

Hello Torquay College Community,

As this is my first official newsletter entry as Torquay College Principal, I thought that I would spend some time helping you get to know me a bit better beyond the role of the principal and share with you a little about me.

As I am a very family focused person, I thought the first thing I would like to share with you is that I am a dad and I raise my three children alongside my wife Bec. My children's names are Ava, Zoe and Patrick. We very much enjoy our family time together and have recently moved a little way out of town to a place called Teesdale. We made this big move six months ago and have loved every minute of having a big property where we can spend as much time as possible outside. It is a big change from where we used to live in Mount Duneed!

I love to travel both in our amazing country and also overseas. We spend most of our down time together on the road with the caravan travelling along behind us. I enjoy every opportunity to visit amazing (and sometimes quirky) places and explore the land and history of that place. We also have a big trip planned for this year where we will be visiting Singapore and Thailand.

I have three very important values that I work hard to demonstrate to everyone who I meet along the way in life and work:

1. Be authentic
2. Be honest
3. Be kind

Three things I am grateful in my first week at Torquay College:

1. The warm and welcoming nature of all of the students. I have enjoyed meeting all of the students, especially the ones who have introduced themselves to me.
2. The community engagement. Batforce, Tools to Launch Parent session with Leigh Bartlett on Monday evening. I heard it was a great night and some great resources can be found on the support boards on their website. The dedication, planning and delivery of the G.O.O.F. project. Simon P and the parent team did an exceptional job of making this great project come to life on Thursday.
3. The wider school staff in their support of me on my first week, showing patience and kindness when answering my many questions or helping me find where I need to go!

I am looking forward to the chance to sit with teaching teams next week as they plan their literacy curriculum and getting to explore the Science of Reading Approach alongside teachers.

I want to finish off by thanking the school community for making me feel so welcome in my first week here. I look forward to sharing with you more of the that I see that makes this school a great place to be. All the best for the weekend, I hope you have a chance to enjoy some time together as a family.

-Mr. Simon O'Brien

Principal



Important dates

TERM 2, DATES TO REMEMBER...

30 May - Yr 4 Professor Bunsen

30 May - Yr 1 Mad about Science Incursion

2 June - Junior School Assembly

9 June - Yr 3 Werribee Zoo

9 June - Senior School Assembly

12 June - **Kings Birthday public holiday**

23 June - 12:30pm whole school assembly

23 June - LAST DAY TERM 2: Early dismissal **2pm**

Whats been happening?



Divisional Cross Country

Last Tuesday was the Bellarine Division Cross Country Championships at Eastern Gardens Geelong. Torquay College was well represented with 15 competitors.

Huge congratulation to the following competitors – Declan and Jonothan first place, Millie second place, Archie and Finn third place.

Some of the Torquay College students have qualified for the Western Region Cross Country Finals to be held on the 19st of June at Brimbank Park, Keilor East. Good luck to all those competitors!



BioCats



Engaging Yr 5 and 6 students in the science, maths, technology and health of Australian Rules football, the BioCATS program has been delivered to more than 14,000 students since inception in 2012.

The free full-day program delivered from the Deakin Cats Community Centre provides students and teachers with an opportunity to experience a day in the life of an elite athlete through GPS data tracking and analysis, the skill of handballing and the importance of nutrition and hydration and the benefits that come from sports participation.



Art Academy



This week students in Art Academy have been learning about an Australian artist named Joan Blonde. They have started using canvases and acrylic paints and next week they will use Poska Pens and paints to add details and designs.

Students in Artfulness have been exploring with Yupo paper and inks. They have mixed and blended the inks to create a background for the patterns and drawing they will add next week.



Year 3 Swimming Program



Last week, the Year 3 students enjoyed being back at Leisure Link for the five day intensive swimming program. We were so impressed with the strong organizational skills and independence the students showed in managing their belongings and getting themselves changed. We witnessed noticeable skill development across the 5 days, through persistence and carefully listening to, and following the directions, of the swimming instructors. Many of the students have said the program was a highlight of the term!

