Wow it’s days like yesterday that help me to believe I have the best job in the world! Our students returned to school with huge smiles on their faces, happy to be back with friends and ready for a new school year, they looked fantastic in their uniforms and seemed really keen to learn. Walking through our classrooms, I was met with excited faces, welcoming greetings, happy stories of holiday antics and kids ready for a new school year. It truly was fantastic.

We have 25 new students attending Yolla District High School this year, plus 24 new kinder children starting their education journey. Our new students were looked after by their Yolla classmates, and genuinely seemed happy to be with us. Welcome to these students and their families. We are looking forward to getting to know you.

We also welcomed 3 new staff members., Miss Tahlia Stubbs joins us for two terms on our grade 4/5, Ms Annette Hawkins has joined us from Ridgley Primary, and is enjoying our grade 2/3 children’s eager caring nature. Also Ms Jo Grace is working as a teacher assistant while Ms Susie Hardstaff is on long service leave. Mrs Karen Harman is in our library for 3 weeks whilst Mrs Julie Kuzmic is also on her long service leave. We welcome you all and know you will enjoy being part of our team at Yolla District High School.

Mr Brendan Cocks surprised us all at the end of 2015 with news that he was leaving teaching to embark on his own business. We thank him for his years at Yolla District High School, the wonderful learning experiences he provided for our children and his contributions to our school. We wish him well.

We would like to congratulate Miss Nikkila Popowski on being acknowledged by the Waratah - Wynyard Council and community with a ‘Young Citizen of the Year Award’ on Australia Day. It’s wonderful that the wider community appreciate Nikkila’s amazing contributions and generous nature, as much as we do. Congratulations Nikkila.

Our Early Childhood Water Awareness Program is starting soon, so we ask our parents to please complete the numerous forms that are required by our Department, so we can provide the best and safest program for your children. This is a fantastic program and is run again this year by Mrs Michelle Poulter. We are glad to welcome Michelle back for the two week program.

Parents who would like to be involved in assisting in any way with our school programs, including the Water Awareness Program, will need to have a Good Character clearance. Please collect a form from our office if you are thinking of being part of our school programs. (For the Water Awareness Program parents your forms are included in your package.)
Also included in this newsletter is a notice from the Tasmanian Police regarding child safety. Please read this and discuss with your children all aspects of being safe. You may also have heard that some of our schools have received bomb hoax calls over the last few days. Please be assured that if we were to receive such a call we will follow Department of Education procedures to ensure the safety of your children.

On Monday at 9.15 am we will hold a short assembly to hear our Student Executive Council and House Captains recite the pledge to their fellow students and be given their councillor jumpers. We are looking forward to ‘being served’ by this great group of young people. Congratulations Mani Gregson, Emily Mallett, Erin Brown, Rhianni Campbell and Angel Courtney Student Executive Council. House captains Amy Symes, Eli Whish – Wilson, Aidan Radford and Jackson Furley. We know our school is in good hands. Parents, please feel free to come along to this and any assembly we have. We love sharing these times with you.

We will hold our “Welcome to Yolla District High School” open evening in the next few weeks. Where you can chat with our staff, wander through our school and meet other families.

Police have received two recent reports of strangers approaching children in the Invermay and Riverside area. Police are reminding parents as school returns to talk with their children about stranger danger to ensure their safety.
Police encourage parents to reiterate personal safety messages to their children:
• Walk with friends in pairs or groups, and be aware of your surroundings. Report any suspicious behaviour to the school, parents or police.
• Try and remember a description of the vehicle or distinctive clothing or a registration number and call police on 131 444.

Our main message is that there is no need to panic but to be aware of your own personal safety.
Police encourage members of the public to report any matters of this nature to police on 131 444.

Visited the School
Due to Education Policy and WH&S requirements, all visitors to our school need to sign in and out at the front office. If you are coming into our school please remember to do this. If you have any questions or concerns about this please contact us at school. Thank you.

Duty of Care
We wish to remind parents that our staff do not have Duty of Care for students who are on our school grounds before 8.30am and after 3.30pm (or until the last bus leaves).
School Uniform – Footwear & Jewellery

Just as a reminder the Tasmanian Education Department states “Tasmanian government schools strongly encourage wearing the school uniform. Wearing a uniform identifies your child with their school and places all students on the same level in terms of clothing.” Our policy states “We recommend sturdy black school shoes but unobtrusive joggers are permitted. Work boots are acceptable only if clean and worn with long trousers.”

