



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

11th June, 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WE'RE SO PLEASED TO HAVE EVERYONE BACK!

A big welcome back to our grade 3-6 children. There was a discernible excitement as the children greeted each other and their teachers after what amounted to 11 weeks away from each other in person.

It was wonderful to have the opportunity of visiting every class on Tuesday morning and talking to students across the school from Year 6 to Prep. For the older students, the resounding response from the question 'Are you glad to be back at school?' was 'YES'. A few of the parents at the gates have also echoed this sentiment!

It has been such a smooth and happy return to school this week. Our students have all undertaken their return with diligence and they have managed wonderfully with the extra hygiene activities, showing incredible resilience and responsibility.

A big thankyou to our parents; it was clear that families had been watching and reading communications on FlexiBuzz and were all aware of the staggered starts to school and flow through the school to minimise adult interactions.

For parents wishing to maintain vigilance on the current pandemic situation - please follow this link:

www.education.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

If you are late:

With the temporary changes in starting and finishing times, it might be difficult for families to know when a child is actually late to school. Here are the details again in case you missed it:

Expected arrival time	Year Level
8.40am-8.50am	Surname A-J
8.50am-9am	Surname K-Z
Release time after school	
3.20pm	Surname A-J
3.30pm	Surname K-Z

Students who arrive later than 9.05am will be marked as late. If your child is late to school, please send them to the office to be signed in. If your child is in Grade Prep - 2, please call the office when you arrive and someone will come out to meet your child and walk them to their class.

REMOTE LEARNING JUNE 2020



STUDENT REPORTS

As mentioned in our last newsletter, 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.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Our interviews will hopefully be held in term 3 this year in person, but at this time is also in limbo. This will enable staff to assess and monitor student learning after the many weeks of learning at home, as well as allow students to set, track and achieve updated personal learning goals. A proposed date for the interviews and conferences will be provided to parents very soon.

Unwell students - Reminder

Parents of students who are unwell, or are experiencing compatible symptoms with COVID-19, such as fever, cough or sore throat, will be sent to sick bay and parents will be asked to collect them as soon as possible. Parents of student's experiencing any of these symptoms are encouraged to seek the advise of their health care professional who can advise on their next steps. Students should not return until symptoms are resolved.

CAMPS, INCURSIONS, EXCURSIONS, SCHOOL TOURS and PREP TRANSITION

At this stage, we are none the wiser about whether our students can attend camps as well as incursions and excursions this year. The latest advice is that these are not going to be able to take place. We cannot run school tours and this also leaves our Prep transition program in limbo. We can take the kinder kids in for the program but the parents would need to drop their children at a designated point, not ideal for those nervous kinder kids starting their schooling life. We have shifted proposed dates back so that hopefully restrictions have lifted by then.

We had the much sought after Resilience Project booked for early term 3 that would have involved student, staff and parent sessions but this is also on hold as well.

Our Proposed dates for school camps are:

Grade 3/4: 31st August to the 4th of September at Ferngully Lodge.

Grade 5: 28th October to the 30th October at Stringybark Lodge in Gembrook.

CLEANING and HYGIENE

The extra cleaning is still taking place in the school. The school has been allocated another 6.15 hours of during the day cleaning each 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 8am and concludes at 2.15pm each day.

The normal cleaning then starts at 3.30pm and alongside their normal shift, our cleaners also clean and sanitise high use areas as well. Since our last newsletter, an extra 45 minutes after school has been allocated to this as well to ensure all tables and chairs are sanitised.

Thanks to our families for ensuring their children bring drink bottles. 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 in black plastic so they can't be used. The children have been great at washing their hands and sanitising. After all this is over, hopefully some lessons around cleanliness will be embedded into the children's everyday routine.

LOST PROPERTY- PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING

The remote learning period gave us a chance to do a big clean up of the lost property baskets. It was amazing how much of it did not have names. Staff are eager to return all lost items to their owners, but without a name on the items, they do remain in the, ever growing, lost property pile. Parents are asked to please check every item of clothing is clearly named to allow for a swift return.

