DECEMBER 10 | ISSUE 18, 2025

Tarremah Times

Tarremah Steiner School

Our Class 10 Leavers

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:

Thurs 11 December
Leavers & Final Day Assembly

Thurs 11 December
P&F Christmas Market

Thurs 11 December
Final Day of Term 4

Tues 3 February
First Day of Term 1, 2026

Tues 3 - Fri 6February
Class 9 Journey Camp

Mon 9 February
Public Holiday

Wed 11 – Fri 13 February
Class 8 Bruny Camp

Mountains, Moss, and the Making of Class 10

I spent the final evening of the Overland epic adventure with this year's Class 10 graduates.

We (John Correy and I) brought food. Raucous whoops ensued as we walked in the door with boxes of fresh produce and Summer Kitchen pies. They (the students) all looked so wholesome- rosy cheeked, with an enviable freshness about them for having spent 9 days in the Tassie wild.

They told me stories of leeches and smelly tents after shared Mexican meals and of soggy feet and the wonder of moss and waterfalls and mountains capped with snow. They laughed and laughed and leaned on each other like a mass of drunken sardines.

I witnessed their happiness, and the joy you get when you're with people you love and care about deeply.

Class 10 is a big year at Tarremah. They are MC's at the festivals and events, they do work experience, a fire twirling performance, a Class 10 Enrichment Pursuit, fundraising, a big drama production, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, a Trigonometry camp, the Overland and a School Service week. And, I have to say, there is a fair bit of academic work. It's a rich and challenging year… and they are ready for this. And they are ready for next year and for all the years to come.

For all those experiences, both formal and informal, what these Class 10 students have demonstrated is that the sense of community, of belonging and the beautiful, quirky, warts and all relationships that develop through being together through it all, is formative and enduring.

I have loved being their class guardian and I will miss them. Okay, there were times when they just wouldn't stop talking or carrying on like a bunch of chooks. But, I would never want to stamp out their special sparkle, their curiosity and their willingness to learn and take on every challenge handed out to them.

A special thank you must go to Bel, Katie and Alisha who were their guardians from Primary until the start of Year 9. Their commitment to this class is so clear. We are so lucky to have such gifted teachers.

I would also like to thank my class parents, Jo, Joanna and Lindsey. You have been so supportive and I am truly grateful. The role of a class parent for holding, not just the students and parents, but also the teacher cannot be underestimated.

Bonne chance Class 10 with all of my love and blessings.

Sharon Clarke
(Sharoony, Shazza, Shaz)
Class 10 Guardian

The Long Walk

Class 10 recently completed a 9 day hike in the Tasmanian mountains along the famous Overland Track.

They made sure they were prepared for all conditions and also dehydrated many tasty meals . We got lucky with the weather and enjoyed a little snow as well as many swims in lakes, creeks and beneath waterfalls. We also made a point of walking straight through any muddy sections of track and did our best to enjoy every footstep.

Class 10 coped with the physical demands of the trip well, but their real strength was the ability to hold onto a positive and cheerful disposition which was very valuable to personal and group morale. They helped each other with jokes and helping hands … which left me with an impression of their strength and kindness.

It was inspiring to be with the class as they visited this amazing area for the first time, and to see them absorbed in the joy of their footsteps. I hope they take the many lessons learnt from this trip and apply it to all areas of their future study and adventures.

Thanks again to Katie, Noah, Qug, John and Sharon for the help, support and lovely food. And congratulations to Isaac and Morgan for their Golden Tent Peg awards. This award is given to the senior students who best exemplify what we are looking to foster in Outdoor Education at Tarremah … namely looking after yourself, your peers and the environment.

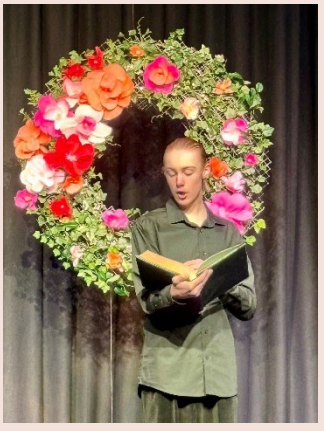
Class 8 Student Reflection of A Midsummer Night's Dream

A Midsummer Night's Dream is one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies. A tale of magic, love and hate, what is not to like? In Class 8, over the past three weeks, we have been working on this play throughout our drama intensive - making props, costumes and delving into the world of our characters and their stories through acting and voice projection.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is set in Athens, a place of formality and tradition. Two lovers, Hermia and Lysander wish to be married but Hermia's father has other ideas, as he wishes his daughter to marry Demetrius. Helena, a fair maiden, has her heart set on Demetrius. Close by, a group of tradesmen are practising a play for the Duke and Queen's upcoming marriage.

