NAPLAN Y3, Y5
Fri 13 Mar	Life Education
Thur 19 Mar	Book Club #2 due
Fri 20 Mar	Deadly Science
Mon 23 Mar	Easter hat making
Fri 27 Mar	Stage 2 AFL Gala
Fri 27 Mar	Scripture - church
Tues 31 Mar	School Photos
Wed 1 Apr	End of term assembly
Thurs 2 Apr	Last day of term 2

Attached:

- Book Club issue 2
- AFL Stage 2
- 2026 Premiers Reading Challenge mini-newsletter

My message this week is all about reading. I love reading. ALL of the staff at TPS love reading and we try hard to instill this same excitement in our students. Well this year we have a plan. This year is the 25th anniversary of the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) and with this in mind, we put a challenge to the students to see if we could get maximum completion by our school. Let me set the scene. Some of the students in Year 6 have been BUSTING to have a school sleep over for years. So here's the challenge we set - if we have 25 students (one for every year the challenge has been running) who complete the PRC, we are going to have a school sleepover! Currently, every student in the 3-6 class has accepted the challenge and some students have also put their hand up to help the K-2 students read their books. Caelan has already been down to the K-2 class reading to the students! In previous years we have been lucky to have one or two students complete the challenge and I am confident that this year will be a record. This reading journey will also blend very well with the MS Read-a-thon happening in Term 2.

The sleepover will be optional of course and for younger students - particularly Kindergarten, we would recommend coming for dinner and games and going home again before bedtime, but all these details will be worked out closer to the time. There is lots of information attached to the newsletter about the PRC, along with ways you can help your child search for and enter books they have read.

Considerations are in place for students who need assistance with reading and reading to your child is one of them. If your child does not yet have the skills to read books at their grade level, approved for the challenge, you can read to them. As long as they are engaged with the story, this counts. Similarly, books read together in class count for every student. Students can read 10 free choice books and 10 books from the PRC book list. If you are unsure about how your child/children can be supported to achieve this reading goal, please ask the teachers or give me a call and we can discuss it and find ways to support success. Remember that everyone is welcome to visit our school library before or after school to borrow a book or two or three. We welcome parents/carers to come and browse the collection with their children.

It is safe to say that the students in the 3-6 classroom are very excited about this shared challenge and Ottile and Kailani have already started brainstorming plans for the sleepover. WE LOVE IT! "Reading is the key that opens doors to many good things in life…" Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Let's help our students to open doors and experience the wonder of reading.

That's it from me this week. Thanks for READING my message and for supporting your child or children to be successful in this collaborative challenge.

Ms Barrow

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www.towamba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Find us on: facebook

School Photos
Thank you for your understanding when we rescheduled due to the weather. The new date will be Tuesday 31 March. Any late orders can be made via the Daisy Hill Photography website https://www.daisyhillphotography.com.au/about

Life Education **Friday 13 March**
Harold and the Life Ed van are back visiting Towamba tomorrow. An email will be sent tomorrow afternoon with some information about what was discussed in Life Ed and some links to handy resources for families.

Deadly Science **Friday 20 March**
Students in the 3-6 classroom are looking forward to this visiting program next week with some hands on science all about soapmaking.

AFL Gala Days **Friday 27 March**
An information note for the Stage 2 AFL Superkick Gala Day is attached for those students who expressed an interest. Please complete the consent note available now in School Bytes. A followup email will be sent tomorrow too.

School Bytes Parent App
Make sure you've got the School Bytes app- perfect for popping in absence notes, accessing consent notes and other forms, and easy access to the school newsletter. Turn on notifications so you know when messages have been sent out.

School Bytes emails
Please check your spam folder and ensure that emails from noreply@mail.schoolbytes.education are not marked as spam, to ensure you receive all school emails sent from School Bytes.

Digital Declarations
Email invitations went out last week to parents and carers who have not completed a Digital Declaration. If you wish to be involved in volunteering in our school in any way (eg lunch orders, transport assistance, excursion or sports assistance) please complete this declaration.

NAPLAN and other assessments
NAPLAN for our Year 3 & 5 students started this week, with assessments in Writing, Numeracy, Reading and Language Conventions over the next week or so. Parents will receive results from these tests but usually not until Term 3. Please contact the school if you wish to discuss these assessments.
We also had some students sit the Bebras Computational Maths competition. Well done to students who challenged themselves; Cooper, Opal, Oscar, Lenny, Zain, James and Kailani. Embracing the Challenge.