We encourage the wearing of black school shoes or joggers readily available from local retailers. These are much safer and much more supportive of growing bodies. We do not recommend the wearing of the ‘ballet’ type shoes worn by some girls and skate shoes worn by our boys, as these are loose and are not considered safe by WH&S standards. If students are wearing the skate-type shoes, they must be laced up tightly so the shoe is firmly fitted to the foot. Our students need to be able to walk and run safely without fear of tripping and being hindered by loose shoes. It is also reported that in later adult years back pain and problems can be attributed to the wearing of shoes that do not offer appropriate support during childhood. We understand that you may have just purchased shoes for this year, and we certainly do not expect families to go now and buy another pair, but we do hope that when you need to buy the next pair, please consider these safety aspects in your selection.

Regarding the wearing of jewellery, we ask that it be kept to a minimum and be discreet. One bracelet on each arm if there is no watch being worn, or one bracelet and watch are acceptable. These should not impede handwriting and should not be loose enough to catch on door handles or hooks, for WH&S standards. It is preferred that no rings be worn and dress rings are not permitted. Similarly a simple, discrete necklace may be worn. Earrings are also to be discrete, with sleepers being preferred. Long, dangly earrings are unsafe and spacers need gauges that sit flat within the ear. Protruding gauges are not acceptable. Other piercings also need discrete jewellery to be worn at school such as studs. All jewellery needs to be removed for PE lessons. The school cannot accept responsibility for lost or broken jewellery.

If you have any concerns or wish to discuss this with us, please contact the school.

Back to school road safety

Three lucky Tasmanian primary school children will win an iPad as part of a competition to promote school road safety.

The Stop, Look, Listen, Think campaign encourages children to do just that before crossing the road when school returns and throughout the year.

Children are most vulnerable when crossing a road to get on or off the school bus, or in or out of a car.

It is preferable for the drop off and pick up point to be on the same side of the road as the school or bus stop. Children should be guided by school crossing patrol officers but otherwise stop, look, listen and think before crossing the road.

It isn’t just pedestrians who should be careful. Drivers should take extra care around schools.

Drivers should adhere to the 40km/h limit speed in school zones or when school bus lights are flashing. If there is a lot of pedestrian, bike and vehicle traffic, a safe speed may be below 40km/h.

For more information about how to win one of the three iPads – one for each for the North-West, North and South – go to www.rsac.tas.gov.au/road safekids.
Burnie Concert Band
Junior Band Come and Try Day

Are you 8 years of age or over?

Would you like to try a musical instrument?

Come along to Burnie Concert Band’s Come & Try Day.

Thursday 11th February 2016 at 5pm.
Cooee Memorial Hall
Saundridge Road
Cooee

Musical instruments available for use on the day, but if you have your own instrument, bring it along.

For more information, contact David Turner on

Are you looking for a family friendly action sport?

**Sunday February 14th at 10am** we will be hosting our annual National Sign On Day! This is your chance to join our club and one of Australia’s fastest growing sports!

BMX is for everyone, from two-year-olds on mini-wheelers right through to 60+ veterans, we all ride BMX!

National Sign On Day is designed for YOU to come along and try out our exciting sport, free of charge! It’s a fun and exciting day that includes BMX riding, coaching and games.

If you enjoy the day (and we hope you do!), you can sign up with our club and join the BMX Australia family!

So what have you got to lose? Join us at the track!

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BURNIE WATERFRONT
SUMMER BEACH SERIES
EVERY SUNDAY FROM FEB 7 TO MARCH 20, 2016 12PM-4PM

FREE FAMILY EVENT
JUMPING CASTLE
ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL AGES
WATER ACTIVITIES with SEA-LYONS AQUATICS
Plus MUCH more

https://www.facebook.com/burniecouncil
www.burnie.net

Like our Facebook page to find out what activities will be taking place each Sunday.

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A non for profit community based club offering fun and fitness through an accredited gymnastics program.
The club operates out of Wynyard Showgrounds Facilities, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Contact Head Coach Nikkila on 0427490248 via text message or leave a message on our Facebook page Wynyard Gymnastics Club

We offer classes for all ages:
- Kinder gym 0-4
- Gym fun 4-7
- Gym skills 7-13
- Gym Skills advanced (Chosen by coaches)
- Level 1-4 Girls (Chosen by coaches)
- Junior, intermediate and senior Boys
- Cheerleading 5-12
- Teenagers 12+
- Fitness 12+
- Birthday Parties