Tarremah Steiner School

MAY 29 | ISSUE 7, 2026

Tarremah Times

Parade of Lights

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:

Tues 2 & Wed 3 June
Classes 3, 4, 5 & 6 Bike Education

Wed 3 June
School Tour

Wed 3 June
Heartwarmers Café

Thurs 4 June
Online Community Education (in last issue)

Mon 8 June
Public Holiday

Thurs 11 June
Online Community Education (page 6)

Thurs 18 June
Early Childhood Centre Winter Festival

Fri 19 June
Winter Spiral (page 4)

Thurs 25 June
Class 10 Cake Stall

Tues 30 June & Wed 1 July
Class 10 present *King Lear*

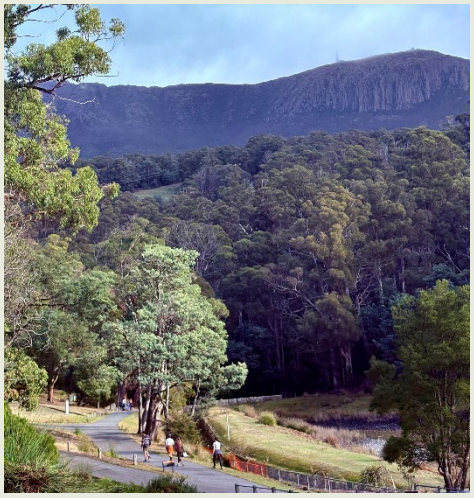
Parade of Lights

We had a wonderfully full community presence at our Parade of Lights last Friday night. Parents, past students and friends gathered, to contribute to the feeling of our beautiful festival. Class Ten parents prepared some sweet and warming refreshments, allowing us to gather and connect before Amanda Pearn welcomed us to this beautiful, historied land that we are privileged to gather on. Michael shared a very special local story from the book Taraba about 'Luina' (the blue wren). In the ancient Spirit world Moihernee and Dromerdeene had a serious quarrel. On his first visit to earth to reconcile with his brother the gentle Dromerdeene is set upon by Moihernee's fearsome Spirit beasts. After Luina, a tiny grey bird, rescues him, Dromerdeene transforms the little creature into a beautiful blue wren. So many people were present around the children to enrich their experience of this time and place. In the darkness, with her warm and buoyant bearing, Gina supported all our beautiful singing.

The children had lovingly created their lanterns, which are made as a gesture toward carrying our individual lights (burning brighter together), into the darkness of the coming winter. Class Nine portrayed the potency of the lurking dragon, who was lured into submission with the force of our united community, forged with fire! Our Class Ten students lit up their final Parade of Lights and wove a powerful and mesmerising firestick performance. The firestick routine is the culmination of so much choreography, focus and social awareness. The students need to feel into each of the others and make their measured movements in relation to the whole class – it is much harder than Class 10 made it look.

It was wonderful to experience our festival in the Secondary School amphitheatre, which was able to accommodate us all snugly. I would like to deeply thank and acknowledge the festival committee (Bel, Brett, Hayley, Kim, and Lauren) for the care and consideration they put toward reflecting on some of the challenges for the children in previous years, making the evening a more immersive and reverent experience. I am so grateful for the efforts of this group, and to all of you who came along and were involved.

Mandy Silversides
Education Facilitator



Classes 7 and 8 Orienteering day at The Waterworks

Orienteering is an annual activity at Tarremah.One big difference in 2026 was incorporating the day in a very thorough Main Lesson in Mapping, facilitated by the Class 8 Guardian, Lindel.

Last Wednesday, on a chilly May day, the Class 7 and 8 students worked together in groups of 4 to find orienteering stations or markers scattered throughout the Waterworks Reserve.

All teachers were really impressed with how they supported each other, especially in locating some of the harder ones!

A big thank you to Frank Toman who gave up his day to facilitate the routes, and of course to Lindel, Eden and Marie for supporting their students.

John Correy
Outdoor Education Teacher

ECC Lantern Walk

The Eary Childhood Centre were blessed with chilly but perfect weather conditions for their Lantern Walk.

After listening to a story, the children carried their hand made lanterns into the darkness, escorted by their parents. They followed a path lit by pumpkins, hand carved by families, of an array of designs, to the fire. All then gathered around the fire to sing lantern songs.

It was a magical evening for the children. Delighted gasps were heard as sparks flew. The circles of glowing lanterns around the fire are a joyful sight to behold. What a gift for the adults to be in the moment with the children, experiencing the evening through their eyes. A warm, nourishing and community time was shared by all.

Special Musical Request for the Winter Spiral

The Music department is looking to borrow a small range of Tibetan singing bowls to use in our winter spiral to assist in creating an ethereal soundscape along with our crystal glasses with water creating various pitches for some of our 9/10 students to use with care. If you have one you wouldn't mind lending for the duration of leading up to and the event itself, we'd greatly appreciate it and would store and use it with great care!

We're open to using other ethereal sounds in combination if you think you have something special at home. Think icicles, gentle twinkling, hums and background drones....

Please contact Gina Rose : ginar@tarremah.tas.edu.au if you are in a position to lend such a fabulous item to soothe us in mid-winter!

Gina Rose
Music Teacher

Prep Bush Day

Each Friday, our prep children step gently into the beauty and wonder of Bush Day, where nature becomes both companion and teacher. With our trolley laden with morning tea, a hand-washing station, cosy mat, first aid kit and the all-important vegetable peel "whittlers", myself and the children along with our beloved Jo and Luci, wind our way down to the New Forest. I take out my key and unlock the magic stump before we all quietly walk in to begin our day. Enveloped by our magic fairy fence and beneath the shelter of tall trees, the children are free to explore and imagine; play rising naturally from the earth beneath their feet.

