Tarremah Steiner School

APRIL 10 | ISSUE 5, 2026

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*

In this issue:

Class 9 Industries Tour	*02*
Class 7 & Arthurian Legends	*02*
Creation Stories	*03*
Cuckoo Clocks	*03*
Class 10 Cake Stall	*03*
Class 6 Bruny Camp	*04*
P&F Welcome to 2026	*05*
Harvest Festival	*06*

Diary Dates:

Sun 12 April
Sibling Photos (by appointment only)

Tues 14 April
Class Photos

Wed 15 April
Class Photos

Thurs 16 April
Class 10 Cake Stall – lunch time

Thurs 16 April
Secondary School Information Evening

Fri 17 April
P&F Harvest Market

Fri 17 April
Last Day of Term 1

Mon 4 May
Student Free Day / Secondary School Parent/Teacher Meetings

Tues 5 May
First Day of Term 2

Wed 13 May
School Tour

Infrastructure & Staffing

As we approach the end of Term One, I would like to offer an update on what's been happening at School and what to expect over the next few months, particularly regarding staffing and infrastructure.

Infrastructure
We would like to thank the Parents and Friends Association for supporting the creation of the new playground facilities in both our ECC and Primary Playgrounds. The new rope swing at the back of the oval, seems to be a particular hit.

You'll be pleased to hear that we have been offered a substantial Commonwealth Grant to support the creation of our New Library and Administration Project which has received Planning Approval and will soon go out to Tender. With this project in the wings, we recognise that the central part of the School, between the carpark and Class 8 will soon become a construction zone for an extended period.

With this in mind, and the recognition that night-time access to our Hall and Secondary School has not been particularly safe, we have begun creating a well-lit path from the southern end of the carpark to the hall. You may have noticed that over the last few months we have installed a new fence around our orchard, just below the carpark. The positioning of this now allows us to install such a path with a gentle gradient. You may have notice that this area is now fenced off whist it is installed.

Staffing
This new fencing has also created a more inviting orchard space which you'll have heard we are making the most of with a new outdoor playgroup initiative. This leads me to confirm a number of staffing announcements. We have of course welcomed Lauren Orr who is offering the Blossoms in the Orchard Playgroup. I'd like to share that Lachlan Jefferies will join our Grounds and Maintenance team from next week. Many of you will know Lachlan as the father of Jasper in Class 5.

Sadly, James Pepperell will step away from his Student Counselling role at the end of this Term. I'm sure you'll join me in thanking James for his efforts to support our older students over the last ten years and wish him well in the next stage of his journey.

We would like to let you know that Mischi Sigrist will be taking leave for the duration of Term Two, 2026. We wish Mischi all the very best in her time away and look forward to her private music tuition resuming in Term Three.

At the end of Term Two, our WHS and Facilities Manager, Ottmar Helm will retire after four years helping us create a more sophisticated approach to ensuring our facilities are well maintained. This has been a key element of implementing our current Strategic Plan. We will all wish him a relaxing retirement closer to that time. After that Sam and Andy will absorb this work into their roles.

And finally, John Correy has announced that he will retire at the end of the year after over 25 years of association with Tarremah. Over that time John has been a parent, a Class Teacher, an Outdoor Education Coordinator, our Education Facilitator, and School Chair. These roles offer a glimpse of the extraordinary contribution John has made to the life of the School. We will offer a more formal farewell later in the year.

We will be advertising for a new Student Counsellor and an Outdoor Education leader over the next few weeks, expecting to garner interest from candidates nationally.

Matt Bale, School Chair

Class 9 Industries Tour

In Weeks 5 and 7 this term, Class 9 set out on a local business tour to learn about how different businesses work, how products are made, and how people make ethical decisions in their workplaces. We were lucky to explore so much right in our own community—and even take breaks at local shops and beautiful swimming spots. It was a wonderful chance to spend time together and have meaningful conversations along the way.