Scripture
On Mr Dixon's next visit on Friday 27 March, scripture students will be walking across to the church for a special service for Easter.

Burger Lunch
Thank you so much to the P&C parents and helpers for running a fun 'Build your own Burger' day last week for students and staff. The opportunity for something different and also a school event is greatly appreciated. Thanks to the parents and carers involved in planning, shopping, preparing, cooking and packing up.

Chicken News

We have 18 eggs in the incubator and the exciting news is that some of them have starting pipping!! We are expecting some of our chicks to hatch in the next few days.

Book Club

This term we are trialling two Book Club catalogues in the term. As a special offer from Scholastic the school earns double the reward for any orders made in Issue 2. We understand it might be a bit much but we thought it was worth offering. The new catalogue is attached with any orders due in by Thursday 19 March please. Apologies for the quick turnaround.

Easter Hat Making

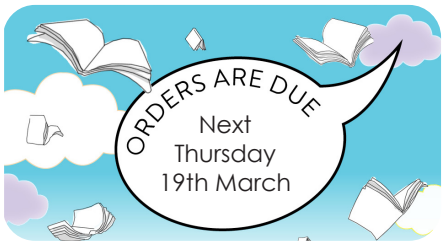
Parents/carers are invited to a Easter hat making morning . Any interested parents who have done the Digital Declaration or equivalent are invited to join us for a crafty morning making Easter Hats with the students on Monday 23 March. Let us know if you would like to join us. As this is a volunteering invitations, parents/carers need to have a DD or WWC.

End of Term Assembly

Make sure you have Wednesday 1 April free to come down and enjoy the Easter Hat parade, a BBQ lunch and the end of term assembly. Our end of term assemblies provide an overview of the term with an enjoyable slideshow, presentation of the first nests of the year, and an opportunity to showcase some of the student's learning. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Premier's Reading Challenge

The 2026 PRC has started! See more information on the attached pages, including an exciting Towamba challenge!



P&C News

FRIDAY Lunches

Plain pie	$4.00
Thai Chicken Pie	$4.50
Cheese & Bacon Pie	$4.50
Cauliflower Blue Cheese	$4.50
Vege Pastie	$4.00
Sausage Roll	$3.50
Pizza Pocket Ham & Cheese	$2.50
Juice- orange/apple/apple & blackcurrant	$1.50
Milk choc/strawberry	$1.50

- *Write your order on a paper bag*
- *Mark your payment total and payment method on the bag*
- *Correct money appreciated or pay online to P&C*
- *Place bag in tin on Friday morning*

VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Tomorrow: Bekie/Karen

Fri 20 March - Steph
Fri 27 March- Bekie/Liz

Burger Lunch

What a fabulous day we had creating burgers. Thank you to to all of the helpers both visible and behind the scenes who made this possible.

School uniforms

There's been a lot of interest in the new style jumpers! The new order of shirts and jumpers to boost the stock levels will be in soon. If you want something sooner check what we already have in stock to purchase now.

New P&C Email - Take Two

After a false start, we now have a working P&C email.
towamba.pandc@gmail.com
Apologies for any confusion. Don't forget to update your contact list.

End of Term BBQ Lunch

The P&C is hosting the end of term BBQ on Wednesday April 1 at 12.30pm. We are always keen for helpers, so if you are available please email towamba.pandc@gmail.com to let us know.

P&C UNIFORM SALES

SHIRTS $10

HOODIES
$37.50

Pay online Towamba P&C

BSB: 062 647
Ac number: 0090 0797
Towamba P&C Assoc.

Coming soon!