QKR APP

We have been really pleased with the take up of parents using the QKR app to pay for accounts as we move towards a cashless school. Following on from this, we have a new lunch order provider which uses the QKR app instead of the money in the lunch order bag that our previous provider was using. You can now order from Sushi Express or the Blacksmith in Belgrave on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The only payment for this is via the QKR app.

While on the QKR app, we will now only have payment via the QKR app for our out of school hours care service after July 1. There are very few who don't pay for the service in this way. It makes the tracking of the payment of accounts much more streamlined rather than sifting through 2 payment types. We will contact just a small number of families who pay direct to our bank account to let them know of the change.

“See you around the school.”

Take care,

Rohan Thompson

Principal.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep K	Genevieve S	Genevieve you have settled back into the routines of Prep so well since returning to school. I especially love how your confidence in the classroom has grown, and you give all tasks your personal best effort!
Prep P	Abigail W	For working so well in Mathematics, learning all about Money and the different coins and putting them all in order.
Prep W	Nahla C	When Prep W were brainstorming ideas about how a pirate became stuck on an island during a writing lesson, Nahla came up with an amazing Sizzling Start! She said "He was sailing on the water and it was a stormy night, and his boat went "Bump", on to the big island!" Well done Nahla!
1C	Zara C	For picking up on a spelling rule in our SMART Spelling lesson. Zara, well done using your detective skills to see that the word voting didn't have the 'e' from the o-e split digraph in it. Now, 1C has learnt that we drop the 'e' and add 'ing'! Great spotting Zara :)
1D	Felix F	For successfully using many different strategies to solve multiplication questions in class. Congratulations Felix.
1D	Noah T	For successfully using many different strategies to solve multiplication questions in class. Congratulations Noah.
1V	Ned O	For the amazing effort you have put into your reading! Ned, you are using very good reading strategies to help you improve your reading. Your confidence has improved so much and you are making awesome progress! I'm very proud of you!
2L	Nicholas P	Nicholas is a super star learner. He listens well to instructions and will have a go at every task and takes constructive feedback to improve his learning outcomes to a higher standard.
2L	Loren T	Thank you for being a wonderful friend to your peers. You go out of your way to look out for those in need and ensure everyone is happy and looked after. Kindness to others is a fantastic trait and I am so proud of you Loren.
2R	Dane B	For the creative code you made up to write your spelling words. You used lots of symbols that replaced the letters in your spelling words. Well done!
2W	Briten A	We have been working on ways to improve our narrative writing; including stronger verbs, sizzling starts and interesting dialogue that moves the story on. Briten has been creating some wonderfully creative examples. Great job Briten.
3/4G	Isabel L	It is just lovely to have Isabel back in the classroom. She has brought her beaming smile and positive attitude for learning to each and every lesson. Keep it up Isabel because it is just wonderful!
3/4K	Heath S	For settling back into school so well this week, and being a great friend, offering help and a smile to brighten his friends days! Thanks for being so positive and caring towards your peers Heath. Keep it up! :-)



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
3/4M	Oliver P	Ollie has settled back into the classroom with ease. He has been listening in class, participating in class discussions and sharing his thoughts and ideas. Ollie, I have been so proud of you and have loved seeing your smiling face in the classroom.
3/4R	Thomas B	For making such a great transition back to school. Tom, it has been so wonderful to see you try your personal best and have a can do attitude in the classroom. I have loved seeing you motivated each day and work so independently, keep up the great work!
5G	Isaiah C	For starting back at school with a positive mindset and working beautifully with others. Isaiah has settled back into school really well and has resolidified his strong relationships. It's wonderful to see you get straight back into school life in a such a positive way Isaiah!
5M	Chloe G	Chloe has provided some wonderful insights when we have read our class novel. She has thought about the context and the emotions of the character and articulated her thinking clearly. Well done Chloe.
5S	Charlotte G	For demonstrating kindness towards others and being assertive in supporting your friends and others when they're in need. You were focused during learning time, and it was wonderful to see your enthusiasm introducing your incredible artwork as you arrived on Tuesday! Keep up the great work Charlotte!
6F	Sadie S	Sadie demonstrated what it was to be an independent learner during remote learning. She was dedicated to her studies, asked clarifying questions, worked collaboratively and always produced work of a high standard. Sadie, you are well on your way to being prepared for secondary school, well done!
6R	Dane S	Dane has settled back into onsite learning well, showing a high level of respect to others in the classroom and committing to completing set tasks to the best of his ability. Great work Dane!
JAPANESE	Hari S	For welcoming new challenges and participating in the Japanese class with great enthusiasm. Excellent work, Hari-kun!
Music	Charlotte B	For her amazing musical and technical work during remote learning. Well done Charlotte.
Art	Ava M	Ava is always a helpful and considerate student, who not only follows the instructions to complete her work, but readily helps her classmates. Thank you Ava, it is a pleasure to have you in the art room.