Lysander and Hermia escape to the forest, while Helena is in pursuit of Demetrius. In the forest the fairy world is amid love dramas too; the fairy King and Queen are fighting. When the fairies intervene using a love potion on Lysander's eyes everything becomes a tangle of confusion and anger. The fairies get up to more mischief, turning an honest tradesman into an ass, causing their Queen to love said ass, and trying to restore peace between lovers. Will they resolve their errors?

I play the character 'Fairy', who is in the service of Titania, the Queen of the Amazon. This 'Fairy' is curious and converses with the fairy King Oberon's servant Puck, about their masters' fighting. Fairy is devoted to her Queen and cares for her peace.



I have found this Drama production very fulfilling. It has been great to see the play forming and coming together - adding soundscapes, set design and props. I think I have gained greater confidence in my voice and acting. It has been nice sharing ideas with everyone and coming together to make it work. It is fun to step into another character for a while and then shake it off and laugh about it with everyone. It has also been amazing to work with Eden and see how she directs us and brings out the best in us all.

Freya, Class 8 student

2026 Term Dates

Term 1:
Tuesday 3 February to Friday 17 April
Easter: Friday 3 - Tuesday 7 April

Term 2:
Tuesday 5 May to Friday 3 July
Student Free Day: Monday 4 May

Term 3:
Tuesday 28 July to Friday 25 September
Student Free Day: Monday 27 July
Student Free Day: Friday 21 August

Term 4:
Tuesday 13 October to Thursday 10 December
Student Free Day: Monday 12 October
School Holiday: Friday 23 October
Student Free Day: Monday 2 November

Correction & Apology

In the last issue of the Tarremah Times, the writing of ***Draughtboard Dreaming*** was mistakenly credited to the wrong student. We wish to correct this in stating that it was in fact written by Marty of Class 10. We apologise to you Marty for any distress caused by this mistake.

Memorial for Harald Goetz

A memorial has been organised for Harald Goetz on 10 January from 2:30 - 4:30 at White Water room, Kingston Community Hub (on Goshawk Way). This day has been chosen for its personal significance as it is the date he was arrested on the Franklin Blockade.

There is no need to bring anything but some memories and an interest in meeting others who had an involvement in Harald's life. The event is planned as a largely informal affair allowing visitors to chat and learn more about Harald's interesting life, not only as a parent but also an environmental activist and his part in the Franklin Blockade.

An RSVP (to karl@goetz.au) is optional but will help us get an idea of numbers.

Tarremah P&F

Christmas Market Volunteers
Please find attached a sign up zone for the Christmas market.

If you are able to help on the day please put your details in one of the available slots.

Thanks for your assistance.

https://legacy.signup.zone/4iWQB4ewtGtdNZm5Z

A final note from the P&F committee 2025
What a year we have shared, full of joy and grief; heartbreak and love; and as always learning. A year of successes, challenges and change. We hope you have found connection in the Tarremah community. It has been a joy and challenge to support opportunities for individuals and families to connect. The events we share are a reflection of the school and the community; they only come to being through the vision, work and joy of us all. To those of you moving on after this year, we send you out with love and gratitude, may your next adventure be full of joy, wonder and learning.

We look forward to the opportunity a new year will bring, to meet and connect with new and old friends, to learn and experience new things; to enjoy the rhythm of life together. We look forward to seeing how this community wants to be and develop. Please join in, help create the community you want to be part of. Come and share a cuppa and cake at the welcome morning tea on Tuesday 3rd February, attend the P and F meeting on the 11th of February, the welcome barbecue on the 13th February and attend class meetings and gatherings. A new year, an invitation to renew, to let go, to try, to try again, to forgive and be brave.

May all our holidays offer times of deep rest, connection, joy and renewal.

Peace, joy and love to you all.

Class 3 Building Main Lesson

Class Three have been busy building all manner of small houses for their last main lesson of the year, the Building Main Lesson. From underground houses to house boats on water, houses in the mountains, on stilts, and others on wheels. Houses from across the world, in forests and by the sea. Their displays were visited by all the Primary classes and our parents, who appreciated the hard work that had gone into their first homework project.

The Building Main Lesson culminated in the mud bricks that the children had sifted, squelched and patted over the year, being used to build the walls of a cosy chicken house in the yard of Area B. Thank you to John who lent us the mudbrick moulds, Teresa and Michael for their support, Pete for helping lay the bricks and build the walls, and parents who lent a hand.

