



# TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

29th May, 2020

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### REMOTE LEARNING MAY 2020



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### WE ARE BACK.....WELL HALF OF US ANYWAY!

Thank you everyone for what was a very welcome, smooth start back to school on Tuesday. It was just wonderful to see the children coming back, having had 6 weeks working remotely at home. The smiles on the children's faces were priceless and I suspect, secretly, on the parents faces as well as the remote learning period for prep-2 came to an end. We have been just rapt with how the children have come back, ready and eager to learn. This week has been very much about re-establishing routines in the classroom, letting the children re-acquaint themselves with each other, getting them out and running after 6 weeks, where they haven't been with each other. We are looking at this very much like a mini start of the year program that we do to commence the year.



We had a number of dilemmas leading up to our return. One of our school values is community yet all the advice we were getting was for parents not to be entering the yard, to help maintain social distancing. Yet that's not how we work as a school and being a school with a highway on one side and a train line on the other, it would have created other safety issues for 312 families all out on the street either sending their somewhat nervous children into the yard by themselves or trying to seek their families at the end of the day. You can imagine the messages and the flow of emails with well meant "advice" had we gone down that track.

Therefore, we had to create a flow in and out, trying to avoid adults walking back onto themselves, similar to what the supermarkets were trying to avoid with their one-way aisles. Hence Mrs Double's colour schemes and arrows on the map.



The best way of reducing the congestion was for you to:

- Arrange meeting and drop off points outside the school
- Use your vehicle to utilise the pick up and drop off bay in the carpark
- Walk in, and following the signage and arrows as laid out, and quickly walk out.

What was vital was that you had all done your homework and read how we were managing the foot traffic in and out of the school. Overall we were really pleased with how it went and everyone's understanding and patience. These have been extremely challenging times but I think as a society we have all been conditioned with the new way things are for the moment.

We will be very excited when we aren't having to set up barriers and tape each morning but for the foreseeable future, it is what it is.

Thank you for the return of all the Prep-2 devices on Monday. We were able to get the devices cleaned and sanitised ready for use in the classroom. We are asking all Grade 3-6 children to return their borrowed devices

between 10.00am and 12.00pm on Friday, June 5. This will give us a chance to get these also cleaned, sanitised and put back in the charging trolleys, ready for use. It was quite satisfying to be able to lend these devices out in the first place as these had been purchased from your voluntary contributions. Quite fitting that in a time of need, they were able to go back to you. Until then, our grade 3-6 are expected to continue with their remote learning up until Friday June 5. Their teachers are on site and continuing to provide content for the children to follow.

## **CLEANING and HYGIENE**

The school has been allocated another 6.5 hours of cleaning each day for the next 15 weeks at this stage. This is to wipe down tables, taps, sinks, door handles, light switches, playground equipment, basically any high use areas. This starts at 8.00am and concludes at 2.30pm each day.

The normal cleaning then starts at 3.30pm and alongside their normal shift, also clean and sanitise high use areas as well. The school will be sparkling by the end of all this.

Following guidelines, all drinking fountains are not to be used. We have either removed them and replaced them with taps or where they can't be removed, wrapped them in black plastic so they can't be used. Children are required to bring drink bottles to fill up at the newly installed taps.

We are emphasising hygiene with posters at every trough. Each trough has 2 bottles of soap that children are to use when washing their hands prior to entry into the classroom. Hence why putting in more taps has reduced queues of children lined up washing their hands.

Unfortunately, until further notice, we can't run assemblies, camps or excursions. We hope these are back on track soon, one step closer to returning to normality.

## **STUDENT REPORTS**

As is the case every year at this time, you will be receiving a report for your child outlining their progress in Semester 1, 2020, against the Victorian Curriculum. This Semester, the report will look different, as it is not possible to implement our standard report writing process.

We have received advice from the Department of Education and Training regarding modifications to the Semester 1 reporting. This advice takes into account the limitations on the ability of teachers to accurately assess student progress during the Home Learning period.

As a result of this advice, teachers at our school will not be providing progression points for each curriculum area.

The report will include:

- a description of the English and Mathematics areas from the Victorian Curriculum Prep-10 covered this Semester
- a succinct descriptive assessment of student learning progress, based on the English and Mathematics Achievement Standards from the Victorian Curriculum Prep-10
- a comment on how the student has adjusted to the remote learning environment, with reference to the Personal and Social Capability curriculum.

In addition to the student report, you will receive your child's self-reflection on their individual learning and achievements. The purpose of the student self-reflection is to enhance each student's capacity to:

- assess their progress;
- be actively involved in their own learning and clearly understand the purpose of the curriculum being taught and,
- understand themselves better as a learner and what they may take away from the remote learning period.

Due to the remote learning period, we won't be including an attendance page as we normally do. Reports will be sent home electronically to you on Friday June 19.

