Tarremah Steiner School

MARCH 28 | ISSUE 4 , 2025

Tarremah Times

Class 6 Cockle Creek Camp

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:

Fri 28 March
Harvest Festival

Fri 28 March
Bush Dance

Wed 2 April
School Tour

Fri 4 April
Secondary Mud Run

Mon 7 – Fri 11 April
Melanie Deefholts visit

Wed 9 April
Class 10 Cake Stall

Fri 11 April
Easter Market

Fri 11 April
Last Day of Term 1

Tues 29 April
First Day of Term Two

Mon 5 May - Fri 9 May
ILF Book Sale Week

Impact Award Recipients

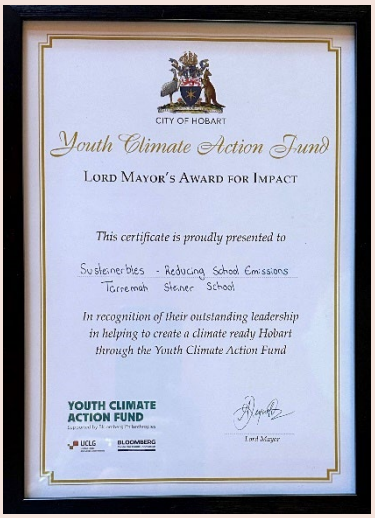
Tarremah's sustainability group, the Susteinerbles, was the recipient of the Lord Mayor's "Award for Impact". I was proud to accept the award on behalf of the students at an event at the Town Hall, celebrating the achievements of numerous groups of people aged 15-25 around Hobart in recognition of their outstanding leadership in helping to create a climate-ready Hobart. We were one of ten groups nominated for the award!

Phil O'Neill and Sarah Bury, from local electrical social enterprise This is Electric, guided and supported the Susteinerbles throughout 2024 in learning about carbon emissions, examining the school's solar power generation and exploring ideas for optimising the use of the excess solar energy that Tarremah produces. Through their research, the students decided to purchase two EV chargers for staff use. The cost of the chargers was funded by a generous grant provided by the Hobart City Council. They will be installed in the staff carpark in the coming months.

We are very grateful to Phil and Sarah for their time and their expertise, and to the Hobart City Council for their financial support and assistance. This initiative has empowered our students to take an active role in making their school

more sustainable and support the transition to clean energy. Congratulations Susteinerbles and keep up the good work!!

Rosie Barry
Susteinerbles
Co-Ordinator & Craft Teacher



CITY OF HOBART

Youth Climate Action Fund

LORD MAYOR'S AWARD FOR IMPACT

This certificate is proudly presented to

Susteinerbles - Reducing School Emissions
Tarremah Steiner School

In recognition of their outstanding leadership in helping to create a climate ready Hobart through the Youth Climate Action Fund

YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND

Lord Mayor

Class 9 Farming and Industry Intensive

Each year Class 9 embark on a one week tour of businesses to get a sense of what 'makes a business tick'. Sophy and Karen joined the group this year to assist and observe the nature of the tour. The Intensive splits the class roughly in half to have 2 groups. In this way a small group can get in close and learn a lot more. The members of each group prepare for the week by being equipped with food, money and suitable clothing to be 'work ready'. Students are encouraged to ask probing questions, not only about the financial side of the firm but also the ethical and environmental concerns. The second group concurrently attend the Living In-between Camp (formerly the Refugee Camp).

The businesses we visit each year change depending on the availability of the employers. This year the Hobart Tip Shop, being a cooperative, was very popular and compared to the Kingborough tip shop, was an interesting alternative. We visited three different types of farms, the Specialty Timber Yard in Geeveston and Haywood Crisp Brothers Engineering. Some of the farm businesses are integrated where they grow the product, process it and package it for sale.

The various employers are generously accommodating; many having previously had groups from Tarremah. The students often spend time working on-site to assist the business with their needs. This year, at Keltie Farm, we fed the pigs, moved cattle and then did some fencing to help the owner. The tip shops were clearly the most popular, closely followed by the Engineering works, which was quite inspiring as the scale of their products are huge. Bronzewing (Goulds herb farm) is also an interesting place having a relatively cooperative staffing structure and integrated business model.

The students are each given a diary to fill in and answer questions about the work done and the industries place in the economy/society. Environmental impact, ethics and sustainability of businesses was often raised by the students and employers and discussed with interest. The learning from the whole experience is later used in other Main Lessons in Class 9 and 10 to deepen their knowledge of business and its application to our lives.

