



TECOMA TIMES



Tecoma Primary School Newsletter

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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

15th July, 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER:

JULY

Monday 19th

*Divisional Cross Country
Select Students only*



Tuesday 20th

*Winter Interschool Sports
Grade 5-6*

Thursday 22nd

*Regional Cross Country
Select Students only*

Wednesday 28th

100 Days in Prep!



Friday 30th

*Maths in Sport
Whole School Incursion*

WELCOME BACK:

I hope everyone had a restful break and enjoyed the opportunity to share some time with their family and friends.

Many I have spoken to did absolutely nothing which means they must have needed the rest. I'm sure that some of you had your holiday plans curtailed by the recent outbreak of COVID in the northern states.

No doubt you are watching closely, like we are, what is happening up there, and now here, and we are hoping we can continue to go about our normal lives. I always start writing my newsletter piece on a Monday and I had the latest departmental guidelines ready to go out to you but that is now out the window three days later as they have changed! As we go to publish today, I'm trying to be optimistic but the outbreak of delta strain here in Melbourne is testing that optimism. We will let you know more as we know more!

Thank you to everyone who joined in farewelling our OSHC coordinator Chris Dykes at the end of last term. She jumped on the boat at 7:30pm on the Friday night and is now busy house hunting down there in Hobart. Chris was very appreciative of the farewell that she received from the school community after 29 years of service.

Term 3 promises to be another great term filled with challenging learning opportunities, stimulating excursions, the grade 3/4 camp, incursions and of course our whole school production, though as mentioned at the end of last term, in a very different format.

Judging by the number of post-it notes on my desk, it's going to be one very busy term.

CONGRATULATIONS

For the first time in Tecoma's history, we have an aerobics team that has made its way through to the National Championships!

Congratulations to Nayara, Sadie and Millie along with their supervising teachers, Mrs. Connell and Mrs. Langford, for winning their way on Sunday down at Geelong through to the National Championships to be held next month on the Gold Coast, fingers crossed!

We are so proud of the girls as they have taken ownership of their routine and practiced incredibly hard. They are now planning how to fundraise to get themselves up to the Gold Coast to compete against other teams throughout the nation. Go girls!



THE RESILIENCE PROJECT:

We are pleased to announce that we have been able to book in the services of a program called "The Resilience Project."

The Resilience Project delivers emotionally engaging programs to schools, sports clubs and businesses and provides them with evidence based, practical strategies to build resilience and happiness. Having been around now for over 10 years, The Resilience Project has delivered programs to over 1000 schools around the country and worked with many elite sporting teams including Australian cricket, netball and soccer, NRL and AFL clubs. Through presentations, wellbeing journals, school curriculum, teacher diaries and their App, The Resilience Project seeks to help all Australians become mentally healthy.

Programs offered by The Resilience Project are based on the following strategies:

- **Gratitude** - Appreciating what you have, not begrudging what you don't.
- **Empathy** - Thinking of the needs of others/kindness.
- **Mindfulness** - Being present in the moment, not becoming distracted by unhelpful or negative thoughts.

During this presentation, Martin will share his experiences and combine them with practical strategies that can be implemented everyday to improve our overall wellbeing.

If you would like more information about their team, bio info is available on their website under the "About Us" page <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/about-us/> or for more information on their work in education <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/education-2/>

Through presentations, school curriculum, events, the TRP App, and Wellbeing Journals, they share the benefits of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness, and easy ways to practice these in everyday life. They also incorporate Emotional Literacy, Connection and Physical Health education and activities as they are foundational contributors to positive mental health.

Their schools program has been designed by teachers for teachers, and has been evaluated by the University of Melbourne. They share positive mental health strategies with the whole school community – teachers, students, parents and carers – to support the implementation of wellbeing curriculum to build resilience, happiness, and drive sustainable change.

Our school has booked the immersion program under the resilience project which aims to immerse staff, students and families to collaboratively develop strategies for the ongoing development of mindfulness, resilience and coping skills in times of challenge. In these COVID times, we have felt that as a school, this is an integral part of our schools current need, to assist our students, families and staff in recovering from a time unlike any other.

We will be running the Resilience project in Week 4 of Term three. Please see below for the dates and times that each session will run.