### **GRADE 5 CAMP**

This week, the grade 5 children would have been on camp to Derby Hill at Maldon. Obviously, this hasn't occurred. We were very keen to continue with a bike education theme but if/when we can go on camp, Derby Hill didn't have any vacancies this year.

We therefore have sourced another camp and that is Stringybark Lodge in Gembrook who can provide a bike education themed camp. So, should restrictions be lifted, the grade 5 children will go from Wednesday 28th to Friday 30th October 2020.

Let's hope we can get to go!

### **THE REMOTE LEARNING IN THE PAST 6 WEEKS**

On behalf of all of our teaching and support staff, I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to all of our parents and carers for all the support, encouragement, help and time you have put into remote learning at home. Stop for a moment and think about it. You were put in a position that none of us ever expected, and yet you worked so hard to make a go of it every day, while also trying to work from home in some cases or carry on with your normal lives. Your children continued to learn and grow, despite everything. Don't underestimate the importance of every small thing that you did, making a difference, and in the long term we will hopefully be able to look back and see this.

We have been proud to deliver a consistency and continuation of curriculum during this time of isolation, which will hold us in good stead as we return to school. To do this, we do not underestimate the role and support of parents and carers, who have had to undertake the role of 'the guide on the side'. For those of you with the flexibility to assist with Remote Learning, we hope that you've enjoyed seeing your child flourish as they've worked. Despite being at a distance, the home-school relationship has not been stronger. It's been a real partnership as our teachers have appreciated the support in facilitating tasks.

Speaking of our staff, they have been just amazing. I want to thank each and every one of our staff for what they have undertaken. As I have mentioned previously in updates, I could not be prouder of our staff, their commitment and flexibility in trying something new, being prepared for things they try to go pear-shaped. It takes courage to try new things in a public field, but the rewards have been huge and we have so many more skills, ready to apply should it be necessary. In saying that, let's hope we don't have to go down this pathway again.

It's nice to finish off by saying **"See you around the school"**.

Take care,

Rohan Thompson

**Principal**





# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep K	All of Prep K!	Welcome back to school Prep K! It has been wonderful seeing your smiling faces in the classroom once again. You have all come back to school motivated to learn and showcasing all your remote learning achievements in the work we have completed so far! I am one very happy teacher :)
Prep P	Danil S	For the wonderful way that Danil completed many remote learning tasks and always tried to do his best work.
Prep W	Olive G	Olive's knowledge of letter sounds has come along in leaps and bounds over the last couple of weeks! Well done Olive, you have really impressed me!
Prep Y	All of Prep Y!	I am so proud of every one of the students in Prep Y for how much resilience and enthusiasm they have shown in coming back to school! It is so wonderful to see you all learning at school again and supporting each other with your transition back to school.
1C	All of 1C	For all their effort during Remote Learning! 1C, I am so proud of you all. You overcame challenges, worked hard, tried new things and showed your learning wonderfully on Seesaw. You even had some fun showing me your crazy and wonderful dance moves during your brain breaks. You are all STARS!!!
1D	All of 1D!	For being wonderful, flexible and positive people during remote learning. You should be very proud of all the hard work and learning you did. I'm really impressed with all your efforts and I loved listening to you all read every week! Well done!
1V	All of 1V!	For your wonderful, smiling faces and positive attitudes when you arrived back at school! You are resilient, hard working and joyful people, and it is a delight to see you all back in our classroom! I'm so proud of you 1V!!
2L	Lorelei H	For persisting with her remote learning lessons even when she found it hard and didn't want to do it. I am proud of you for sticking with it and giving everything a go. You even said "It was fun"!
2R	Evey T	For the way you have settled back into our classroom. You are ready to learn at the beginning of every session and always try your hardest. Wonderful effort Evey!
2W	All of 2W!	For a brilliant start to onsite learning. You've done a great job in your first week back. Well done!
3/4G	Josie W	It has been marvellous to see Josie's development throughout Remote Learning. She has met challenges and worked hard, even attempting extra work in order to continue to learn. Very impressive Josie!
3/4K	Mani C	For staying so positive throughout the Remote Learning period, and giving everything your best shot! You put in so much effort with your work, especially your wonderfully decorated Maths posters! Thanks Mani :-)





# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
3/4M	Charlie E	For working so hard on all learning tasks during this remote learning period. Charlie often completes every task for the week, even when it is optional. I have been so impressed by the quality of your work and your persistent approach to all of your tasks. You always put in your best effort! Thank you for showing such a keen interest in your learning Charlie!
3/4R	Amy G	For taking on feedback and improving your work on Google Classroom. Well done Amy on showing persistence when finishing your work. It was great to see you go back and edit your work to make it even better. Well done.
3/4W	Hannah M	Hannah has had an impressive start to the year and has continued to challenge herself during Remote Learning. She showed off her amazing creativity by making her own activity, demonstrating the different lines of symmetry in a square. Impressive work Hannah!
5G	Finley J	For working so hard on all learning tasks during this remote learning period. Fin often went out of his way to complete separate Google Docs to share his work and his thinking. It was particularly impressive how he presented his working for all of the maths fermi problems, showing creative approaches to problem solving. Thank you for showing such a keen interest in your learning Fin.
5M	Sam M	During remote learning, Sam overcame many challenges. He has learnt about managing a large number of tasks, breaking them into more achievable parts. You have done really well with all of this Sam.
5S	Caitlin B	For demonstrating a persistent and flexible attitude during your Remote Learning journey! If something didn't work, you were always willing to try something different and find another way! This showed your willingness to be an independent life long learner! Keep up the great work Caitlin!
PE	Harriet L	Well done Harriet on a great start back at school. Your enthusiasm and positivity in PE this week was fantastic!
JAPANESE	Elliot E	Congratulations for going beyond what was required for the Japanese cooking task. You have made all the four dishes and showcased your cooking process with your family very nicely. Impressive effort, Elliot-kun!
Art	Loren T	Loren was an exemplary student today. She listened carefully in class and set an excellent example for those working around her. Loren was focussed and took great care completing her artwork.



# THE BLACKSMITH LUNCH ORDER MENU 2020

AVAILABLE WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS ONLY.

## HOT FOOD

- Bacon & Egg roll \$4.50
- Chicken schnitzel burger w lettuce & mayo \$5
- Hamburger w lettuce, cheese and tomato sauce \$5
- Skinless, low fat hotdog w tomato sauce \$4.50 (add cheese 0.50c)
- Roast chicken roll w gravy \$5
- Roast beef roll w gravy \$5
- Japanese chicken curry w rice \$6
- Japanese veg curry w rice VEGETARIAN \$5
- Homemade beef lasagne \$5
- Prawn Dumplings (5pc) \$6
- Veggie Dumplings (5pc) VEGAN \$6
- Penne bolognese \$4.50
- Mac & cheese (Vegetarian) \$4.50
- Lamb wrap w lettuce, tomato & mayo \$6
- Half sausage roll \$2.50 Whole sausage roll \$5

## HOMEMADE PIZZA W TOMATO SAUCE BASE \$4.50 each

- Chicken, pineapple & cheese
- Hawaiian - ham, pineapple & cheese
- Meat Lovers - ham, salami, chicken & cheese
- Vegetarian - roast veggies & cheese (VEGAN option avail)

## Sandwiches

Extra's – toasted 50c – Rolls 50c – Avocado 80c – Cheese 50c – Salad (lettuce/tomato/cucumber) \$1

- Ham/Free Range Chicken/Roast Beef \$4ea
- Tuna w kewpie mayo \$3.50
- Egg w kewpie mayo \$3.50
- Roast Veggies w tomato relish \$4 VEGAN
- Vegemite \$2.50 VEGAN OPTION AVAIL

## Scrolls/Biscuits/Snacks

- Cheesy-mite scroll \$4
- Cheese & spinach scroll \$4
- Apple scroll \$4 VEGAN
- Homemade Anzac Biscuit \$2
- Popcorn \$1

## Drinks

- 99% Fruit Juice 250ml juice box Apple, Apple Blackcurrant, Orange \$2ea

**ORDERS CLOSE AT 9PM ON QKR THE NIGHT  
PRIOR TO DELIVERY**



**AVAILABLE WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS ONLY.**

**ALL ORDERS CLOSE ON QKR AT 9PM THE NIGHT BEFORE DELIVERY!**

# SUSHI EXPRESS

Mountain Fresh



GF = gluten free

Salmon & Avocado	GF	\$3.00
Smoked Sal & Avocado	GF	\$3.00
Tuna & Avocado	GF	\$3.00
Crispy Chicken		\$3.00
Teriyaki Chicken		\$3.00
California		\$3.00
Vegetarian	GF	\$3.00
Avo & Cucumber	GF	\$3.00
Tempura Prawn		\$3.00
Prawn & Avocado	GF	\$3.00
Tempura Vegetable		\$3.50
Egg & Avocado		\$3.00

Steamed Prawn Gyoza (5pc)		\$6.00
Steamed Veg Gyoza (5pc) VEGAN		\$6.00

Apple Pop Top		\$2
Blackcurrant Pop Top		\$2

# Form & Practice

Olinda & Mt Evelyn

Physio & Reformer Pilates

- Sports Physio
- Reformer Pilates
- Clinical Exercise & Strength Classes
- Back / Neck Pain
- Headaches & TMD
- Post Operative Rehab
- Knee and Hip OA + GLA:D
- Women's & Men's Health Physio
- Orthotics
- Massage & Myotherapy

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