An afternoon session is held at a park where some free time is given for lunch and 'breathing out' and then the group is split to **brainstorm the creation of a business**. They are asked to look at the parameters already seen at other businesses and scope out their own idea as a group. Granted an imaginary $500,000 to start a business, deciding what would they grow, process and produce to sell using the integrated business model.

The experience of 'seeing' other industries, and through experience, having a basic understanding of 'how things get done' is of great value. The picture in the mind's eye lasts and equips us to be more understanding of the world we build and participate in. The mysteries which disempower crumble with the empowerment of knowledge and experience. Also, the topic of Business ethics is clearly the most engaging topic for the students as it awakens their sense of environmental justice. It speaks to the young adult, deeply; seeing injustice, questioning the world and striving to make a difference.

Michael Rowland
Gardening & Woodwork Teacher

The Parents and Friends Association Committee for 2025.

On Tuesday 18th of March we met for the annual general meeting of the P and F Association and although the meeting itself is largely process and procedure it offers those of us who are able to attend an opportunity to reflect, regroup and renew into a new year. We are pleased to report that this year's meeting has seen the nomination and appointment of new committee members, the reappointment of many of last year's committee members and only a few farewells.

We are all looking forward to being part of this year's committee, a group of parents who bring together a breadth of experience, skill and knowledge. The 2025 Committee consists of Bindi Browning, Carmen Goldstien (Treasurer), Craig Tipping (Secretary), Katherine Russell, Leah Rose (Public officer), Lauren Orr, Naomi Edwards, Fiona Wilson (Chair) and Sarah Gorman. Between us we have children from playgroup to class 8. We are parents, musicians, healthcare professionals, public servants, small business owners, makers, artists, creatives, sports lovers. Some of us are good at the administration that comes with the committee, some of us bring vision, some bring passion, we all come with the intention to provide good governance to the association while building the community that we want to see and be part of at Tarremah.

The committee looks forward to continuing to support, encourage and facilitate different ways for us to connect as a community, from the mainstays of festivals, the spring fair, markets and craft (currently community) mornings; to the quiz night, futsal and the new seed circle group. We are always interested in new places where there might be energy within the community and, where they align with school and association values, the committee is open to providing support in any way we can, so everyone can connect in ways that honour their authentic selves.

We have learnt time and time again over the last 3 years that there is work to be done in community: sometimes hard heavy physical work, sometimes tiresome repetitive work and sometimes emotional labour. However, when we work together there is connection and community and in community there is hope, strength, joy and resilience. As the committee we provide governance, administration and often leadership to the association, however every parent/guardian is a member of our association, of this vibrant, diverse, active, creative and inspiring community. We are all the 'many hands', that work to bring the magic that lights our children's eyes at spring fair time, and that provide space for people to gather together and share. The fairy's and gnomes, they do their bit, but it is the parents that have to do the heavy lifting and get to share a laugh, connect and enjoy the magic. We look forward to another year of sharing joy with all the Tarremah families and making this wonderful school the very best for all our children.

This year we farewell Sarah Pieris from the committee. Sarah has served us all through three wonderful and challenging years as Chair of the P and F Committee. Three years ago a group of parents with very little knowledge or experience stepped into a vacant committee after some very challenging COVID years. Many were relatively new to the school, some new to the state, we are forever grateful for the support and guidance of Karin Camino, who was the previous public officer and Natalie Coombe who was the only member who had ever been on the committee in the past. Sarah has chaired us through the necessary update of our constitution, brought us together through our work on our vision, values and purpose, she has been the receiver of community feedback, a comms superstar, a maker, a facilitator. We are in awe of the effortlessness in which she can go from discussing the principles of Steiner education, to doll making, to music, to the weekend's NRL game; and the effort she has put into ensuring that in every decision all members of our community are considered. After 3 years serving as Chair Sarah is moving on from the P and F Committee to allow her to serve in other areas of the school community and in other ways. We are grateful for all she has brought to the role of Chair and the work she has done. We have a stronger, braver, more loving and gracious committee and association because of her.

Fiona Wilson
2025 P&F Chair, on behalf of the P&F Committee

Please see a farewell from Sarah Pieris, outgoing P&F Committee Chair, on page 6.

Class 6 Cockle Creek Camp

Dark caves, thermal pools, windswept ocean vistas in between a 15 km walk, Tolkien forests, wind and rain, cold water plunges, and guitar singalongs...all within 3 days.

Teachers and leaders were sooo impressed with how all of the students looked after, encouraged and supported each other in a faraway place.

This was the first of two camps for the Class 6 students (the second one will be in Term 4 around Port Arthur) which incorporates geomorphology, geology and a sprinkling of history, especially the different interaction between the sea faring French with the First Nation Lyllequonny inhabitants.

