



# TECOMA TIMES

## Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

17th February, 2022

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

#### **FEBRUARY**

**Friday 18th**  
*District Swimming*  
*Selected Grade 3-6*  
*Students*  
*Belgrave Pool*



*School Council*  
*Closing of Ballot*  
*4.00pm*

**Monday 21st**  
*Getting to know Your*  
*Child Interviews*  
*Via Webex 3.40pm -*  
*6.00pm*



**Tuesday 22nd**  
*Getting to know Your*  
*Child Interviews*  
*2.30pm—6.00pm*

**Wednesday 23rd**  
*Prep Assessments*  
*No Prep Classes*

#### **SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION**

As you would be aware, in the first week, I called for nominations for the position of parent members on School Council. That timeline closed and at the end of that process, we received more nominations (4) than vacancies (3) on School Council.

We therefore, in accordance with Department of Education Guidelines (DET) have gone to ballot.

Last Friday, each family received an envelope addressed to you regarding School Council elections. Inside this envelope, you will have found a ballot paper, an envelope which is the “return envelope” and a statement from our candidates. On the ballot paper, you are asked to vote for your preferred candidate.

On the statement paper, the candidates have supplied you with a brief statement about themselves and their credentials to sit on School Council. No other campaign literature is permitted within the school. Please be aware that if you vote for more than the number of candidates required, your vote will be invalid.

Please place your marked ballot paper in the return envelope and either hand deliver it to the school office or return it by mail (though you should have already done this to allow enough time for it to arrive). All votes must be received by 4pm tomorrow afternoon, Friday February 18, 2022.

Votes will then be counted and the result of the poll will be declared to the community.

I would like to thank all candidates who nominated for the vacancies on School Council. An election is a healthy situation, it shows we have parents who want to be involved in the decision making process.

Good luck to all candidates!

#### **“GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHILD” INTERVIEWS**

On Tuesday, we sent out a notification to let you know parent teacher interviews have been made available for you next week to meet and discuss your child’s learning needs. These 10-minute interviews are being held via 2 different formats next Monday and Tuesday.

On Monday, these are being held via Webex for those parents who are unable to meet in person from 3:40PM until 6:00PM.

On Tuesday, these are being held in person from 2:40PM until 6:00PM.

The school has set up a process where parents are required to book a time online to see a teacher. It is not compulsory to meet your teacher online/in person about your child at this stage of the year but we would certainly like to have met you all; however if a teacher specifically wishes to see certain parents, they will ask for this to occur.

Like last year, and with most other things these days, it is wise to get in early to book the most suitable time/s whilst they are available. The more popular times are already filling fast.

I know the teachers are excited about sharing information regarding the successful transition of your child/ren into their new level of schooling, whilst hearing background information from parents, who of course, know their own child/ren better than anyone.

A reminder, as per the Department of Education’s Operations Guide, schools can allow

parents to enter buildings onsite for student pick-up and drop-off if there are QR code locations for parents to check in. Parents/ carers are required to show proof of vaccination to enter a school building.

Webex interviews would be your best choice if:

- you are unable to show proof of vaccination,
- or you are in isolation due to either being a positive COVID case or a close contact,
- or you are uncomfortable with meeting in person in the current climate.

Information on how to download and connect to Webex can be found through the following link.

<https://help.webex.com/en-us/n62wi3c/Get-Started-with-Cisco-Webex-Meetings-for-Attendees>

Alternatively, parents unable to show proof of vaccination can meet with teachers outdoors at drop off and pick up. You can log on to book your interview time via [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) using code: **byp29**. The bookings are open now. We look forward to talking with you next week at interviews.

### **LEADERSHIP BADGES and BOMBER JACKETS for GRADE 6 children**

The leadership badges and jackets/polos for all grade 6 children have arrived and will be presented to the community this Monday. It is always a special occasion for the children to receive their leadership badges and grade 6 bomber jackets/polos as it signifies the final year of their primary school journey.

We hope you can make it along on Monday on the top basketball court for an outdoor assembly, weather permitting.

### **UNIFORM UPDATE**

Speaking of uniform, can I please ask that parents ensure their child is in the official school uniform, including the school hat. A reminder that only Year 6 students are allowed to wear the black polo. All other students should be in red school polo. Unfortunately, we have seen a considerable amount of students out of uniform without explanation.

By the end of February, we will be expecting all students to be in full uniform without exception.

### **DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

#### **PUPIL FREE DAY**

School Council late last year approved Friday April 8 as a pupil free day. This is the last day of term 1. No children are to attend school on that day and Out of School Hours Care will not be running on that day.

### **COVID**

It has been a very successful start to the year with minimal disruptions due to COVID-19. As you will have seen in our COVID updates, we have had cases throughout the school, and this is something that will continue to occur throughout the months ahead. We would like to pass on our very best to those families that are dealing with COVID in our community and wish them all a very speedy recovery.