- 2nd August - **Staff Presentation** at Staff meeting, 3:45pm-5:15pm
- 3rd August - **Student Presentation**, 10:00am-11:00am – Junior School (Prep-2)
- 3rd August - **Student Presentation**, 11:30am-12:30am – Senior School (3-6)
- 5th August - **Parent Presentation**, 6:30pm-8:00pm

The parent session we were hoping to run in our school hall, however the recent outbreak of COVID in Melbourne means we might just hold the details of that until we are closer to the 5th of August. We may not be able to hold an audience. The Resilience Project did run parent sessions last year via zoom and this might end up being how we will need to run it. Stay tuned for details but please save the date as we want as many of our community engaged as possible.

THE 2021 PARENT OPINION SURVEY

The Parent Opinion Survey is issued annually by the Department of Education and Training and is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents at every school in Victoria. This year, approximately 100 of our families will be invited to participate. All responses to the survey are anonymous. The survey helps our school gain an understanding of how you view our school climate, student engagement and the teaching and learning programs.

Our school will use the results to inform school planning and improvement strategies. The survey will be conducted online, only takes 10-15 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. The survey is open from Monday 19th July to Sunday 22nd August. If you are selected to participate in the survey, please provide open and honest feedback and above all, please ensure that you do respond to the survey as we very much value your input. Results will be sent back to our school at the end of September.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

As mentioned in the final newsletter of term 2, we have locked in a plan for the children to be recorded doing their class piece at Upwey High School, to be collated and put together into a DVD for our 2021 production. This was based on the uncertainty around whether we could have an audience for the production and the latest outbreak in Melbourne has reinforced the concrete plan we have put together going forward.

Your child's class teacher will be in contact with you regarding any sort of costume the children will require for their performance. Please keep an eye on your email and School Stream for further details.

PREP NEXT YEAR

New guidelines prepared by the Outer East of North East Victoria Region of the Department of Education requires all families to submit prep enrolments by July 30. Schools are then required to send out confirmation letters on August 13.

If you have a child who will be enrolling in Prep for 2022 at our school, can you please have your enrolment in by July 30. If you have friends who have children that are Prep age, and they are interested in attending our school, can you please encourage them to ring the school office and book a tour in the next two weeks.

We did our first look at our class structure for 2022 this week based on 450 children. If you won't be or you think it is unlikely your child/ren will be at Tecoma next year, can you please let us know. We can then take that into account when we look at our numbers.

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING

The cold winter weather has certainly set in. The majority of the holidays had beautiful sunny days but we also had very low temperatures. That has continued to this week with the forecast of rain making it very cold outside for students before school and during breaks. At school, our priority is to provide opportunity for the students to play outside whenever possible.

In addition to playtimes, there are also a number of occasions when class activities mean that our students are outside for extended periods of time.

Please check with your children to make sure that they have enough clothing to keep them warm outside when it is very cold. It can only help in keeping those nasty winter bugs at bay.



PUNCTUALITY STAR

Congratulations Maeve B in 3/4R for being this weeks Punctuality Star! Maeve was here at 9.00am when our random draw was held and won a free lunch order. Well done Maeve.

See you around the school!

Rohan Thompson
Principal



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep P	Louis S	For the tremendous progress Louis is making in all his learning. His enthusiasm and high motivation in participating in answering lots of questions and expressing his thoughts and opinions is wonderful. Very impressive Louis!!
Prep Y	Fiona B	Fiona, what a wonderful and supportive friend you are. When you see your friends upset or in need of some extra love, you are by their side helping them to feel safe and secure. Everyone needs a friend just like you!
1D	Lexi T	Lexi has easily demonstrated her use of 'voice' during our Writer's Notebook session. She has loved learning about the use of voice in reading and writing. Keep using your beautiful voice!
2R	Felix F	For the <u>F</u> antastic, <u>E</u> ntertaining, <u>L</u> ovely, <u>I</u> nteresting, <u>X</u> -traordinary acrostic poem you created using your name during writing. You used lots of descriptive words about yourself, and even managed to include heaps of Minecraft references. Well done Felix!
2W	Neave H	Neave ended last term showing an amazing commitment to creating her board game about "Birds". She put so much thinking into the design and then created extra bits and pieces at home. She ended up with a fabulous game that I hope she will keep and play for a long time. You are a star Neave.
3/4B	Shiloh H	For actively trying to improve his writing by seeking feedback. Shiloh worked extremely hard to ensure his writing had descriptive language and to make sure he banned the boring words. Keep up the awesome work Shiloh!
3/4NP	Alayna A	For your fantastic holiday recount. Alayna you worked extremely well to write an interesting recount that included fantastic, rich descriptive language. Well done.
3/4R	Harriet L	For being an amazing helper in coming up with the choreography for our production item. Harriet was an absolute superstar giving up her lunchtime to help come up with our moves. She also went out of her way to cheer up a fellow classmate who was in the blue zone. Thank you for being such an important member of the 3/4R community Harriet!
3/4W	Jepi S	Jepi has worked extremely hard over the holidays to develop his writing skills, keeping a journal of all of his fun adventures. He payed meticulous attention to the spelling, grammar and punctuation in his work and made sure his writing was interesting. Keep up the amazing work Jepi!