OFFICE NEWS.....

UNIFORM ORDERS:

Due to COVID-19, our Uniform Shop is currently closed to parents, however, orders can still be made via the QKR app and these will be given to your child on a Monday and/or Thursday after we receive your order. Please leave tags on the clothing so we can change sizes if needed.



LUNCH ORDERS:



School lunch orders are going really well. If you have any suggestions, concerns or complaints, please contact the office and we will be able to assist you. These are ordered through the QKR app and are available on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE:

As of the 1st of July all OSHC payments will need to be made via QKR. If you need assistance with this, please contact the office.





PRIME*Sci*!

JULY 2020 SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCIENCE WEBINARS

PrimeSCI! is now providing live-streamed hands-on science workshops for primary school-aged children.

Our Blue Marble (Prep - Grade 3)

Explore how planet Earth's temperature, atmosphere and water cycle make it ideal for supporting life. Make your own planet in a cup and watch it transform at home!

Bend Stretch and Twist (Prep - Grade 2)

Help the Three Little Piggies choose better building materials! Become a Material Scientist to learn about the different properties of ordinary and amazing materials. What happens when we change the shape of materials?

States of Matter (Grades 3 - 4)

Solid, liquid and gas, plus we introduce two other states of matter! Enter the world of atoms and molecules and find out more about the world we live in.

The Unseen World (Grade 3 - 6)

Explore the incredible world of microbes (and viruses), the impact they have on our everyday life, and understand why we must do the things we are asked to do now, to protect ourselves and one another.

Forces in Motion (Grade 3 - 6)

It's time to dust off your fidget spinners and yo-yos or make your own, pre-session! This fast-paced session will frame student understanding of forces and how they interact. Learn the role of gravity, friction and magnetism in making objects move faster than the speed of sound.

Plastic Fantastic (Grades 5 - 6)

Explore the world of plastics and go beyond looking at plastics as just waste materials that can be recycled. Make your own slime, test the properties of certain plastics and discover more about these useful materials.

Wonderful Waterways (Prep - Grade 6)

Discover the hidden life in our creeks and rivers. Learn about the impact from humans and the simple things we can all do to keep freshwater habitats healthy. Presented by the Healthy Rivers, Healthy Bay Team.

BOOK YOUR SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCIENCE WORKSHOP NOW!

Monday June 29 - Friday July 10
<https://www.trybooking.com/BJIED>

primesci@swin.edu.au
(03) 9210 1969
facebook.com/primesci

WORKSHOP COSTS & DETAILS

Our new PrimeSCI! Online Program will be delivered via live **Zoom Webinars**. Workshops, full of hands-on activities, are scheduled to run for a minimum of 40 minutes, followed by an opportunity for a Q&A session, between PrimeSCI! presenters and participating children.

Enrolment Fee per Family: \$10.00
(plus \$0.50 Trybooking Fee)

Registered families will receive an information pack within 24 hours, with lesson instructions, how to download and use Zoom and post-session activities.

PLEASE NOTE: Your child's privacy and internet safety is important to us. Children will only be able to view our presenters, with all other participant video and audio muted.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT PRIMESCI!

[SWINBURNE.EDU.AU/PRIMESCI](https://swinburne.edu.au/primesci)

Form & Practice

Olinda & Mt Evelyn

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