A big thank you to Shawn (who kept an eye on everything!), Zyra, Lucie and Clancy for all their support.

Shawn McLaren
Class 6 Teacher

Bread Bags and shopping Bags for the garden.

Please keep all your clean bread bags and plastic shopping bags to send through to the school garden.

Children often need a bag in which to bring produce and other treasures home.

Gumboot Swap

As those feet grow there is an opportunity to swap them for a larger size, leaving the smaller pair behind; if it isn't needed for a sibling. We have a collection at the garden for this purpose. Feel free to drop in a swap them or ask your child to do so at the next garden class.

Thank you

Michael & Sophy

Easter Market - Call for Stallholders

The Easter Market will be held on Friday 11 April this year.

General items that tend to be sold at the market include quality gifts, craft, handmade goods, produce and preserves.

If you are interested in a stall at the market, please email the P&F at tarremahpandf@gmail.com for the details.

Class 9 Engine Combustion Main Lesson

Over the past few weeks, Class 9 has been delving into the fascinating world of engines, tracing their development from the early steam engines to the modern four-stroke internal combustion engine. Through a series of hands-on activities and historical investigations, students have gained a deeper understanding of how these engines work and their impact on technological advancement.

The journey began with practical experiments in the science lab, where students observed the properties of steam and discussed their findings in class. They then moved on to a computer simulation that allowed them to analyse the behavior of particles, collecting data to graph and explain the relationships between temperature, pressure, and volume.

To put engine evolution into context, students explored a historical timeline of key inventors and their contributions. From Thomas Savery's steam pump (1698) and Richard Trevithick's first steam locomotive (1804) to Étienne Lenoir's coal-gas-powered internal combustion engine (1860) and Nikolaus Otto's four-stroke engine, which laid the foundation for modern car engines, students followed the key developments that shaped the machines we rely on today.

The final days of the Main Lesson were dedicated to a detailed study of the four-stroke engine. To bring theory to life, students disassembled a mower engine, allowing them to visualise each stroke—intake, compression, power, and exhaust—and identify the parts involved in the process. This hands-on approach reinforced their understanding of engine mechanics and provided a practical application of the concepts they had been studying.

Lindel Gass
Secondary Maths & Science Teacher

Bush Days

Bush Days at Tarremah are within the weekly rhythm in the Lower Primary School.

We have Class 2 in their second year of Bush Day, usually visiting Coffee Creek in the Peter Murrell reserve or walking to Teepee Land to explore, build and learn.

The Preps venture into Little Forest just on the edge of the school boundary where they spend the morning playing amongst the trees.

The children experience the natural word in an environment that they have become familiar with, as well as being close to school, fostering a sense of knowing and trust in their surroundings.

Some activities the children take part in are; whittling, boat building & sailing, cake making, tree healing, fairy houses, blackberry picking, storytelling (including sharing and simple maths), and learning about trees, insects and animals (with our informative flip books).

Class 2 have Main Lesson in the bush where a story is shared with Ina. The class then go in search of materials found in nature to draw, paint, create or build on that story. The structure and rhythm of the day is carried into our outdoor classroom, when the children come together for morning tea and lunch then free play, where we see the importance of nature and the child's connection to it, with experiences that foster imagination, problem solving, keen observation and a sense of wonder.

We watch how the children have grown in confidence when being faced with challenges within themselves and the environment.

Communion in nature, growth & experience in the outdoors!

What golden opportunities for the children.

Carmen Culbert
Teacher's Assistant

Tarremah School Parents and Friends Association Inc Chair Report 2024

Over the past year, our community has continued to thrive, fostering deeper connections, shared experiences, and a growing sense of belonging within our school. The P&F Committee has offered another year of service, demonstrating a culture of consideration and collaboration, ever striving towards our committee's vision:

To grow and nurture a thriving school community that embodies the core values of Steiner education: a deep appreciation and respect for the natural world, lifelong learning and imagination. We aim to foster meaningful connections and inspire a shared sense of purpose while promoting a culture of compassion, friendship and support.

We successfully ran our third Spring Fair, a testament to the dedication, creativity, and hard work of our committee and broader community. Each year, we refine our approach, learning valuable lessons that help us improve and evolve the planning of this event to ensure it meets our shared goals and allows for greater community involvement. This event not only raises funds but also serves as a vibrant celebration of our school community.

The festivals we support, as well as our Easter and Christmas markets, have continued to be joyful occasions, bringing families together in meaningful ways. Whether through the magic of seasonal celebrations or the warmth of a shared song, these gatherings reinforce the values and traditions that make our school unique.

