Tarremah Steiner School

AUGUST 21 | ISSUE 11, 2026

# Tarremah Times

Class 7 Medieval Banquet

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 24 – Fri 28 August**
Book Week

**Tues 25 August**
Book Week Assembly

**Tues 1 September**
Class 7 Climbing

**Wed 2 September**
School Tour

**Wed 2 September**
Heartwarmers Café

**Thurs 3 September**
Tuckshop available instead of Fri 4/9

**Fri 4 September**
Student Free Day/ Moderation Day

**Mon 7 – Fri 11 September**
Class 10 Survey Camp

**Tues 22 September**
Spring Festival

**Thurs 24 September**
ECC Spring Festival

## Pastime With Goode Company!

Class Seven has been very busy bringing about a medieval banquet! The scent of cinnamon-spiced baked pears filled the hall, dances were practiced, and armour was donned. For Class Seven, this was their second history Main Lesson! Three weeks of art, music, song, poetry recital, dance and cooking from the Middle Ages, and the Age of Discovery, culminating in a sumptuous banquet, enjoyed by the students, the staff and the parents.

We heard tales of Arthurian Knights and codes of chivalry, stories of the Holy Lands and the emerging religion of Islam. The absolute power wielded by the Catholic Church and the rule of Kings like Charlemagne in the name of Christendom were most important themes. Songs were sung in Old English as we discussed how The Battle of Hastings almost brought the English language to an end. We also looked at how Marco Polo, thanks to his book chronicling his journey through Mongolian Ruled Asia, popularised exploration and discovery. We played board games devised by the students, to reflect an expedition of their choosing, with our Grandparent visitors. We looked at the delightfully gross concept of the Four Humours and it's relationship with food, the temperaments and body fluids.

In Art we looked at the rules for heraldry devices and coats of arms. The students made heraldry devices that encapsulated each of them as a person.

Each student's shield was present and displayed on the walls adorning the banquet hall.

After weeks of poetry recital, dance practice, singing and painting, the children, their parents, and the staff all dressed up in their finest medieval outfits and assembled at "The Great Tarremah Hall."

We were greeted outside by the plague doctor who ensured proper hygiene and within by jugglers, acrobats and jesters. The banquet was served with a parade of the rich variety of medieval dishes on offer, like duck in orange sauce, rabbit in syrup, battered parsnips and apples, and marzipan, moulded into pleasing shapes. The students showcased their talents, singing and performing. The Tarremah Troubadours played while our dance master, David 'Odd-Socks', taught us all how to dance the 'Official Brawl' and The Goddesses dance involving the infamous, manoeuvre known by the albeit a-historic name "The Banana Cast."

After the dancing, there was a second parade of even more dishes, including convent meatballs and aromatic spinach and spiced biscuits and pears baked in red wine sauce. The warm spiced

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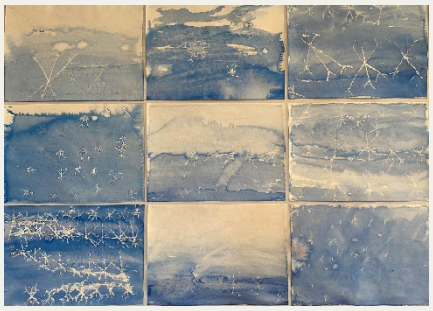
# Class 1 Winter Main Lesson



In their recent Winter Main Lesson, Class 1 students connected with the natural world through lots of outdoor play, painting, drawing, craft and Nature stories. After listening to a story about an echidna who was looking for a warm place to sleep for the winter, Class 1 collected grasses, leaves, twigs and pieces of bark from the school environment. In the story, the Winter Wind wove these into a blanket and tucked it around the echidna. Class 1 worked together to weave theirs into a large winter "blanket" and made echidnas using clay and sticks for the spikes.
During outside play Class 1 kept warm wearing coats, beanies and scarves and created houses and other places of shelter using bark, sticks and leaves.
In other stories from the lesson, King Winter carried his sceptre and spread white across the land with his pockets full of snow, while his helper Jack Frost painted beautiful patterns in the frost and ice. The Class 1s created a mini world to retell these stories with felt figurines.

*Rosie O'Rourke*
Class 1 Teacher

# Farewell from Michael Rowland

Hello everyone. I have left Tarremah after nearly 10 years in heaven. I have now come to a difficult point in my life, but one where I realise it is time to explore a new chapter. Strangely, I am called to move to teach in central Victoria; I have family there and it is in a way a returning I must do, and don't fully understand why.