During the main lesson, Class Three also had their first camp which was held in Area B playground and what a wonderful evening. The sky was clear, the weather was calm, and we enjoyed staying after school when everyone else had gone home. The children made pizzas to be cooked in the woodfire pizza oven, which were delicious. We made a campfire and then slept in two big Bell Tents.

It has been a busy and joyous term in Class 3!

Sarah Hingston
Class 3 Teacher

Library and Administration Building Project

We are pleased to announce that we have been offered a $750,000 grant to help us bring our new Library and Administration Complex to life. This new community-focused space will become a central hub in the heart of the school.

As well as doubling the current collection capacity, the new library will be able to welcome multiple classes at the same time, with small study rooms and enough floor space to seat a whole class of secondary students.

The complex will include a new reception and waiting spaces, small and large meeting rooms and a dedicated teachers' resource room. This development will also create the opportunity to reallocate existing rooms, providing further specialist classroom spaces.

This project will include new accessible pathways and courtyards linking disconnected spaces.

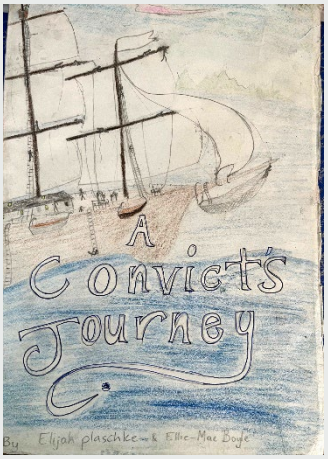
Floor Plans, with new complex set between existing Admin Building and Learning Support. The carpark to the left and Class 8 to the right

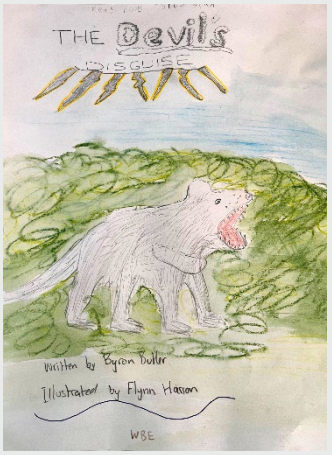
Entry Courtyard reception in the foreground to the right, with Library in the distance

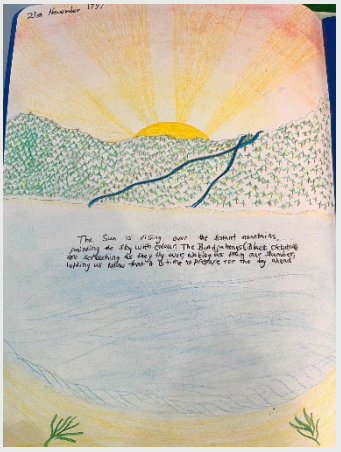
The new Library to the left, with the existing trees behind the Amphitheatre to the right

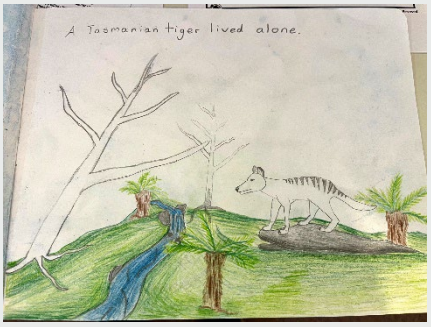
View from front carpark

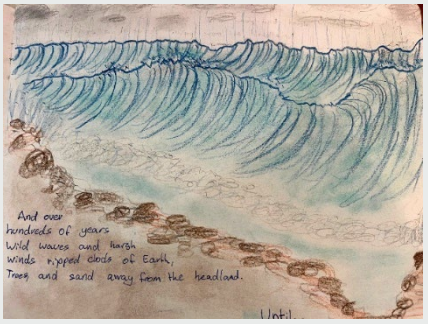
Class 6 Picture Books











Fairy Wren Playgroup

As the year draws to a close, we celebrate the wonderful mornings shared in Playgroup.

Together, children and families have sung songs, listened to stories, baked bread, and crafted—moving in the quiet rhythms of daily life. We have watched the children's curiosity deepen, their wonder unfold, and their steps grow steadier, while mothers and families have shared the deep, nurturing work of guiding young hearts and minds, including the beautiful journey of our expectant mums. These shared moments have woven a warm, caring community. With gratitude, we look forward to new play, discovery, and wonder in the year ahead.

