AUGUST 16 | ISSUE 11, 2024

Children's Book week®

#CBCA 2024
August 17-23

Reading is Magic

THE CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

Tarremah Steiner School

Tarremah Times

Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives. The need for imagination, a sense of truth, and a feeling of responsibility—these three forces are the very nerve of education. *Rudolf Steiner*

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Diary Dates:

Mon 19 August
Student Free Day

Thurs 22 August
The Geometry Journey online talk

Fri 23 August
Book Week Assembly

Fri 23 August
Biodynamic Movie Night

Wed 28 August
Class 8 Project Presentations

Wed 28 August
The Human Journey Through Art Pt4 online talk

Thurs 29 August
Grandparents & Special Friends Day

Wed 4 September
School Tour

Wed 4 September
Heartwarmers Café

Thurs 5 September
Primary Music Concert

Sat 7 September
P&F Quiz Night

August is the month we celebrate Book Week

The Book Week Dress-Up Assembly has been a Tarremah tradition for many years, and brings students, staff and families together to celebrate books and reading.

The aim of Book Week is to engage the students and staff in the celebration of books and reading for pleasure. Showing the school how important it is to foster this love and create an environment where reading is enjoyed. With the primary classes we share the nominated books and hope that some older students will read the primary and secondary novels.

We invite all families to join us at 9.15 am on Friday 23 August in the Amphitheatre (Hall as wet weather option) to see the children's fancy dress parade, some short performances from our Middle School students, and the traditional staff play!

The theme for Book Week this year is Reading is Magic! We hope that students will embrace this theme and think about it when choosing their book character to portray on the day. Children in Classes 1 to 6 may dress as a character from a book - not from a movie or a TV show!
Please keep costumes simple; this should be a happy occasion, not a stressful one for parents. Students should check their chosen character with their class teachers.
Note: ECC children do not dress up for Book Week on this day, but will come along and participate with their teachers.

Buy a book for the Library

The Library has gathered together a wonderful display of new books to suit our students from Kindergarten to Class 10, parents and community members. We would love to have all of them in the Tarremah Library - novels, nonfiction books, picture books, graphic novels, and more.
If you wish to make a small monitory donation it will be thankfully accepted and will go towards purchasing books from Lyrebird.

So, come along, choose a book to donate, and help develop the Library collection. Books will be on display for six weeks in the Library.

All donated books carry a plaque acknowledging the donor. Donations are tax deductible and EFTPOS facilities are available.

Abbey Vincent
Library Technician

A window into assessment at Tarremah

Tarremah Steiner School's Assessment policy states that assessment is the process of identifying, gathering and interpreting information about students' learning. At Tarremah the central purpose of assessment is to enable teachers to monitor student progress against learning outcomes for the purpose of improving these learning outcomes.

Authentic assessment at Tarremah acknowledges the individual growth and development of the child without damaging the strong relationship/bond between the teacher and child. With this relationship in mind, the purpose of assessment is to...

- provide impartial information for relating a child's individual success to the outcomes, standards and expectations of the Steiner Curriculum.
- provide on-going assessment using formative and summative assessment processes.
- give the child many opportunities to show what they can do in different ways.
- give regular feedback so children are aware of their own abilities and what is required to improve their outcomes.
- inform the child's guardians of their success and improvement.\

When Steiner spoke to the founding teachers at the first Waldorf school, he said...

As teachers, we might ask ourselves why we should test children at all, because we have had them in front of us and know very well what they know and do not know.

From this quote we can see that Steiner embraced the relational nature of learning, which is what we endeavour to foster at Tarremah.

There is a current global impetus to use standardised testing as a means of assessing students. Standardised testing describes assessment that is constructed by an external organisation, and is taken by large groups of students, with the aim of establishing testing procedures and interpretations that are consistent across the schools using the test. Obviously, this type of testing focuses on the child's intellect.

One of the philosophical underpinnings of Steiner Education is that it is based on a soul-spiritual understanding of the human being. Steiner believed that the three identities, the body, soul and spirit, must be acknowledged when seeing the whole child from a soul-spiritual perspective. If education only focused on developing a child's intellect, the child may not reach their full potential in life.

Tarremah does use standardised testing at various points in the children's schooling. This is done to partake in the broader, national educational context, and to build a picture of the future direction of teaching needed, though triangulating the data. This means we use multiple sources of student's work to illuminate, confirm, or dispute what we learn from an initial analysis of one piece of data. When triangulating sources, it can be helpful to draw on different types of assessments, and on assessments taken at different intervals, and to look for both patterns and inconsistencies across student responses to the assessments. This is where standardised testing can be useful in our Steiner setting. It is not the main source of assessment used at Tarremah, but is part of the process we use to inform our teaching and identify how we can support the academic process of our students.

