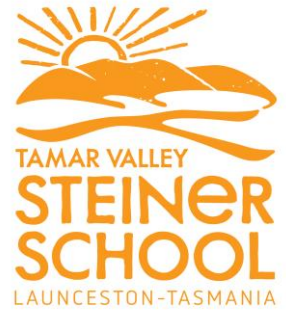


Tamar Valley Steiner School

Term 4 – End of Year

Newsletter 2023



2024 Term Dates:

Term 1: Wed 7th Feb – Fri 12th April

Term 2: Tues 30th April – Fri 28th June

Term 3: Tues 23rd July – Fri 27th Sep

Term 4: Mon 14th Oct – Thu 12th Dec

From the Principal

As we wind up the year and celebrate the wonderful experiences we have had as a school, I have been reflecting on all that has been achieved, both big and small in the last 12 months. As educators we arrive every day to greet the children and be present to them. We receive such reward from the baby steps each child takes as they gain new skills and deepen their understandings of the world and themselves. It takes love and commitment to consistently be there for the children and I would like to thank the staff of TVSS for their unwavering support of the children and their educational journey. To the parents also, you too have shown unwavering support and commitment to your child's education here at TVSS. Every day you wrangle them into the car, pack nourishing lunch boxes, collaborate and communicate with teachers and act as a sounding board and loving support system to your children as they navigate their school years. Thank you for your continued support of what we are collectively holding for your child's education. This daily commitment takes a lot of energy and we hope you can recharge over the holiday period and breathe out as a family without the pressures of getting to school each day.



Let us reflect and celebrate the success of the students this year. We hope that they have learned to be a little kinder; developed the ability to express themselves further through written and spoken word; solved problems using the magic of numbers; had their creative inspiration stirred through imaginative play and stories; connected to nature and the living world at Bush School and at home; engaged in creative projects in wool, or beeswax or clay; have more confidence and skill in playing

recorder of string instrument; and can speak Indonesian more fluently with a deeper understanding of another culture.

In addition to the wonderful learning experiences the students have received, below is a summary of the schools highlights and successes.

- Completed of our first purpose-built learning space in K/P and playground/garden
- Successfully supported the education of our biggest Class 1 ever!
- Adjusted to the change in leadership with the new Principal.
- Developed and set our Strategic Plan for the next 5 years.
- Established Literacy intervention programs.
- Further developed our students' engagement in specialist subjects of Indonesian and Strings.
- Began the development of the school garden.
- Conducted financial analysis and adjusted our business model so the school has a healthy and stable future of growth.
- Successfully completed the school re-registration process that has granted us 4 years registration.
- Establishing a long-term site committee.
- Begun planning the works for next year including the beginning of the additional playground spaces.
- Successful secured capital grant funding for a purpose-built Primary school classroom and an Amphitheatre as an outdoor learning and festival/events space.
- Consulted with community and teachers in updating the schools master plan to align with our long-term goals and strategic vision.



Thank you all for a fantastic year!

Wishing you and your families as safe, happy and joyful festive season and summer holiday break.

Carolyn Scott-Burgess and the TVSS team.

Kinder/Prep

Spring is truly here and the Kinder and Prep children have been embracing the warmer weather. Our gardening projects have been in full swing; thank you to all the parents who have generously given their time to help with digging holes and planting. We still have a way to go but the yard is looking beautiful.

Our vegetable garden has been a success. The children have enjoyed with a feast of peas as part of our Lunch preparation and cooking sessions on Fridays. We have also enjoyed preparing fruit ice-blocks, pizza, pasta and tomato based sauce. This week we will make a family biscuit recipe from Corals family. We welcome any other families to share healthy recipes with us.

For the Prep Children: The handwork projects started last term are almost complete as we move onto preparing crayon rolls for Class One. For the Kinder children: we have begun to learn how to finger-knit!



Cupcakes



Prep children carding fleece



Prep handbook projects



Pizza and salad for lunch

Bush School at Trevallyn over the last few weeks has incorporated some new walking tracks as well as some creative play amongst the She-Oaks. The highlight of the walks has been close observation of many plants and animals along the track. The class found beautifully coloured fungi and have been observing the growth of the native cherries.



Class 1



The Class One Morning Circle this term included lots of singing, dancing, clapping and other movements to explore maths concepts. The children heard stories from Omelette Farm about egg taking snakes and farmers gifting eggs for a community bake sale, to help them further their understandings of addition and subtraction.