We will continue to update the community when we do have COVID cases at school and we encourage all families to continue to use the Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) that we have supplied to you. Thank you for coming to collect the RAT's that were delivered to all students last week.

The Victorian Government today announced an extension to the COVID Safe measures introduced for the beginning of Term 1. This includes extending the availability of free rapid antigen tests (RAT) for screening until the end of term. This is great news and will mean we're able to continue identifying COVID-19 cases as early as possible, reducing the impact on our school and individuals.

Twice-a-week testing continues to be strongly recommended for both students and staff, with a reminder to not only report a COVID-positive result online, but to inform the school both by phone and as an absence note on School Stream. This will not only assist us in supporting you but will enable us to let the rest of the school community know there has been a positive case onsite.

Improving ventilation is one of the most effective measures to keep education settings safe. We look forward to receiving additional air purifiers (as was announced today) ahead of winter to supplement natural and mechanical ventilation during the cooler months and cover general purpose classrooms (such as our specialist areas of Art, Music, and PE).

We have continued to be COVID Safe at school and we have followed our plan strictly. Air purifiers are in use in all high-risk spaces and our teachers have taken the opportunity to undertake lessons outside when practical.

It is mandatory for all adults and students from Grade 3-6 to wear a mask unless we have received notification of an exemption. We ask that parents send their children to school with a face mask although they will not be required outdoors. We do have a limited supply at school if students forget, however, we are unable to supply new masks every day.



As always, if your child is unwell and exhibiting COVID symptoms, please keep them at home and undertake a RAT or PCR test. This is the single best strategy to reducing the spread of COVID at TPS.

On behalf of the school, I would like to thank you again for your continued support in helping your child to complete the Rapid Antigen Tests and other COVID safe measures. As a result of these efforts, our school can continue providing a safe environment for students and staff.

**THIS WEEK AT ASSEMBLY WE:**

- ◆ Handed out our “student of the week” awards
- ◆ Heard a wonderful weekend achievement (Miss Bye got engaged!)

Have a great weekend  
**Rohan Thompson**  
**Principal**



## SWIMMING TRIALS!

Congratulations to all students who participated in our trials on Tuesday 8th February.

Everyone gave 100% effort in their races and it was pleasing to see a large number of students participate in events that they have never trialled in before.

We had a great afternoon of racing with just over 70 Tecoma students participating in a variety of events. These results have been used to select students for our Tecoma PS interschool team and 32 students will now be competing at the next level of competition, the Sherbrooke District Swimming Carnival, on Friday 18th February at Belgrave Pool (10am to 2pm). Good Luck to our District Swimming Team.

Events such as our swimming trials would not be able to be run without the help of wonderful parents. I would like to thank all our amazing parents who came along to help run this event. The afternoon ran so smoothly thanks to these fantastic people. Both the teachers and students appreciate the time you gave to assist on the day.





# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep P	All of Prep P!	To the amazing and wonderful students in Prep P because you have ALL done such an awesome job settling into school life so smoothly and easily.  I'M VERY, VERY PROUD OF YOU ALL!!!!
Prep Y	Anthony N	Anthony, I have been so thrilled to see you becoming more confident in practicing your cutting and writing skills. Even though you find this challenging at times, you are showing so much effort and pride in trying, and you are seeing that when we practice over and over, we get better and better. Well done!
1V	Isobel J	Isobel, you have slipped seamlessly into our class and the T.P.S. community. You have made nice friends, have a great attitude to learning and show respect to others. What a wonderful member of our school you have quickly become!  Excellent job Isobel!
1W	Zoe F	For always being such a breath of fresh air in our classroom! You are always going out of your way to help others without ever being asked. Zoe, you are so caring towards your peers and we are so lucky to have you! Keep on being your sunny self!
2R	Mia H	For the way you tried, tried and tried again when you couldn't log in to Prodigy. I know how frustrated you felt about not being able to play, but you showed great resilience and managed to bounce back. Well done Mia!
2W	Lexi T	Lexi has shown Respect by being a very helpful member of our class. She confidently helped many students learn how to work out their 'Fudgebucks' in the class bank and offered help to other kids during Science. Thanks Lexi.
3NP	Ari P	For the fantastic way that you have settled into Tecoma Primary School. Ari, you have fit in so wonderfully into the Tecoma Primary community. We are so glad to have you in our class!
3W	Charli S	After finishing all of her work on Friday afternoon, Charli gleefully worked with a team of students (including the other Charlie), helping to organise the classroom. Your efforts did not go unnoticed Charli and we are very lucky to have you in the class!
3W	Charlie I	After finishing all of her work on Friday afternoon, Charlie gleefully worked with a team of students (including the other Charli), helping to organise the classroom. Your efforts did not go unnoticed Charlie and we are very lucky to have you in the class!
4B	Finely T	For being so inspired while writing his narrative that he didn't want it to end. He utilised his Writer's Notebook perfectly by using it to store all of his awesome ideas. Finley, I love your enthusiasm and attitude to writing. Cannot wait to see where your story takes me!



