

EMA in 2013

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of \$150. The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of \$200 and \$300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
- **Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses**

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Payment Amounts - 2013:

	Instalment One	Instalment Two	Annual Total
Prep	\$140	\$60	\$200
Years 1 - 6	\$105	\$45	\$150

The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013.

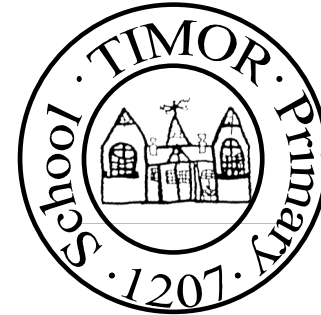
2013 School Fees

The school council has approved and set student fees for the 2013 school year at \$160. Due to the EMA now being paid fully to parents, two payment instalments will be required. The first instalment of \$100 will be due this term with the balance of \$60 being due 3rd Term. The option of having the EMA paid directly to the school and used towards education expenses is preferred. If you have any concerns with the above arrangements please see Brett or Andrea.

*Our 2013
Preps*



Newsletter



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Pinboard

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ◆ 18 Feb 13 Grade 6 Derby Hill Excursion
- ◆ 20 Feb 13 School Council Meeting
- ◆ 28 Feb 13 Senior Grade Cluster Swim afternoon
- ◆ 6 Mar 13 Bike Ed begins. Grade 4,5,6
- ◆ 11 Mar 13 Labour Day Public Holiday

Principal's Report

Welcome one and all! We are very excited to have started a new school year with so many new, smiling and enthusiastic faces.

We formerly welcome our 5 new prep students: Evander, Marissa, Leevi, Hailie and Dakota who have made a wonderful start to their schooling life's. In addition we welcome Justin into grade 4 and will soon be welcoming Trey into grade 5. In total this year we have a very healthy student population size of 27. This will ensure the longevity of our beautiful school for many years to come.

Staffing for the 2013 year has changed only slightly with Mrs Jackson finishing her tenure as Literacy Teaching and Learning Coach in 2012. This year we are blessed with a new Teaching and Learning Coach who will primarily be focusing on Mathematics, her name is Ms Kristy Nicholls. Returning to the school after terms 2-4 on long-service leave is Mrs Brown. Mrs Brown will be working Mondays specialising in the areas of Art and French. The students have already made Mrs Brown and Ms Nicholls feel very welcome. Mr Hall and I will continue to work in the senior classroom this year and Mrs Hartwig in the junior room. Joining us each Thursday will be Mrs Palmer who will again be working in the area of ICT. Also returning to us this year is Raquel Perry. Raquel will be assisting all staff and students on Tuesday—Friday mornings.

Our core values remain the same this year, as they will until 2015. They are *Doing your best, Respect and Responsibility*. As a school we will continue to entrench the importance of these values with our students.

NOTICES:

- ◆ When parking out the front of the school please be mindful of all children and pedestrians and observe a speed limit of 5km/h. Cars parked directly at the front of the school must be moved prior to 3:40pm to allow for the bus to arrive.
- ◆ In 2013 we do not have any bus travellers, thus please be advised that we will not be providing active supervision of

students until 8:45am each day. If you need to drop your student/s of earlier, please feel free to make prior arrangements with myself or the staff. All students should be collected from school by 3:45pm; please ring if you are running late.

- ◆ Sunsmart policy is in place for term 1. Please ensure that your child has applied a good quality sunscreen and that they have their hat. Most students leave their school hat at school which is a great idea.
- ◆ Local excursions will take place over the course of the year. A new form is included with this newsletter and will need to be returned as soon as possible. Note: This form is generally signed on enrolment, but has been updated as per our policy review program.
- ◆ Attached is also the 3 annual policy documents regarding Privacy, Internet Usage and Headlice which we request to be signed each year. Can you please read, sign and return these documents to Andrea as soon as possible.
- ◆ Communication with staff. Our wonderful staff make themselves available each night at the school gate. This does not happen in many schools, but I am eager for it to continue. If you wish to have a quiet word about your child's progress then please do, but be mindful that it is a public place and confidentiality maybe difficult to maintain.
- ◆ Complaints come to me, the Principal. Please make an appointment to see me and I will address your concerns to the best of my ability. If you are not happy with my performance during that time I am more than willing to direct you to the correct authority at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)
- ◆ School council nominations will be happening soon. If you are interested in becoming a member of the school council and playing an active role in our schooling community then I strongly recommend you consider this option as the information is provided to families over the coming weeks.
- ◆ Could all students please remember to bring an art smock to school.

Brett Dyson, Principal.