We have been enjoying the calming and will-strengthening benefits of working with clay, as an addition to our weekly rhythm. Forming spheres as round as the sun and moon has been a soothing yet challenging experience.

With the sun warming us once again, beeswax modelling has returned to our weekly rhythm. Fairy tales such as The Queen Bee and Tom Thumb have invigorated our imaginations.

The Class One gardens are thriving and we have been happily snacking on snow peas and sugar snap peas. The chamomile is blooming and this week we made our first harvest of flowers, ready to enjoy in some warm tea.

“Ten little fairies, dancing in a ring.
Ten little fairies, listen to them sing.
Hop about, in and out, having so much fun.
Roundabout, with a shout, see how they run.
The queen of the fairies, standing in the sun,
Waves her royal wand and out goes one”.



Class One had a beautiful day at Narawantapu National Park on their beach excursion. The children enjoyed playing on the beach, fossicking for treasures and spending quality time together.



Class 3

Class 3 camp and Excursion to Hagley farm.

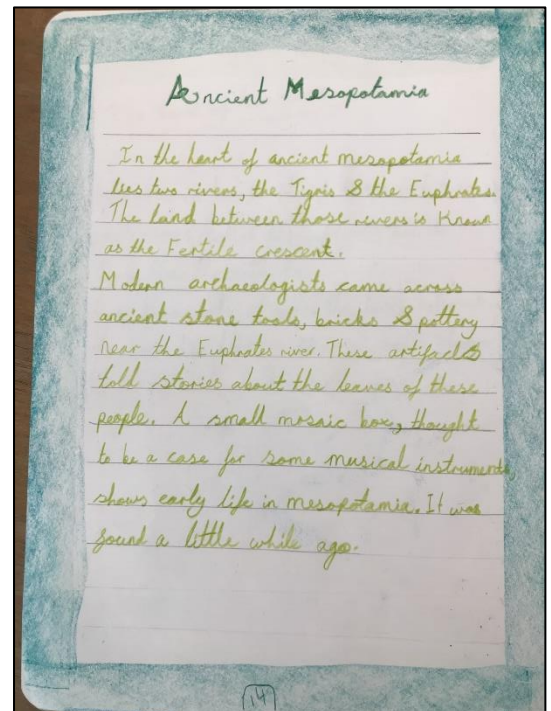
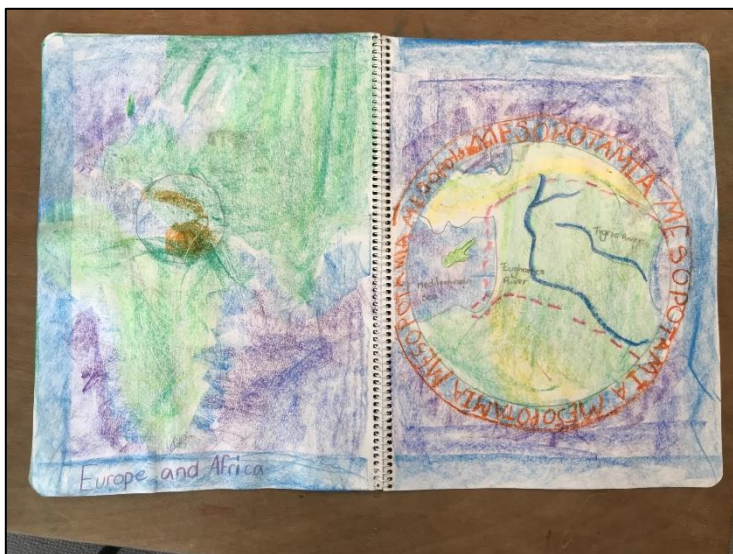
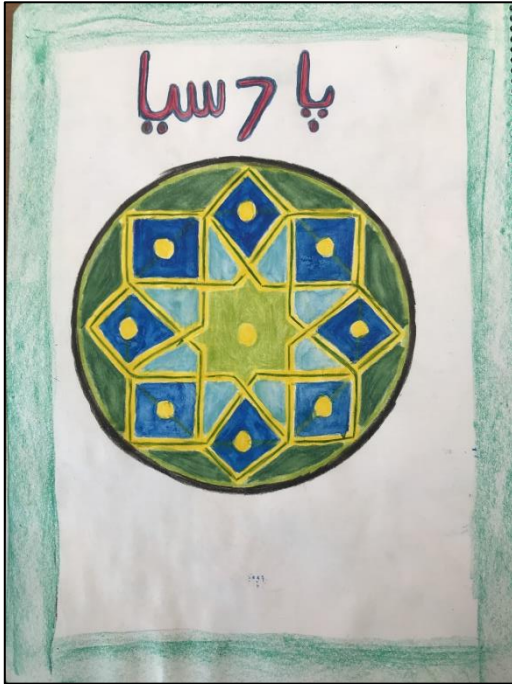
The children had lots of hands-on experiences on our wonderful 2-day Hagley camp!