Sticks become tools, shelters, or walking staffs for brave adventurers. Stones are gathered like treasures, leaves become potions and artworks, and our beloved Octopus tree holds stories and lets imaginations unfurl just like its many, tangled branches. The children climb, create, negotiate, discover, and dream together, guided by curiosity and the changing rhythms of the seasons.

Bush Day (or Steph Day as it is affectionately called) offers space for the children to truly connect - with the land, with one another, and with themselves. We notice tiny insects carrying great burdens, listen to birdsong drifting through the trees, and feel the warmth of sunlight dancing through the branches. Without the weight of explanation, we simply wonder. In these gentle moments, confidence grows quietly, friendships deepen, and resilience blossoms.

There is something deeply joyful in watching children immersed in open-ended play within the natural world. Bush Day nurtures imagination, wonder, and belonging, reminding us of the richness that unfolds when children are given time, freedom, and nature's gentle invitation to explore.

This is the second year that Tarremah has offered a bush day for our Preps, and it is my absolute privilege to walk my Fridays with my little bush sprites.

Steph Phillips
Prep Teacher

Class 6 Brassicas and Tarremah Crop Rotation Program

Early in Term 1, the 2025 Class 3 garlic crop bed was cleared and prepared by the garden volunteers for the very first rotation of crops by class 6 gardeners. Class 6 planted the bed out with around 7 different varieties of brassica then quickly covered them with mesh to protect the babies from cabbage moth caterpillars. Class 6 will now continue to cycle through the nutrient centred crop rotation following brassicas with lighter feeding root crops (potatoes, carrots, beetroot, etc) then a year of building and tending to a big compost pile in Class 8. This compost will then support a heavy feeding corn, bean and cucurbit (pumpkins, squash and cucumber) crop in summer followed by green manure and finally tomatoes in their Class 9 summer.

This crop rotation practice allows students to experience the higher yield and lower workload available with team projects. They will also explore the impact of farming the soil, rather than growing plants randomly, by planting crops into their ideal soil nutrient levels and pH. Class 6 have taken to this practice well and dug into the hard work with a playful vigour that I'm sure the plants are appreciating. We are crossing our fingers that we can start harvesting before too long.

As always, please feel free to come and watch the crops grow in the real world and remember to shut the gate once you leave.

Sophy Millard
Horticulture Teacher

Winter Spiral 2026

Dear Parents,

One of the cornerstones of Steiner education is the acknowledgement of the connection between human beings and the rhythm of natural life. To celebrate the winter season, Tarremah will hold its traditional Winter Spiral.

We welcome families to join us at the Winter Spiral, on Friday, 19th June. We consider this event important for all children to attend, especially when young children are looking forward to pairing up with their older buddies. Please take your child directly to their class at 5:00pm, before proceeding to the hall ready for a 5:20pm start. Please dress your child appropriately for a cold evening walking close to candles. Also please be mindful of the distracting nature of flash photography, torches, neon glow sticks and mobile phones.

It is a night of reverence and beauty. The children spiral into the circle in darkness building a spiral of light as they walk out. At the conclusion of this event, please collect your children as soon as they leave the Hall, making your way directly to your car maintaining the mood of quiet reverence.

We look forward to seeing you at this special occasion.

The soul will most effectively find itself when it lives in association and contact with the year in its course, when the change from one week to another exerts some influence on it...the soul should feel itself healthily at one with the course of nature. Rudolf Steiner

Kind Regards,

The School Executive and Winter Spiral Committee

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).

Interested in getting involved?
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.

Spring is coming.
As the weather cools and the nights grow longer it is time to think like a gnome and start preparing for the Spring Fair. The longer nights provide a wonderful opportunity to start working on your hand-crafted treasures for the much-loved children's tent, and for items to sell in the craft room.

All Tarremah community members are welcomed and encouraged to donate crafts - so if you (or your 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. Not sure where to start or what to make, feel free to join other parents on Wednesday mornings in the hall foyer; there is always tea and coffee. Need inspiration? Books are available from the school library or discover a world of Stiener inspired makers via the web.

SOCIAL & FAMILY INTERACTIONS

for children with additional needs

By Barbara Baldwin

How do we help children coping with sensory overload & the changing situations in the environment?

Please forward any questions you have to steinerparented@gmail.com which will be woven into the talk.

Barbara Baldwin
B.Sc.Speech Pathology (Germany); Dip. Special Education (UK/Germany); Dip Chirophonetic Therapy (Austria)
Barbara is committed to raising awareness in the area of social inclusion in all ages and stages of life.
As a speech pathologist and special/social educator Barbara has experience in many areas of education, having worked as a teacher/educator, therapist and consultant in the area of special education and inclusion in Waldorf schools in many countries as well as in mainstream public and private education. Over the past 20 years her work has focussed predominantly on developing trainings in Inclusive Education in Australia and various countries in Asia. Through lectures, workshops and seminars she has contributed to a Steiner oriented understanding of special needs throughout life, from early childhood, to integration and inclusion in schools, to transition to work, vocational training and independent living.
Among her special interests are working with the 12 Senses, working with teachers on nurturing an understanding of constitutional polarities and working with parents in appreciating the idiosyncrasies of exceptional children. Her innovative and refreshingly modern approach is accessible and practical.

Booking: https://events.humanitix.com/social-and-family-interactions

Thursday June 11
7.30pm, On Zoom