GOOF Guardians of our future.

Thursday we held our tree planting and special assembly for the GOOF project. Torquay College would like to acknowledge Simon Reid for all his assistance with this program. We had some great tree planting volunteers to plant the 200 seedlings. Thankyou again to our families and staff who assisted. Our special assembly was meaningful and memorable. Thankyou to Jack Bowes from the Geelong Football Club for coming along and tree planting.



Wash Your Hands

As we approach the cold and flu season, we wanted to take a moment to share some positive updates regarding our hygiene practices here at Torquay College

In our ongoing commitment to providing a clean and healthy environment for our students, we have recently upgraded all our soap dispensers throughout the school.

These new dispensers are more efficient and hygienic, ensuring that our students have easy access to soap and water when they need it most.

We have increased the visibility of signage throughout the bathrooms reminding everyone about the importance of proper hand hygiene.

These friendly reminders will serve as gentle prompts to encourage students to wash their hands regularly and thoroughly.

We understand that preventing the spread of illnesses is a collective effort, and we greatly appreciate your cooperation and the hygiene practices you encourage at home. By working together, we can minimize the impact of COVID 19 and cold / flu this winter in our school community.



If your child at Torquay College has a sibling starting Foundation in 2024, please call past the office to collect your enrolment pack. We are taking enrolments for Foundation 2024.

It's not OK to be away!

SCHOOLING YOUR CHILD MISSES	EQUALS TO	WHICH IS	OVER 13 YEARS	LIKE FINISHING SCHOOL IN
1 Day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year	Almost 1.5 years	Yr 11
1 Day per week	40 Days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years	Yr 10
2 Days per week	80 Days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years	Yr 7
3 Days per week	120 Days per year	24 Weeks per year	Over 8 years	Yr 4

Every Day Counts!

Weekly
House
totals

1ST

38 points

2ND

38 points

3RD

37 points

4TH

32 points

Dream BIG!



Each fortnight we will publish Dream Big projects and opportunities for parents/carers to be involved.

Feel free to join the mail list or attend our monthly afternoon tea. Contact us at torquay.p6.co@education.vic.gov.au to join our Dream Big mail list. Staff in charge below:

Library Support

Setting up for Book Week

Helping with borrowing

Support displays

Returning of books

School Contact Point -

Julie Kent (to register name)

Lunch Time Activities

We are kicking these off for Term 2 (across the school)

Running a session (weekly or monthly)

Coordinating with other parents to run a session/s

School Contact Point - Simon Pocervina

Grounds maintenance

Mulch donation

Tree planting in May (team of people)

Foundation Toilet (painting upgrades)

School Contact Point - Matt Leeds /Simon Pocervina

Support our Community

School Holiday Program

27TH, 28TH & 29TH JUNE

A DAY ON THE FARM

Join us for a fun-filled day on the farm at Common Ground Project. An opportunity for young people to connect with food and farming.

Experience a 'Day in the Life of a Farmer' Learn about farming

Sow and harvest produce Feed the chickens Meet new people



9am - 3pm
Suitable for children aged 8-14
\$70 + GST per person

This program is subsidised through a partnership with VicHealth.

For more information and to book a spot in the program, please visit our website.
www.commongroundproject.com.au
675 Angelsea Rd Freshwater Creek, 3217



BCYF Strengthening Family Connections

Strengthening Family Connections



Would you like some support to manage challenges with your kids?