Class 4/5

Class 4/5 have been studying Ancient Persia and Mesopotamia. For many years this area of the world had been considered the centre of the built world, creating farming practices like herding: using clay, by making clay tablets for recording story and facts, as well as for building with bricks.

The class were able to interview someone from this area of the world, and have found many similarities to other cultures they have studied.



Class 5/6

Following Chris Gleeson's wonderful story telling of the tale of the 7 Foals, we worked with the story in the Class 5/6 modelling lesson.

The first week, we recalled the story, and learnt how to make beeswax horses (foals). We experienced how different the beeswax was to the clay, requiring us to warm it first, before it would respond to our will.

The next week, we recalled the characters and listened to the story again, as we modelled a character of our choice from the story.

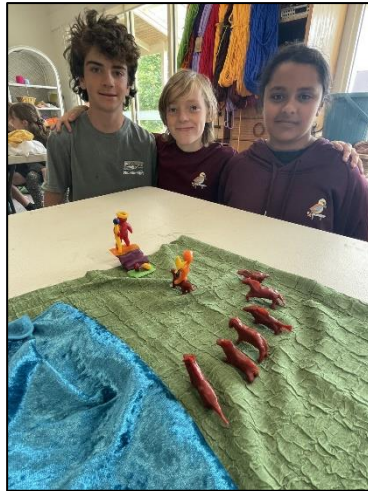
The third week we worked in groups to create a scene from the story with the beeswax characters we had modelled.

One group's scene retold how unlike the first and second son who had succumbed to the temptation of the Crone offering rest in the cool cave whilst the horses ran off, the third son, ran with the horses past the cave, ignoring the crone and then was carried by the horses as they went to eat.

Another group chose the scene where the horses went into a tree and ate wine and golden bread from a table, above which hung a sword, before they travelled over the bridge to the golden palace.

The other group chose the scene of the King receiving bread and wine from the third son, as he returned with the seven horses.

You are invited to enjoy the scenes which are currently on display in the foyer, along with the clay modelling that Class 5/6 have done this Semester.



Whole School News....

School Garden

In term 4 the 5/6's grew seedlings for planting in our school garden and also to sell. A huge thank you to those who donated seeds for our school seed library, this meant that we had a wonderful selection of seeds to grow. We also harvested lots of broad beans which students have eaten raw, and we made some yummy broad bean dip. The garlic will be ready to harvest before the end of the year!



Opening Ceremony of the Kinder/Prep Building

We welcomed Senator Helen Polley and a number of state and federal MP's to the school last month for the official opening of our Early years learning space. Such a moment of pride for school to recognise what we have all achieved in the completion of this building. As was sang 'I am Australian' to welcome the guests our eyes welled with tears as we stood together as one. The politicians were very impressed by our school and asked many questions about our educational philosophy behind our education.



Summer Festival 2023

What a magical day of fun and laughter on the Village Green at Trevallyn Reserve this week!

Thank you to Andrew, Robby, Tonia and Ed our Bush School teaching crew, who organised some fun and challenging games for all.

The atmosphere was alive as thunder rumbled in the distance as cloud cover and light drops of rain kept us cool. The children enjoyed the freedom to run around on the large grassy spaces and the families and teachers enjoyed relaxed connection time under the gums. Somehow, we got through the planned events before the heavy rain fell. A special way to end the year at Bush School!





Goodbyes

We say goodbye to our amazing Class 6 students!

You have been such wonderful leaders in the school this year and we wish you all the best with your high school journeys. Please come back and visit us!

Goodbye also to our K/P Class Assistant Sofia who will be moving to Adelaide next year.

We thank you for your years of dedication and warm-hearted connection to the students and staff at Tamar Valley Steiner School. We will miss you; we wish you all the best for your new life in South Oz!