Students had a wide range of favourite moments. Some enjoyed discovering what fixed costs are and realising that starting a business might be easier than they expected. Others loved visiting the South Hobart Tip Shop to see the creative ways they reuse items that would otherwise go to waste. Highlights also included visiting a wide range of businesses, swimming at the water hole, sharing music on the bus, exploring medicinal herbs at Bronzewing Farm, meeting Wanda the dog at Kelty Meats, and even pulling apart old computers for recycling.

Of course, not every part of the trip was easy. Our visit to a fish hatchery was challenging for some students, whether because of the confronting setting or because they held different opinions from their peers. Some found the long bus rides tiring, and everyone felt it when the music speaker finally ran out of battery!

Throughout the tour, students reflected on big questions about how businesses impact Country, Community, and Culture, what ethical practice looks like, and how people balance profit with responsibility. Overall, it was a meaningful and memorable experience that brought the class together and helped us appreciate the creativity and diversity within our local area.

Sophy Millard
Gardening Teacher

Class 7 has been working on Arthurian Legends

As part of our English Studies, Class 7 have been studying the Arthurian Legends. From the oral histories of Welsh bards, through to the Saxon Histories, the Romance literature of the Normans, the epic poems of Spenser and Tennyson, even a smattering of modern American fantasy writers, and directors have all shaped and grown what we understand to be Arthurian Legends today.

We've looked at *Culhwch and Olwen*, the oldest of Arthurian Tales to ever be written down, and the stories recorded in *Historia Regum Britanniae*, and *Le Morte D'Arthur*. Even a few modern stories featured, re-examining the character of Arthur and Morgana in *The Once and Future King* and *The Mists of Avalon.*

In the process, we've been learning the skills of a good courtly page, on their way to knighthood. For instance, we have been practicing calligraphy, and medieval dances (in preparation for the Medieval Banquet later in the year.) We've looked at the rules behind making a Coat of Arms, and also experienced just how heavy a sword and armour can be!

Most importantly we have asked the questions, what kind of king is Arthur? What does it take to be noble in spirit? What does it mean to be worthy of such power? And when we gain sovereignty over ourselves, what kind of ruler over our lives shall *we* be?.

Brett Tait
English Teacher

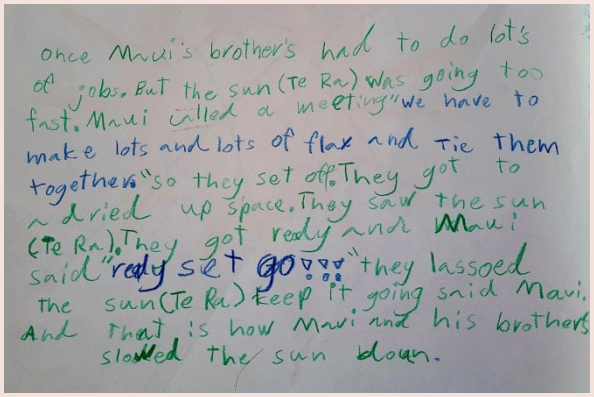
Creation stories Class 3 Main Lesson

Class 3 students engaged enthusiastically with their first Main Lesson for the year which was based on Creation Stories. Ina and I drew on stories from around the world and shared the Creation Story from the Bible. The aim of bringing these stories to the children at this age is to foster the growing capacities in the children to trust in their abilities, promote responsibility, both personal and collective, whilst nurturing their sense of wonder, gratitude, and purpose.

A sense of separation of self and world can be experienced around the age of 9 and the children now look at the world as a more self-conscious individual. This moment in the Primary Curriculum provides an opportunity to consider the great themes of humanity: creation, tradition, authority and how they can impact on blossoming individuality.

In the history of humanity these themes have been expressed in some of the great narratives of ancient human cultures, and stories from these cultures are valuable narratives for the child to experience and to explore at this particular age. The children experienced stories of creation from the Tasmanian Aboriginal Dreaming, New Zealand, North America, and Africa. These stories were shared orally by Ina and me, stories brimming with feeling, imagination and which were fun to tell! These tales are not treated as statements of fact or faith but rather to stimulate the children's individual feelings, ponderings, and imaginings.

