Dear Parents,

The last week of term is here and term 1 seems to have flown by. It has been a term of hard work and achievement for the students, staff, Board and parent helpers and a well earned rest is due. Work will continue on curriculum, compliance and legislation during the teaching break and I feel the need once again to acknowledge the Board members for their unpaid service to Tallowood. I am in the position of being fully aware of just how complex and time consuming the task of bringing Tallowood School to compliance is and I am particularly awed by Anissa’s commitment and hard work and the sacrifices of her personal time and energy she gives to Tallowood. I can say in all sincerity that Anissa continues to be a central driving force in keeping Tallowood open. The other three Board members work full time so the lion’s share of the work falls on her. What we really need is more people on the Board who are willing to help carry the governance work. Please consider if this person may be you!

On this note I will reiterate an earlier letter I sent about communication channels at school. Board are not responsible for educational issues or day to day management decisions of the school. Please do not call Board members about these matters as this is not their mandate and to add questions and conversations about these things to their workload is unproductive. If you have any questions in relation to these areas I am very happy to speak with you so please contact me directly or by email.

CAR PARK TREES:

Many thanks to Dave, for both noticing that several trees in the car park were rotting at the base and posed a safety risk and for giving his time in felling them himself, thus saving the school a substantial amount of money.

On the subject of wood, does anyone have dry hard wood on their property that could be donated for the primary school fireplace? This would save the cost of buying wood to heat the primary classroom. Please let me know as I imagine we will be starting to use the fire sometime next term.
PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS:

CHANGE OF TIME FOR PARENT SHARING.

Please note that in my last Newsletter I announced that Friday 8th at 11.30 would be the time for the class to share our Morning Circle work with you. This will not be possible so the new time will be Thursday afternoon at 1pm for our Class Presentation followed by afternoon Tea. This presentation is a glimpse of the work we do in the Primary School each morning and will help you gain a fuller picture of our approach to the curriculum.

Term 2 is a 9 week term and our Main lesson blocks for Term 2 will be as follows:

Human Housing – Home and Hearth (The story of house building) (3 weeks)
Measurement Main Lesson (3 weeks)
Science Main Lesson – Fire (3 weeks) This will tie in with our Winter Festival and making our Festival lanterns.

In Steiner Schools, world wide there is a tradition of undertaking a building project on the school grounds during the building Main lesson. I would like to continue this tradition and have in mind building a simple wood fired pizza oven on the school grounds. I would need someone with the necessary skill who is willing to be a focal person for this project and work with me and the class. If you have the time and skill please contact me ASAP.

Of course if anyone else has an alternative idea for a building project I would love to hear from you.

WORKING BEE:

Please note that our working bee date to prepare the school for term 2 is Saturday 30th April at 9.30. Please bring a plate along and B’bq sausages will be provided. I will send out a reminder closer to the date.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about anything. I look forward to seeing you all soon,

Warm Wishes,

Sue