One of the most heartening developments this year has been the growth of our Wednesday craft gatherings into a broader community event, bringing crafters, gardeners, staff, and those seeking connection together. This has been made possible through the generosity and commitment of Lauren, Sarah G, and Fiona. Additionally, thanks to Craig, Thursday night Futsal has provided another way for parents to connect. These initiatives have strengthened our community spirit and provided a welcoming space for both long-time members and newcomers alike.

Sadly, this year we bid farewell to Kinna, who gave her time so generously to the committee. We sincerely thank her for her contributions to our association.

As this marks my final report as Chair, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the shared sense of purpose that has made the past three years so fulfilling. It has been a privilege to serve in this role, and I am profoundly thankful for the culture of compassion, friendship, and support that thrives so strongly among this wonderful group of people. While I step down from this role, I look forward to continuing as a committed "worker bee" supporting the incredible work of the committee in any way I can.

On behalf of the entire committee, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed their time, energy, and passion to making our school community so special.

If you haven't yet found your way in, I encourage you to get involved in your child's education. There are many ways to contribute, and not all of them are time-consuming. If P&F events aren't your thing, speak to your teacher—you might be able to share something you love with your child's class or another class studying that topic in their main lesson. Opportunities to connect are all around you. I guarantee your children will shine (sometimes just on the inside, depending on their age! 😊) knowing that you're doing something at *their* school.

I quite honestly joined this school with my guard up—partly imposter syndrome, partly self-protection. I had a busy life and didn't think I needed more friends. But I wanted to learn how to make a doll. This ended up being my way in. Nervously, I turned up to a class or two and met wonderful women who not only shared their skills but also generously offered parenting wisdom and support. I thank them and think of them often.

I've come to realise that we're all here for different versions of the same reason: we want our children to thrive. For some, this school was a lock from day one; some may still be testing the waters. Some have a lot to give, while others are making large sacrifices to provide this opportunity for their children. But at the heart of it, we are all here for our young people.

Through the generosity of others, I've learned that the connections we build here are key to our children's success. They feel more connected to both you and this school when they see you as part of its rich fabric. The friendships you form will become the values-aligned network you lean on as your children grow. You'll meet the families you trust—the ones who will help you build the village needed to keep your children safe and happy through their teenage years.

So, I encourage you to get involved. Volunteer, attend the parent education classes, learn how to make a doll (more on that soon!), drop by the hall or garden on a Wednesday morning, reach out to your class teacher, class parent, or the P&F. There are many ways in, and as you contribute, you'll find there is so much to gain—for both yourself and your children.

With warmth and appreciation,
Sarah Pieris
2024 P&F Committee Chair

Tarremah Steiner School

Easter Market

Friday 11th April 2025
2pm–5pm
Nautilus Grove Huntingfield

Quality Gifts
Craft
Handmade Goods
Produce & Preserves
Fundraising BBQ

Inspiring curious, lifelong learners
tarremah.tas.edu.au

Healthy Relationships with Self and Other

with Melanie Deefholts

Visiting classes and the community in the final week of Term One. Please join any and all talks at 6:30pm in the music room:

Focus on Classes 6/7/8 – Monday 7th April
Focus on Classes 3/4/5– Tuesday 8th April
Focus on Early childhood/Classes 1&2 – Wednesday 9th April
Focus on Classes 9 & 10 – Thursday – Thursday 10th April

We warmly welcome you to join us for this opportunity to explore issues affecting children's health and wellbeing in modern times. Through the lens of anthroposophy, examples will be shared on how to counterbalance these challenges and understand the community's role in raising children. By working together, we can support individual wellbeing.

Focusing on the developmental profile of children, Melanie will also give an overview of the class program (Class Five-Ten) and will discuss ways of supporting the children at their developmental stage. This allows for a wholistic approach to introducing themes of health and wellbeing. Melanie's meeting focusing on our Classes Six-Eight will be held prior to their class session. This meeting enables parents and teachers to have any questions answered, as well as providing an overview of how best to continue working with the themes with their child. For parents in Classes Nine and Ten, the class sessions will have taken place, and the focus of the meeting is to allow adults to address important topics that may arise from these sessions.

Melanie Deefholts has been supporting parents and teachers in various schools through adult education for the past 13 years. She specialises in understanding child development through observations of daily life and how to work with this in a living way within the home and the classroom. Melanie works with parents as well as teachers in private and group education. She regularly works in various Waldorf Schools in NSW, Vic, TAS, Qld, SA and WA with Developing the Self, Developing the World. Developing the Self Developing the World is a social initiative based on the work of Rudolf Steiner, offering school health and wellbeing programs for young people.

We hope to see you here. Please register your interest with Grace in Reception, so we can choose the appropriate space for each session (mail@tarremah.tas.edu.au)