Sarah Webb
Secondary Learning Support Coordinator

Class 8 Snow Camp

For the second consecutive year, warm weather and rains have melted much of Tasmania's highland snow, prompting a name change to 'Winter Camp' or 'Alpine Camp' for the usual snowy wonderland found up at Mt Field.

Despite this, the students geared up with waterproofs and thermal layers and hiked up to Mt Mawson. They had an adventurous time exploring and sleuthing out south facing hollows for patches of snow, throwing snowballs and brewing up hot chocolate on their Trangia stoves.

"It was good, it was fun!" said a student on their return to school.

Special thanks to Karen, Qug and Lucie for their invaluable knowledge, boundless energy and good humour.

Fingers crossed for more snow next winter!

Frank Toman
Outdoor Education Teacher

Primary Music Concert

On **Thursday 5 September**, Primary students in classes 3,4,5 and 6 are presenting the annual ***Primary School Music Concert*** in the School Hall starting promptly at 1.30pm.

Students are to please dress neatly for the performance in smart casual wear appropriate for a performance.

The concert is expected to be up to 80 minutes with no interval so we can finish in time for the end of the school day and departing buses.

Please note this important date in your diary.

We look forward to welcoming you to an enjoyable afternoon of mid-year musical sharing.

Gina Rose
Music Teacher

Garden Volunteers

If you're interested in gardening, socialising, or learning about growing fruit and veggies in Tasmania, we invite you to come along and find out how you can be part of our learning garden volunteer team.

When: Wednesdays, 9 AM to 11 AM.

Where: Tarremah Learning Gardens (wander up after signing in at the office).

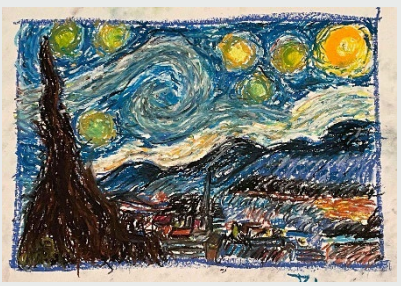
Contact: Sophy at sophy.millard@tarremah.tas.edu.au to join our mailing list.

No green thumb required, just a willingness to dig in and learn together. We welcome anyone from the community. Your helping hands will significantly increase the quality of the student's learning garden's abundance and health, and in return for your help, we can all share in the bounty of our garden.

Tarremah Learning Gardens: A garden growing children and community together

Sophy Millard
Secondary Gardening Teacher

Class 6 Artwork



What is my child really asking?

From a young age, children ask the most astounding questions. Why is the sky blue? Was I adopted? Where do I come from? Before we get out our phones to google the answer, or launch into a factual explanation, it is important to pause and think about what your child is really asking and what they are ready to hear.

When the kindergarten child asks why the sky is blue, they are in a dreamy state of consciousness. Nature is alive to them - the earth is full of fairies, gnomes and whispering trees. Our job as parents and educators is to allow them to fully experience this imaginative world - we protect them from information which they are not ready to hear, we turn off the news. So our answer to this question would naturally leave them in this state of being, "Well, I wonder..." or we could add to their imagination with a story. The kindergarten child is asking for reassurance and that all is well in the world.

When a primary child asks if you are their 'real' parent, it is a sign that their consciousness is changing. They may be crossing a developmental milestone which can be unsettling. They may be experiencing real loneliness, which is in fact essential for their own healthy development. We would validate their feelings, mention that we all feel alone sometimes and that this can be painful. Recognize that we are in fact individuals, but also part of a family and a loving community. They are searching for belonging.

When a young child asks where they come from, they are not asking for a factual talk about the act of sex and a full description of their birth. They are asking for connection. They are wanting reassurance and to know that they are surrounded by a loving family, which is really where all sex education should begin.

We are not lying to our children, we are not over-protecting them, but we are protecting them. We are consciously allowing children to experience a childhood free from adult concepts and worries, which are they not developmentally equipped to face. Parents often choose a Steiner school for this very reason, so that their child can be part of a community with shared values.

The protection of childhood is often easier to understand when it is related to small children, but as children reach their middle and upper primary years we can mistakenly think that they are ready for adult concepts. They are curious; naturally inquisitive. The Steiner curriculum unfolds slowly, meeting each stage of consciousness with therapeutic stories and mythologies. In class, we often address precocious questions by reassuring the children that they will learn about that later. This can actually be a relief for many children and they can remain reassured that the adults have things in hand. We guide children of this age by being a loving authority.

We teach the kindergarten child about Goodness to develop their will, primary children are learning about Feelings through beauty, and it is only when children cross into adolescence and the thinking realm that they are asking for Truth. This is when the birthing main lesson arrives, when they are developmentally ready to be sensitively guided through deeper conversations about where they come from.