Tracey O'Leary
Class 3 Teacher

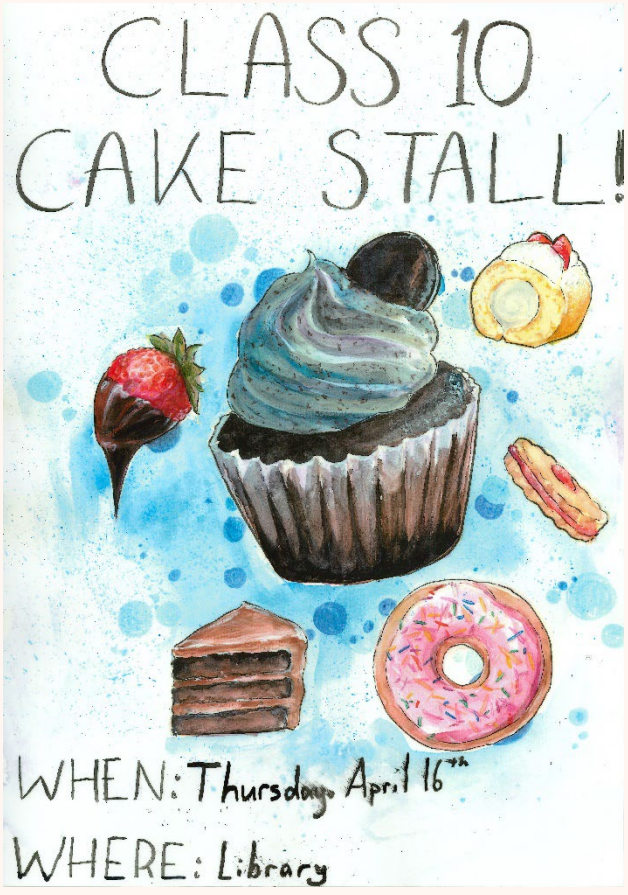


Cuckoo Clocks in Class 3

When you walk past the Class 3 classroom you might be lucky to hear the cuckoo clock singing. Thanks to Michel and Emil, the German exchange students who spent some time in Class 3 in the past weeks, the cuckoo clock is working once again. The Class 3 children love the sound and to practise telling the time.

Throughout the past weeks we had a deep dive into time, listening to diverse stories about how humans measured time for thousands of years. We looked at the moon and sun and the seasons. We made our very own calendars, a sundial, a wax candle and analogue clocks to take home to practice time telling.

Ina Guedelhoefer
Class 3 Teacher



Class 6 Lunawanna-Allonah Camp

On the damp Monday of the eighth week of Term one, an excited Class 6 gathered to set out on a one night stay on Lunawanna-Allonah/Bruny Island. We caught the ferry across and arrived at Murrayfield where we were staying in the shearers' quarters. We were greeted by Uncle Rodney, who welcomed us to country and spoke to us about indigenous history and the land we were on. He took us down to the stone quarry and talked to us about stone tools.

After lunch we were joined by Luke, who showed us how to make spears, and we were soon removing the bark from straight lengths of Dogwood and Stringy Bark with knives, hammers and files. Then carving the tips with an axe and hardening the wood in the fire, as well as sanding the handle smooth.

We had the best dinner ever (thank you wonderful Zyra). It rained heavily overnight, so no chance of star gazing sadly, as had been the plan to round out our Astronomy Main Lesson.

In the morning Luana and her daughter Jamaya arrived, they taught us to make string, twisting two strands of twine together. As well as showing us beautiful shell necklaces. As it was still raining we ventured into the smelly shearing shed for some dancing, Luana and Jamaya showing us how to dance as Moon birds (Mutton birds).

Before heading to the ferry, we visited the Mutton bird and Penguin rookery and The Neck. We watched with growing excitement as Luke showed us mutton birding. He reached into the burrow, pulling out a chick as quick as lightning, showing us the bird before returning it safely to its burrow. We learnt to check for snack tracks and that penguins will latch on while mutton birds peck, peck, peck.