Karen Bright
Playgroup Leader

Greek Olympics

Last month, Tarremah held the bi-annual Greek Olympics. We were blessed by the weather god, and it was a beautiful event where the students from Class 5 and 6 joined city states with Tamar Valley's Class 5 and 6. The teachers and TAs dressed up as Greek Gods and a lovely time was had by all. It was particularly heartwarming to host Tamar Valley and see connections forming between our schools.

The opening ceremony started with a Banner Dance that the Tarremah students executed beautifully. The games consisted of a "marathon" (3km run), discus, javelin, sprint, wrestling, long jump and chariot racing! During the event we had many parent helpers who supported by bringing food for hungry bodies, as well as for monitoring/judging events. The children were "judged" on truth, beauty and strength. Truth representing the quality of their efforts and their camaraderie, beauty representing the form they used during the event, and strength representing the speed or distance achieved during the event. The children took these values to heart and competed gracefully, respectfully, and earnestly.

We closed the Greek Olympics with some lovely singing and a medal ceremony, where each student was bestowed with a wreath acknowledging their efforts in the games. A special thanks goes to Zeus (aka Greg), for organising much of the games, as well as all the adults who came to support and make the day a success. Another fine example of the beautiful community we have at Tarremah.

Shawn Mclaren
Class 6 Teacher

Movie Screening at Tarremah

Join us for a family friendly screening of 'Tarkanya - the Heart of Lutruwita' and support the Bob Brown foundation to protect the vast threatened landscapes of the Tarkine, one of the world's largest temperate rainforests in the NW of our beautiful island, one of the last wild places on earth.

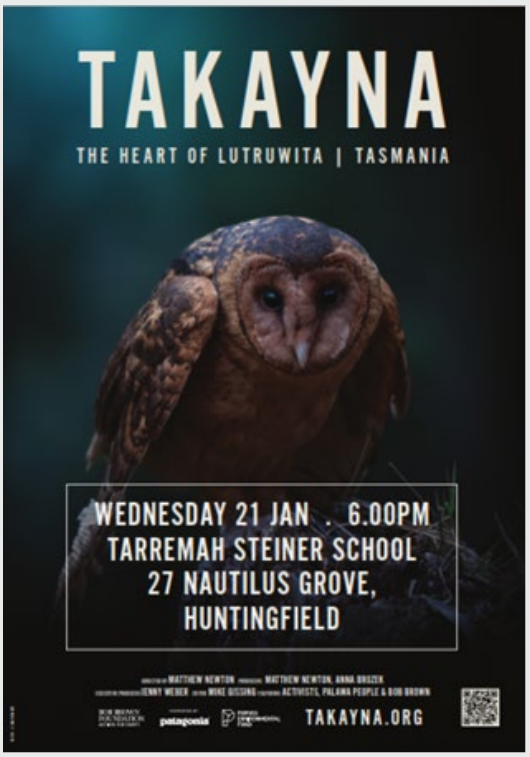
When: 6pm Wednesday 21st January

Where: Tarremah School Hall

Cost: $15pp

Tickets can be booked via

https://takayna.org/screening/huntingfield-screening/



Increasing flexibility & streamlining communication with the school

We are pleased to announce that next year we'll give parents access to a significant portion their child's school records online. Parents will be able to view and edit parent contact and medical information; inform us of and confirm absence; view your fees statement including your payment history; view your child's class and school calendar; and receive notices from your child's teacher.

This access, and some editing ability, will help ensure we are holding the most up-to-date information and reduce the risk of transcription error. This will not reduce our face to face or hard copy offerings but will enable us to streamline some things like querying attendance. Available by both mobile and desktop apps, we are pleased that this new offering will offer greater flexibility to parents.

Community Talk Invitation

Thursday 19 February, 6pm – 7:30pm in the Music Room

Tarremah parents are warmly invited to a presentation by Tracey Tipping, a Tarremah parent, economist and policy advisor, on the real impacts smartphones and social media are having on young people today.

In this Parent Education Session, Tracey will unpack some of the latest research, share powerful real-world stories, and explain why some children are experiencing rising anxiety, loneliness and distraction in the digital age. Parents will learn how algorithms and predators target young users, why developing brains are particularly vulnerable, what the December 2025 social media age-limit changes mean, and—most importantly—what practical steps families can take right now.

This talk is designed for parents and caregivers of primary and high school children.

This presentation contains discussion of sensitive issues such as online child exploitation, pornography, self-harm, suicide, cyberbullying and predatory behaviour. These topics are addressed to support parent education and digital safety. Audience discretion is advised. *

Please register your interest using the link below.

Click here to register for the talk!