Please check availability before making payment as new stock is coming soon

Community News

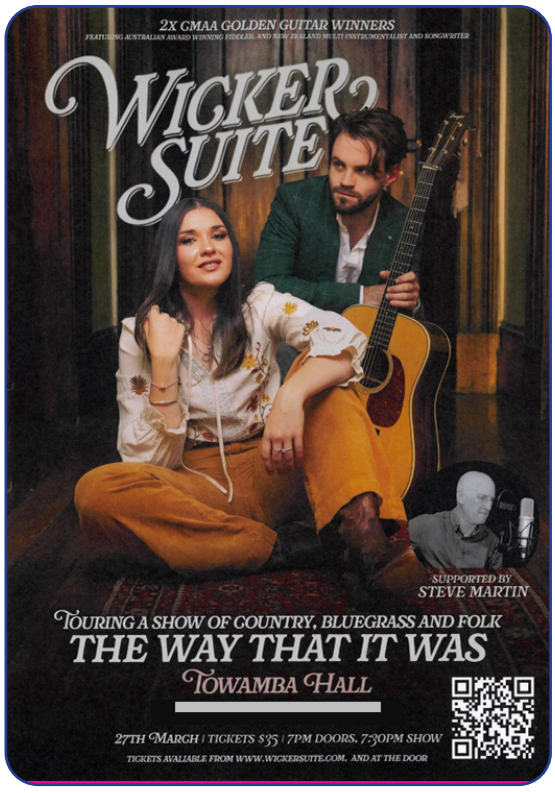
Active and Creative Kids

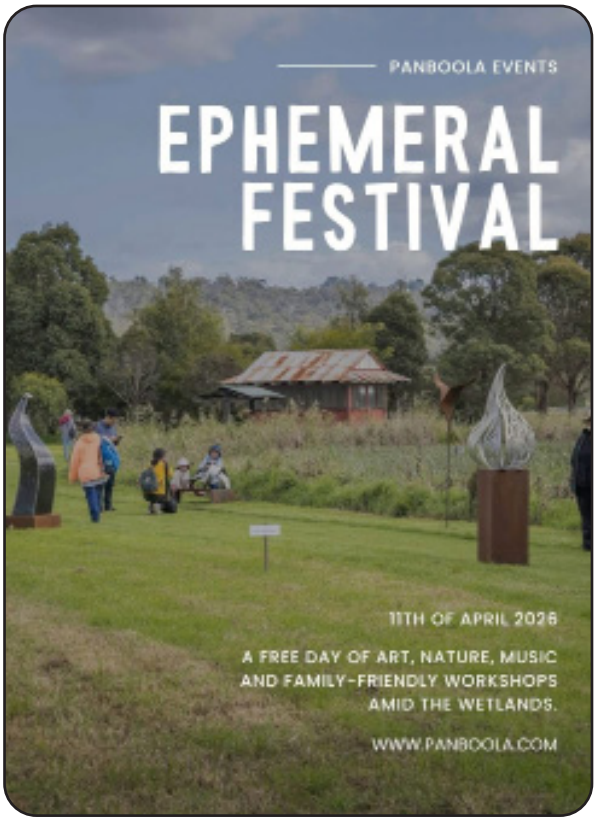
NSW GOVERNMENT

Families receiving Family Tax Benefit can apply for an Active and Creative Kids voucher for each eligible child.

The voucher is valued at $50 and is available twice a year.
Find out more about how to apply and where you can use your vouchers locally.

https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/active-and-creative-kids-voucher



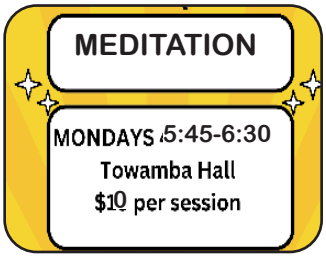


Ephemeral is an annual celebration of nature, creativity and community.
Wander the grounds and discover art installations nestled among the reeds, live music drifting across the water, craft demos, dance performances and a variety of stalls.
Join a hands on workshop with one of the artists or simply bring a picnic blanket and enjoy some food from the stalls.

Keep an eye out for the workshops soon!

SCULPTURE BERMAGUI

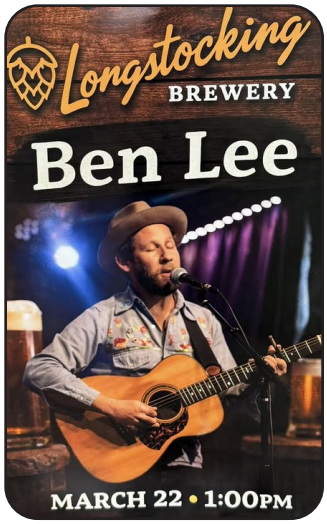
Beautiful Sculptures in a Stunning Location



Towamba Community Church
Sundays at 4pm
All welcome

What's on at the Library

School Holidays 7 - 17 April 2026

Leaf Bug Art
A creative activity combining art and science using natural materials.
Free event.
For ages - 4 to 10.
Eden Library - Fri 10 Apr, 10.30am

iPad Drawing with Procreate
A creative workshop introducing digital illustration on iPads using the Procreate app. iPads and pencils supplied.
Free event.
For ages - 7 to 12.
Eden Library - Thu 16 Apr, 10.30