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
4D	Saxon E	Saxon, it was a pleasure teaching you when I got to visit 4D last week. You showed patience and respect to myself and other members of the class. You worked well independently and contributed valuable ideas to our class discussions. Fantastic Work!
5G	Jessica P	Jess has been an outstanding role model these first few weeks of school. She constantly helps out in the classroom, gives everything a go and tries her best. Jess gave a great off the cuff speech for SAT representative and was successful in obtaining this position. She also ran an excellent class meeting as chairperson: she was clear, concise and organised. Throughout the meeting she summarised people's points of view, shared her own opinion and easily managed behaviour. You should be so proud Jess! Keep up the good work!
5M	Leo G	Leo, the effort you are putting into your schoolwork is wonderful to see. In our Maths sessions, you have shown that you are keen to learn by asking questions, listening intently and ensuring your workbook is set out really neatly. Well done 180, keep it up.
5M	Quilla F	Quilla, what a fantastic start to the year you have made. Every day you come into the classroom with a smile on your face and eager to learn. I love the effort you are putting into your work and enacting the feedback that you have been given. You have really set yourself up for success.
5U	Zoe G	For showing great resilience during our maths lessons this week. Zoe, you demonstrated initiative and responsibility of your own learning when you sought out assistance from your peers and teacher when you didn't quite understand the thinking behind the Place Value expanders. It was so lovely to see you with a big smile on your face when you accomplished the task! Keep it up, Zoe!
6G	Felix L	Felix wrote an amazing holiday recount during our writing session. He used vivid verbs, varied his sentence length and created strong ideas. What a wonderful way to begin your Grade 6 writing journey. An impressive effort Felix...keep it up!
6S	Hunter B	Even when faced with a challenging start to the day, Hunter showed great resilience to deal with a difficult situation calmly and maturely. Well done for bouncing-back and having a great day.
Music	Riley O	For her fabulous playing of the Bass guitar in Music.
Japanese	Lucas L	For demonstrating his excellent leadership skills by participating in the lesson actively and helping others and Masae-sensei willingly. Fantastic work Lucas-kun!!!

# OFFICE NEWS



Welcome back to Tecoma!! Firstly, we'd like to thank you for your payments of the Parent Contributions and Non-Curriculum items that have been coming in to the office. If you haven't paid these yet, please refer to the website under "Forms" or to the Qkr! App where you can also make the payment.

**ABSENCES** If your child is not well or going to be absent, please notify the school via School Stream, email or phone ASAP that morning or 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.

**EARLY DEPARTURES** Please avoid collecting your child during recess and the lunch break (11.00am-11.30am and 1.10pm-2.00pm). When it is possible, please make appointments for your child outside of school hours. We understand this is not always possible.

**CSEF** application forms are now available at the office for the Camp, Sports and Excursion Fund. For more information and eligibility please refer to <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef>

## UNIFORM SHOP HOURS...

**Mondays: 9.00am—9.30am only**

**Thursdays: 9.00am—9.30am &  
3.15pm—3.45pm only**

**Place your orders through the Qkr! App. Feel free to come in for second hand uniform after you have checked in with the QR code. Only 2 adults in the uniform shop at a time. Please wait in the corridor for your turn. As our shop is run by parent volunteers, please be patient. Thank you.**





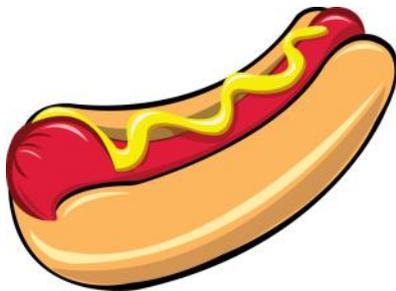
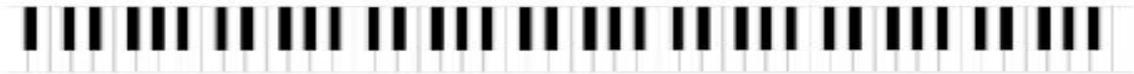
## Instrumental Music Lessons

Have you ever wanted to learn a musical instrument or singing? Tecoma Primary Schools team of instrumental teachers engage with the music you love, as well as reading and other musical styles.