Children of today are exposed to more concepts than ever before - we are surrounded by the media, music clips which can be pornographic and misogynistic, social media which can radicalise. We need to take extra care about what we allow our children to be exposed to. Even then they will ask about words they hear in the playground, from an older sibling, from a song or computer game. This does not mean we need to give them a factual explanation and in fact it is often frightening and can be damaging to do so. Children do not want to hear the answer if they are not developmentally ready - they simply want to know that is it OK not to know.

In childhood, lengthy answers are often not required. Scientific facts can be so abstract that they do not belong in the world of childhood, which is why we leave many topics until after the child has turned 14. Sometimes we just need to reply - you will learn about that when the time is right.

Elise Blacher
Class Six Teacher

BIODYNAMICS INSPIRATION! PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FILM SCREENING GATHERING & POTLUCK DINNER (BRING A VEG PLATE TO SHARE) FRIDAY 23RD AUGUST 6PM - 8PM TARREMAH STEINER SCHOOL HALL. RSVP"MOO"& NAME TO INFO@MAGICALFARM.ORG

Bio-Dynamics TASMANIA

TARREMAH STEINER SCHOOL

AUGUST | ISSUE ONE

Spring Fair 2024 Newsletter

SUNDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2024

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Welcome to the first edition of the Spring Fair 2024 newsletter.

We'd like to say a big thank you to our school community for all the enthusiasm and effort in delivering a wonderful fair last year. It's a wonderful reflection of the community spirit and knowledge that exists amongst us. We look forward to working together with you all to create a beautiful and fun event in 2024.

This newsletter aims to consolidate fair information, hopefully reducing the amount of email traffic we receive in the lead-up to the event.

Please email tarremahpandf@gmail.com if you have any questions or suggestions for content in upcoming editions.

Warmly,
Tarremah P&F Committee

The Spring Fair is the highlight of the Steiner calendar, and an event much-loved by children, parents and teachers alike. It's a time when we come together after the long indoor months of winter to celebrate the warming sun and the new life that it brings. The fair is also a reflection of our community, as it takes a community to pull it together.

At a glance: *See page 2 for more information*

01 / *Donation Requests*

Lemons
When: Term 3
Deliver to: ECC Verandah

Craft items
When: Term 3
Deliver to: Box in front office

Good quality clothes & books
When: Term 3
Deliver to: Collection bins up at 'The Eagles Nest' outside the garden

Cut flowers
When: Fri 3rd & Sat 4th Nov
Deliver to: Playgroup Verandah

Cakes, slices & biscuits
When: Sat 4th & Sun 5th Nov
Deliver to: School Hall

Musicians & performers

If you or anyone in your family would like to play some music at the fair, please get in touch with us at tarremahpandf@gmail.com Anything from one song to a 40 minute set will be welcome!

02 / *Calls for*

Stallholders
We have a small number of market spots available
Apply before: Friday 6th Sept
Contact: tarremahpandf@gmail.com

Hot house space
We are looking for any spare hot house space in the community to help prepare the plant stall this year
When: For use over the next few months
Contact: tarremahpandf@gmail.com

Musicians & performers
Apply before: Friday 20th Sept
Contact: tarremahpandf@gmail.com

03 / *Key Dates*

After school stitching
If you see a stitcher feel free to join in. We'll have a bag of simple jobs to do and we are very happy to teach beginners.

Craft Group
Every Wednesday morning

Working bee
Sun 20th Oct

Spring Fair
Sun 3rd Nov

Donation Requests

Craft items

We need treasures for the much loved children's tent and items to sell in the craft room. Responding to feedback, we would like to engage the whole school in making craft this year. So, if you (or your crafty friends, family or children) have the urge to make – please do! Please use natural materials and think about things that spark joy and wonder. You can leave any donated craft materials or made items in the box under the table in reception.

If you have a skill or hobby please join one of the maker What's App groups listed below.

Some of us will start stitching as the children play after school, please feel free to join in!

Don't forget to join us for craft Wednesday mornings if you can!! All skills, skill levels and small children welcome.

Good quality clothes and books

We welcome books and **clean, quality clothing** with no holes for the Treasure Trove this year.
We get a large amount of donations, so **please choose thoughtfully**. Focus on natural fibres, outdoor/ camping wear, fashion wear free of large logos, quality shoes and accessories. Place donations in the collection bins up at 'The Eagles Nest' outside the garden.

Lemons

Early Childhood welcome any excess lemons. They can be dropped off to the collection basket under the Pipit/Fantail Veranda from the start of Term 3. Please email tarremahpandf@gmail.com or if you need help picking or are planning on delivering a bulk lot, so the ECC class parents can make a plan to juice them.