When I came to Tarremah in 2016 I found myself back home. My children were here in the late 90's and I was then an active parent; so, my sense of home was grounded in that. I have had many jobs, but this has certainly been a profound and wonderful experience. Employed as the Horticulture teacher I decided to 'grow' the subject by coordinating the building of the infrastructure in and around the existing garden fence. The 2017 classes 8,9 and 10 designed the layout including the paths. Then, with the generous support and donations of time and materials by the community, the children and I were able to create what is there today.

The bees are here and a forge now exists for the next teacher; Sophy has expanded the garden to become a beautiful place. In 2016 I established the Susteinerbles with the help of the AYCC; the children then attended student conferences and drove the fundraising for the solar re-powering of the school with guidance from Rosie who took over in 2020. Returning for 2 years to teach Woodcraft has been nourishing for me. This school is truly a very special place with very special staff. It is an organism which has been built with care and thoughtful planning; this holding has been carried by so many for over 35 years now. I have been very privileged to part of it.

This departure has not been an easy decision, and I will miss the children more than you know. I love them as my own and will hold them in my heart for a long time; I don't want to leave them, but I must. I want to express my gratitude to the staff for their unquestioning support and guidance over the years; allowing my creativity to flourish. I also want to acknowledge the wonderful parent community, who perhaps without realising, hold the school with their belief and support of The College of Teachers. Around our circle are our Angels guiding us, who are in-turn guided by the higher beings.

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apple drink was replaced with the exotic and refreshingly cool Persian delicacy of Pomegranate 'Sharbat.' (Originally made from snow from the Zagros Mountains.) This was a welcome relief for all the dancers who had worked up a sweat!

Afterwards, the students by candlelight presented a sincere rendition of the Arthurian Tale of 'The Lady of Shallot.' David Odd-Socks had us complete the evening with a final dance where the only rule was 'whatever you do, don't let go!'

It was an incredible event. Many thanks to the musicians, such as Emily Lygin-Wolfe, and her Tarremah Troubadours, including some help from students in Class 9. Many thanks to David and Cathy for their displays and instructions with the dances. Thanks to Gina for helping with the songs, and to Page our Teaching Assistant who helped out tremendously in preparing the evening and created the most fabulous marzipan.

Thanks also to the parents for cooking such fabulous dishes and being so willing to put on a bunch of wonderful outfits and give the dances a go! And finally, thanks go to Class 7 who banded together so well, to put on a wonderful event. They truly deported themselves as incredibly courteous, and industrious, squires and maids!

***Brett, (The Thane of Tait)***
Secondary History Teacher

# 2027 Term Dates

**Term 1:** Tuesday 2 February to Friday 9 April
Easter: Friday 26 March to Tuesday 30 March

**Term 2:** Tuesday 27 April to Friday 25 June
Student Free Day: Monday 26 April

**Term 3:** Tuesday 20 July to Friday 24 September
Student Free Day: Monday 19 July
Student Free Day: Friday 3 September

**Term 4:** Tuesday 12 October to Thursday 9 December
Student Free Day: Monday 11 October
School Holiday: Friday 22 October
Student Free Day: Monday 8 November

# Class 9 Main Lesson - Telecommunication and Grandparents Day

Class 9 has had a busy two weeks exploring telecommunication and how it has changed the way people communicate, connect and live together.

The students began by using slinkies to demonstrate two different types of waves - longitudinal and transverse waves which are fundamental to the way information is transmitted in telecommunication systems. They then moved into a series of practical activities, including making a carbon microphone, a speaker and electrical circuits, allowing them to investigate the physics behind the invention of the telephone and how sound can be transformed into an electrical signal and back again.

Mathematics has been an important part of the Main Lesson, with students applying wave equations and Ohm's Law to everyday telecommunications. These mathematical problems have helped connect the abstract ideas of physics with the practical technologies they have been exploring.

On Grandparents and Special Friends Day, we read the story of Samuel Morse and the human need to communicate over long distances more quickly. Students learned about Morse's development of an early telegraph system, which allowed electrical pulses to be sent through wires to communicate messages.

The presence of our grandparents brought another dimension to the lesson. Some grandparents shared their stories about what communication was like when they were young and how they communicated with family and friends both nearby and far away.

Together, students and grandparents then worked to wire up Morse code boxes and use electrical pulses to communicate simple words. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to experience an early form of telecommunication while also hearing firsthand stories about how communication has changed across generations.

***Lindel Gass***
Mathematics Teacher

# Grandparents and Special Friends Bring the School Community to Life

On Friday of Week Two, our school almost doubled in size! The classrooms were filled with the voices of children, grandparents and special friends as we welcomed many members of our wider school community for a very special morning together. It was wonderful to see the school buzzing with conversation, laughter, curiosity and connection.