The bus ride back to school was noisy and crazy (sorry John, they were stealing our hats and shoes), but luckily we drove straight onto the ferry.It was a wonderful and interesting camp, I can't believe how much was squeezed into two days! A huge round of applause to everyone who made it what it was! And lots of thanks to Shawn, Zyra, Frank, John, Uncle Rodney, Luke and Luana.

Written by Charlotte
Class 6 Student

Parents and Friends Association

Connecting with the Tarremah Community.
There are many ways you can connect with others in the Tarremah community. Come along to any of the below offerings:

Every week during school term:
Craft and Community Mornings - Wednesdays from 8:45am - Hall foyer. Come for tea and coffee, a children's play corner, conversations, craft and other creative projects. You can bring your own craft project to work on, or simply come for a chat. No crafting skills required. All parents, carers and young children are welcome.

Thursday Night Futsal - All parents are welcome to join a social game in the School Hall. Every week runs subject to numbers, so please contact Craig via craigtipping07@gmail.com if you would like to be involved.

Social Dig, Friday mornings from 9am - Help Sophy in the veggie gardens. All ages and abilities are welcome. Email sophy.millard@tarremah.tas.edu.au for more details.
Tarremah Clothing Share - There is a tall hanging rack, located next to the lost property rack, on the Honeysuckle verandah for families to swap and share school appropriate clothing. Please donate what your family has finished with, and/or take what your family can use. If your donation has not been taken after a few weeks, please collect it to help keep the rack tidy. Thank you to ECC families for setting this up. In your own way, at times that work for you:

Tarremah growers - Join to support the school garden and the Spring Fair plant stall. Join the WhatsApp community and lend your skills in a way that works for you. Contact the P and F (tarremahpandf@gmail.com) for more information.

Tarremah Crafters and Makers - Create, make, share and donate Steiner aligned hand craft, using natural materials to reflect our natural world. Join the WhatsApp community or connect in person on Wednesday mornings in the hall foyer after drop-off during term. Donate your crafts to raise funds for the school, and create wonder for children at the Spring Fair and seasonal school markets. Volunteer your time to work in the craft room on fair day, or at the P and F stall at our seasonal markets. Contact the P and F for more information (tarremahpandf@gmail.com).

New community building initiatives:
Are you already growing the Tarremah community in another way, or is this something you would like to do? Do you have plans to meet regularly with other Tarremah parents and carers? If you would like to have your community activity included in this list to share with others, please reach out to the P and F committee (tarremahpandf@gmail.com).

Are you curious about the Tarremah Parents and Friends Association, interested in being more involved, but weren't ready to join the committee this year? The Tarremah P and F committee meets every month during term time, if you are interested in joining us for a meeting please email tarremahpandf@gmail.com for more information. We look forward to hearing from you and sharing the work that we do.

Our wonderful Harvest Celebration

It was so wonderful to gather as a school community - students, staff and parents, to acknowledge the shifting rhythms of the year. Celebrating the last of summer's joyous warmth and gathering as a school community, to prepare for the gnomes to go underground as we anticipate the long winter ahead. There was much singing, gathering of produce, playing Harvest games and Dancing into the afternoon to keep us feeling warm for a long time ahead!

We would like to thank the following people for making the day such a wonderful success:

- Amanda Pearn for bringing an indigenous perspective to the festival this year, reminding us of how this country's ancestors cared for the land and worked with the seasons to provide for their families.
- Gina did another wonderful job teaching us and then leading us in singing our Harvest Songs during our time together. Such energy and joy in song will sustain us for a long time!
- Marie and Karen for organising the donated produce into a beautiful mandala and packaging this up for the Bethlehem house team to take back to their shelters.
- The staff for running the Harvest Games and keeping everyone safe whilst having fun in the (limited) sun!
- The P&F for cooking up a BBQ storm and holding the space for the afternoon Family Dance.
- The Band for providing us with live music to dance to! It is amazing to find out the talent that calls Tarremah home!
- And finally, to Tracey and Gerrard for leading the family dance into the afternoon. It was such a beautifully gentle and fun way to spend our afternoon together!

We are really looking forward to doing it all again next year!

The Harvest Committee