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
5G	Maddie G	Maddie has spent the last week of her free time choreographing our production dance with Isobel and a group of other helpers. Not only did she come up with some great dance moves, she also took on feedback extremely well and adapted the dance based on that feedback. We are all excited to 'Twist Again, Like We Did Last Summer' in a couple of weeks. Thank you Maddie for your effort and dedication.
5G	Isobel V	Isobel has spent the last week of her free time choreographing our production dance with Maddie and a group of other helpers. She excitedly came up with some rad and funky moves and was always keen to take on some stage direction and other ideas from anyone. We are all excited to twist, turn and go up and down with these catchy dance moves. Thank you Isobel for your effort and dedication.
5M	Judd C	As we near the completion of our Fantastic Racers, Judd has been so helpful towards every other group in our class. He has helped them with their circuits, understanding how to make the cars go faster. You have such a giving nature Judd. Thanks for being such a positive person in our class.
6F	Finley J	Welcome back to Tecoma Primary School Fin! It has been lovely to watch you slide back into your friendships and classes this week. I look forward to getting to know you as a member of 6F over the second half of the year!
6G	Mason B	It is lovely to see Mason focussed during our Independent Reading sessions. He is engaged in his novel 'Diego Run', and this is so pleasing to see. Keep it up Mason because the story just keeps getting better. Well done!
6R	Charles S	Charles, you should be extremely proud of all that you achieved throughout our Youth Leadership program with Mrs. de Geest. You took on a range of roles and performed each and every one of them to a high standard, showing composure, respect and strong speaking skills. You approached this challenge head on and made the most of every learning opportunity. Well done!
6R	CJ G	CJ, you have shown a high level of ability to deliver engaging presentations throughout our Youth Leadership program. In particular, you have shown a strength in off the cuff presentations. Your tone of voice, gesture and use of humour allowed you to share unique presentations which entertained your audiences. Outstanding work!
Japanese	Jack D	Well done Jack-kun for incorporating your knowledge of Japanese iconic fish Koi (carps) to your original Olympic mascot, combined with the Olympic ring colours. Fantastic idea!



Office News...



TERM 3 LEVIES:



Prep	\$27
Grade 1	\$10
Grade 2	\$15
Grade 3/4	\$42
Grade 5	\$25
Grade 6	\$40

Levies can be paid on the Qkr! App, direct deposit or at the office.

GRADE 3/4 CAMP The Phillip Island CYC camp is from Monday 30 August - Wednesday 01 September for the first group and Wednesday 01 September - Friday 03 September.

The cost is \$237.00 per child. You can make staggered payments through the Qkr! App (just enter the amount you want to pay) to lighten your load. For those who have paid deposits with the school fees, you will get a letter in the camp info pack, with the amount owing, next term.



ABSENCES If your child is not well or going to be absent, please notify the school via School Stream, email or phone before 10.30am on the day of their absence.

This DOES NOT incorporate the OSHC.

A separate message to OSHC service will also need to be sent to them within the required time frames.

Uniform

New jumper and bomber jacket purchases **will be named** when we hand them out to you/your child/ren effective immediately

Lunch Orders

Please check **THE DAY & DATE** when ordering your child's lunch on the Qkr! App.

PARENT HELPER NEEDED!!

If you can spare an hour, we need the jumpers in lost property (4 baskets of them!!) sorted and returned to our students please.

Please let the office know if you can help out with this.

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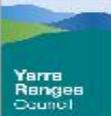
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