Strengthening Family Connections is a FREE 8 week program for parents and their children aged between 8 and 12 years. The program aims to build a positive family culture and strengthen connections in families, improving communication and leading to successful, confident kids and parents.

benefits to parents

- Learn strategies to manage difficult behaviour
- Develop confidence to set limits and boundaries
- Long term reduction in depression and anxiety

benefits to children

- Learn to understand and manage their emotions
- Learn communication and life skills
- Learn to problem solve

PROGRAM DETAILS

LOCATION: Torquay College 45-55 Greenmore Road Torquay

DATES: 3 May - 29 June 2023

DAY/TIME: Wednesdays 2:00pm-5:00pm

CONTACT: For more information contact the school or contact Amanda at BCYF on 5226 8900

A family meal is provided at the end of every session of the SFC program

An information session will be held at the school for parents/carers to learn more about the program

Wednesday 29 June 2:00pm

www.bcyf.org.au @BCYFTorquay @bcyfgeelong

FREE COMMUNITY LUNCHES

Join Torquay Community House for a delicious and nutritious two course lunch each month, connecting members of our community to share a meal together.

In partnership with Surf Coast Secondary College, students will help prepare and serve a hearty soup and dessert.

Supported by Feed Me Surf Coast.

May 2
June 6
July no lunch
August 1

September 6
October 3
November 8
December 5

When: 1st Tuesday of each month, 12:00 - 1:30pm

Where: Torquay Community House, 14 Price St, Torquay

Cost: FREE

Bookings: administration@torquaycommunityhouse.org.au

or call us on 03 5261 2583.

Please advise any dietary requirements.



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OUR PROGRAM

HIPPY is structured and play-based, delivered through fun interactive activities. Starting around the time your child turns three, HIPPY provides free support across two years. Your HIPPY Mentor will practice the activities with you during home visits and then you and your child can play them during the week. You will receive resource packs with activities and ideas to enjoy with your child, so that learning can happen anywhere at any time. HIPPY supports children's natural curiosity, to build their confidence and to achieve important developmental milestones.

YOUR HIPPY LEADER IS

NAME: ANGELA DUNCAN
PHONE: 0428 445 367
EMAIL: ANGELA.DUNCAN@BCYF.ORG.AU
www.hippysupport.org.au
bcyf.org.au

Play-based activities

Empowers you in your role as your child's first teacher

Supports your child's transition to school

Supports child development, community connection & confidence

FREE PARENTING FORUM

SEX, CONSENT AND STAYING SAFE

Dr. Justin Coulson, one of Australia's leading parenting experts and father to six daughters, has put together a presentation designed specifically for parents of high school students. How are we supposed to talk to our children - our teenagers - about consent, respect, alcohol and other drugs, staying safe, and all of the risks they face? Between us not knowing what to say, or when or how to say it, and our kids not willing to hear it, we're in a tough spot. But we have to have the conversations. We must. So where do we start?

In this session, you'll hear:

- What teenagers are getting up to in terms of alcohol, drugs, pornography, and sex.
- Why they think they know everything (and why it's so hard to teach them anything)
- Simple ways to have the conversations your teenager needs to have in a way that invites them to want to listen.

WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE

7:30pm-9:00pm

VENUE

OneHope Centre
4-32 Province Boulevard, Highgate

BOOKINGS

Scan the QR code

This is a free event but bookings are essential

SCAN QR TO REGISTER

For enquiries contact the Go Football team on 0304741672 or info@gofootball.com.au

MON 3 - WED 5 JULY

9AM-3PM EACH DAY

AGES 7-15

KNOX REGIONAL FOOTBALL CENTRE

Some of the activities during the Camps will include:

- Shooting practice
- Skill sessions
- Small sided games

Various awards given out throughout the camp

Training with FV's technical staff

Registration price per early bird: \$180 per day, \$210 for three days.

Important Information

First Aid professional on site

Morning snacks provided

Please bring a packed lunch

Registration early bird (Friday, June 21 price: \$70 per day, \$180 for three days)

innerstrength HEALTHCARE

Physiotherapy for Children

- Daytime wetting
- Constipation
- Soiling
- Bed wetting
- Toilet training resistance.

<https://innerstrength.com.au/>
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