The morning began with a short concert by the students, beautifully brought together by Gina, giving our visitors the opportunity to hear the children share some of the songs and work they have been enjoying in their classes. From there, our grandparents and special friends were invited to spend an extended time in the classrooms, getting a glimpse into the children's everyday school life. They also had the opportunity to visit the Class 8 projects which were set up in the hall, ask the students some questions and discover the fascinating goals they had achieved. Many visitors made their way through several different classes, joining in wherever they went. There were songs to sing, crafts to make, board games to play, maths challenges and quizzes to tackle. Grandparents added their own stories, knowledge and enthusiasm to the classrooms, and in return discovered that they still had plenty to learn from the children too.

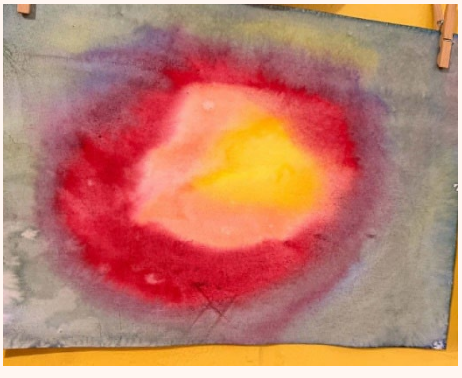
The morning continued with a very special morning tea, much of which had been prepared by the students themselves. It makes one think of the early years with pretend cafés and mud-pies — only this time, the children had baked for their guests and were serving them in the classroom. Grandparents and students were able to sit together, share the food and enjoy one another's company. It was a simple but very meaningful act of hospitality and gratitude: an opportunity for the children to say, in their own way, *thank you for being such an important part of our lives*. We hope this will become a new tradition that can be carried forward in the years to come.

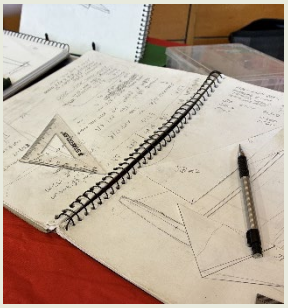
Behind the scenes, there was plenty of careful organisation to make such a large morning run smoothly. Our Class 8, 9 and 10 students deserve a special thank you for their fantastic work with the set-up, guest guidance and clean-up. Their help meant that everything was ready to welcome our visitors and that the school could return smoothly to its usual rhythm afterwards.

All in all, it was a joyful morning of sharing across generations. For a few hours, our classrooms became places where children, teachers, grandparents and special friends could all learn from one another. The school felt bigger, warmer and wonderfully connected — a large and lovely community coming together.

***Zyra Greenleaf***
On behalf of the Grandparent's & Special Friend's Day Committee

# Class 2 Artwork





# Inspiration and Celebration- Class 8 Project Presentations

The Class 8 project presentations are a celebration of curiosity, commitment, and the kind of learning that doesn't fit neatly into a textbook. It's the kind of learning that asks students to consider what and who inspires them.

From outrigger kayaks, hyper-realism in art, an architectural designed house to climbing the highest peaks in Tasmania, this year's students of Class 8 presented a fantastic range of projects to the students, staff, parents and mentors last Thursday. As was explained on the day, each year we are treated to some *high-quality inspiration.* The younger students watch on thinking about what they would like to do for their Class 8 project when the time comes.

Since the beginning of the year, our Class 8 students took on a challenge that was bigger than a project. They were asked to choose a mentor — someone who represents qualities they admire, values they want to develop, or a path they hope to explore. They documented their journey: they had questions, they had obstacles to overcome, they probably had moments when things weren't quite going to plan mixed with moments of exhilaration when they were 'in the zone" doing something they felt a passion for. This was never about producing a perfect product. It was the start of these students becoming who they really are… who they are becoming.

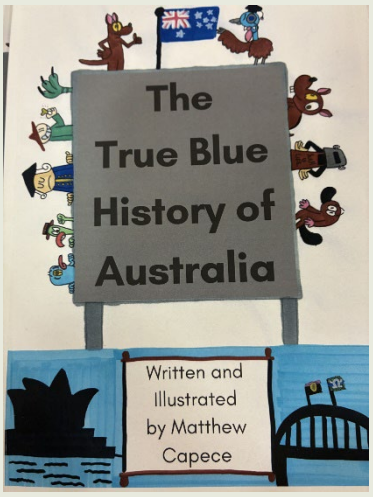
In choosing a mentor the students learn that a mentor isn't just someone older or more experienced. A mentor is someone who shows you what's possible. Someone who helps you see your strengths more clearly and who challenges you to grow. Documenting their journey through regular journal entries, they have the chance to discover that reflection can be powerful. When you write down your thoughts, your progress, your setbacks, you begin to understand yourself a bit better. Finally, by presenting their projects to the community the students learn that sharing your story takes confidence. It takes preparation and practice. And it takes a willingness to stand in front of others and say, "This is what I've learned, and this is why it matters."