Class Tasks

Class parents are busy making preparations for the class activities. Activities this year include:

ECC Lemonade stand and early childhood game

Class 1 Outdoor children's activities

Classes 2 and 4 Children's tent and BBQ

Class 3 Indoor children's craft activity

Class 5 Tarremah coffee and cake stall

Classes 6 and 7 Plant stall and chill tent

Classes 8 and 9 Treasure trove and bucket dunk

Class 10 Ice cream stand

Please contact your class parent if you are able to assist with the preparations.

Maker groups

We'd love to showcase the broad range of skills within the community beyond feltcraft this fair. If you enjoy woodcraft, origami/papercraft, illustration or knitting/crocheting please join the relevant What's App group using the links below. We hope this will be a way that we can share ideas and learn from each other.

Tarremah Woodworkers

Tarremah Papercrafters

Tarremah Woolcrafters (Knitters/Crocheters)

Tarremah Stitchers

Tarremah Illustrators

Tarremah Growers

If these links don't work or you're not on What's App please email tarremahpandf@gmail.com with your craft of choice. Thanks!

Fair Objectives

To guide decision making and planning in the production of the Spring Fair, the P&F Committee have committed to following the objectives established last year.

Our fair objectives are:

- Positive experience
- Steiner aligned ethos & vision
- Sustainability
- Inclusiveness & community building
- Mentoring & knowledge sharing
- Consideration of time
- Fundraising

If you would like to read the expanded fair objectives document please email tarremahpandf@gmail.com

We appreciate the community support, time, effort and enthusiasm that builds this wonderful event.

If you have any questions or suggestions please get in touch at tarremahpandf@gmail.com

The Geometry Journey

through the Steiner/ Waldorf Curriculum

with Sophia Montefiore

THURSDAY 22nd August on Zoom
7.30-9pm AEST (2 hrs earlier in W.A)

What stands behind the Waldorf / Steiner Geometry journey through the school years?

Participants will explore:

- *Freehand Form Drawing in the Lower Years*
- *Celebrating forms found in nature*
- *Working with beauty and colour*
- *Using mathematical implements*
- *Sacred Geometry and mandalas in ancient culture*

Sophia Montefiore is currently a teacher and Senior School Coordinator at the Newcastle Waldorf School in Australia. She he has taught and mentored across a range of subjects including English, History, Mathematics, Projective Geometry, Art, and Philosophy. Her enthusiasm and artistic approach to Geometry can create fresh access to the realms of Geometry for adults. Sophia is also the artist behind our Logo!

https://sophiaartperspectives.com.au/
https://www.instagram.com/sophiamontefiore_art/

REGISTER FOR FREE HERE

THE HUMAN JOURNEY REFLECTED IN ART

SESSION 4: TURNER MONET AND VAN GOGH

(Personal visions, Impressionism and Expressionism)

The value of studying Art through the ages as a theme of the Steiner/Waldorf curriculum.

'Wherever art emerges from a true artistic conviction it bears witness to the connection of the human being with the supersensible world.' Rudolf Steiner

Every cultural epoch expresses its essence in its creative manifestations, whether in architecture, sculpture and painting. By immersing ourselves in this content we can gain a deeper appreciation for the soul life and consciousness of the people involved, as well as broaden an understanding of our own times as being part of a continuum of unfolding development.

Born in South Africa, **Anthony McLeod** met the work of Rudolf Steiner at 17, then studied art teaching at Natal University RSA, majoring in painting. He has taught art in state schools in South Africa & Western Australia, as well as 3 Steiner schools & recently completed 15 years with Perth Waldorf School as the high school art teacher.
anthonymacleodart.com.au

Part 4: August 28, 7.30pm on Zoom

Booking: https://events.humanitix.com/the-human-journey-reflected-in-art-part-4-schools/tickets

Contact: steinerparented@gmail.com

The Great Tarremah Quiz Night Returns!

Saturday 7 September
6:00pm–9:30pm

Tarremah Steiner School Hall
27 Nautilus Grove, Huntingfiled

$15 per person
(Grown-Ups only event!)

Tables of 8–10, food platters included,
snack hot food and simple dessert, drinks for sale,
amazing prizes, fun questions, silly games!!!

Make up a table with your friends and family
and dress up in your choice of theme.

Prizes awarded to the best dressed and most coordinated table!
Bring gold coins for games and raffle.

Cash tickets available from the school office
Direct deposits are to be made into the P&F account

Tarremah School P & F Association Inc.
BSB: 807 009 | Acc: 51158966

Please email forms to tarremahpandf@gmail.com