At the beginning of the year when we had our weekly "check in with Class 8 project sessions" —many students were unsure of what a "mentor" really meant, or indeed, if they even needed one. Some were unsure of how to begin, and whether their ideas were "good enough." Some students will tell you that deciding on a project is hard and that sometimes you start doing one thing and then end up doing something completely different. And that's ok. As the months went on, there was the opportunity for them to realise that learning is not something that happens *to* them. Rather, it is something they can take responsibility for and create opportunities from. By the time they reached presentation night it was clear that their projects were not just summaries of what they did. They are windows into who they are becoming. Each student has taken a unique path, and each path deserves to be celebrated.

We are so lucky that Tarremah allows space for this experience of self-discovery through independent projects. It is always such a joy to see the curiosity, creativity, commitment and confidence that deep diving into one's passion brings to young hearts and minds.

Well done Class 8!

***Sharon Clarke***
Secondary Student Support Co-Ordinator



TARREMAH STEINER SCHOOL

# Spring Fair 2026

*SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2026*

The most magical time of the year is coming, now is for preparation.

Key Dates

- **Monday 24th August**
  Treasure Trove donations open (see below)
- **Now until Friday 16th October**
  Hand craft donations (see below)
- **Sunday 18th October**
  Spruce up the school working bee (details to come)
- **Saturday 31st October – Set up day!**
  - Flower donations delivered to the welcome arch
  - Cakes for the cake stall to the hall kitchen can be donated on the day (must be in sealed containers)

## Treasure Trove

Planning winter wardrobe culls and spring cleaning, please save your donations for our treasure trove. The red bin will be at Eagles Drift (outside the school veggie garden) from 24th of August.

## Lemons, lemons, lemons

The lemonade stall needs lemons for this delicious fair staple, please deliver your donations to the ECC veranda.

Keep an eye on the Lemon-o-meter!

## Donation Requests

### Lemons

Deliver to ECC Verandah

### Craft items

*(p&f stall and children's tent)*

### Good quality clothes

Collection bins up at 'The Eagles Nest' outside the garden

### Plants

Late October

### Cut flowers

Delivered to the ECC Verandah
Saturday 31st October

### Cakes

Deliver to School Hall
1st November

# Spring Fair 2026

## Plants

This year's plant stall looks forward to receiving your donations in late October until then if you are keen to get involved in the plants stall please contact the P and F inbox tarremahpandf@gmail.com, we look forward to growing with you.

## Craft for the Craft room

Our craft room's stock levels are low, donations of more complex hand crafted items would be gratefully received (single items welcome) to showcase the beauty and wonder of a Steiner inspired childhood.

## Children's tent craft

All families are invited to contribute hand crafted items, petite in size, simple and inexpensive to make, mostly for the Children's Tent; these donations bring joy and wonder. Making multiples of the same small item is perfect. Thinking of things you may have seen around the school, at our markets, or your own children have enjoyed is a great place to start. Also feel free to contact the P and F inbox for support. tarremahpandf@gmail.com

We would love to help you find something that fits your skills/enjoyments or trouble shoot if you have an idea you want to sound out.

Crafting for the children's tent - Lauren, Melodie, Kala, Anna, Morgan, Leah, Maike and Tracey (behind the camera!).

### Some guidelines:

- We want to be kind to the earth so please stick to natural materials (wool, silk, cotton, wood, glass, clay etc.)
- OR recycled goods ie. Buttons, recycled fabrics etc
- Minimise/be wise with the use of new plastics - acrylic paint or metallic thread/bead to accent is ok but please refrain from heavy use of new plastics ie. Fimo clay, acrylic wool or pompoms, non-biodegradable glitter, googly eyes etc
- We tend to follow when crafting "Avoid the glue if a stitch could do!"

When finished, please pop items in the box under the table in the office.

Thank you so much for contributing to this treasured spring fair activity, we hope creating these little items brings you as much joy as they will bring the children.

**Booking form - copy and paste into your browser:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeuzupb-jfbu6FTDDisSpir-KW8K1u9biY243be5mbeOvHjhw/viewform