**Piano, Drums or Singing**  
*Groove Foundations Music School*  
Jordan Scotney - 0408 881 395 - groovefoundations@gmail.com

**Guitar or Ukulele**  
Juan Aravena - 0402 688 836 - juanaravena@hotmail.com

**Violin**  
Piper Blake - 0412 318 831 - piperblake98@outlook.com



**LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE FRIDAY'S ONLY**

Orders must be done through the Qkr! App by 9pm the night before! Thank you.



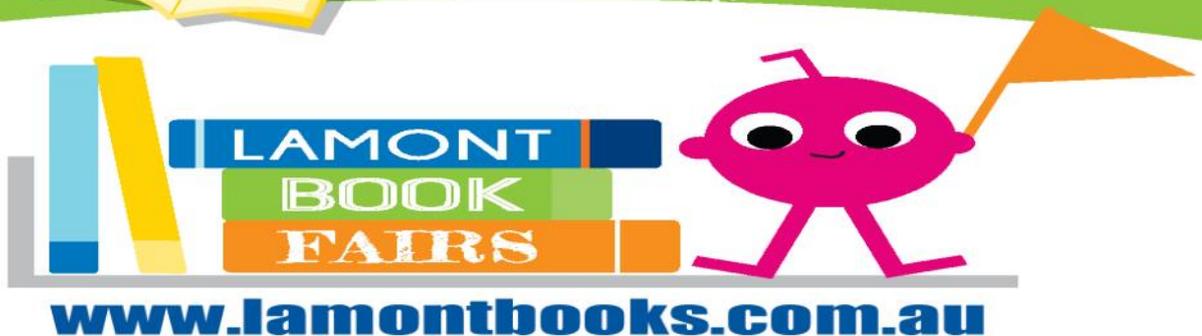
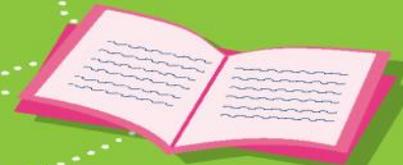


# LAMONT BOOK FAIR

**Coming soon,  
don't miss it!**

Every purchase supports our school!

BOOKS FOR EVERYONE



DO YOU LOVE TO SWIM?

**Come join us!**

- Family Friendly
- Inclusive and Supportive
- Swimming Development
- Fun and Competitive
- Tailored Programs

<https://swimland.swimming.org.au>

*We would love to hear from you*

[secretary@swimlandswimclub.com](mailto:secretary@swimlandswimclub.com)



# SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS

## RECRUITING NOW

Play an important role in your community. Ensure the safety of children and pedestrians and be a friendly face. Multiple opportunities available in a range of locations.

Flexible work options. Support your community between **8:00am to 9:00am and 3:00pm to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.**

If you or someone you know is interested in these roles, call us today!

Call HOBAN Recruitment on 9325 3200

**HOBAN**

## PARAGON SUPERHEROES

Superheroes use their powers to help other people, not for their own personal gain. Superheroes change the world and achieve the impossible.

Join us for Superhero karate training! We offer classes for all ages, from 3 years up.

2 FREE TRIAL CLASSES

COVID SAFE SPACE

Our school aged superheroes learn that anything is possible through developing confidence, resilience, respect for themselves and others, self defence and so much more!

Call us now to book your free trial classes.  
Class caps apply - get in quick to avoid disappointment.  
9754 5445 WALTER STREET TECOMA

[www.mykarateschool.com.au](http://www.mykarateschool.com.au)

Find us on Facebook

[facebook.com/mykarateschool](https://facebook.com/mykarateschool)

## Ferny Creek Tennis Club

Ferny Creek Reserve, Hilton Rd, Ferny Creek

# Free Family Tennis Fun Day

**Sunday March 6th 2022**  
**11:00am — 2:00pm**

Free beginners' coaching sessions with  
Extreme Tennis

Fastest serve competition

Free sausage sizzle, soft drinks and icy poles

Ball machine

★★★ **New membership offer** ★★★  
**Sign up on the day & get 3 months membership free**

Social tennis  
after 2.00pm



Prizes  
Include  
door prize of  
free 1 year  
membership

A photograph of an outdoor event at the Upwey Tecoma Junior Football Club. A large black canopy tent with the club's logo and name is set up on a grassy field. People are gathered under the tent, and a sign in the background encourages kicking at local junior clubs. The scene is active and community-focused.

**UPWEY TECOMA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**COMMUNITY DAY**

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 27**  
**UPWEY TECOMA FOOTBALL & CRICKET CLUB**  
CHOSEN AVENUE, UPWEY  
**10AM - 1PM**

**BBQ RUNNING ALL DAY**  
**ACTIVITIES RUN BY OUR COACHES & SENIOR (U17) PLAYERS**

**ENCOURAGING ALL CURRENT & NEW MEMBERS TO COME DOWN AND HAVE  
A KICK OF THE FOOTY, A BITE TO EAT, AND GET A FEEL FOR THE CLUB!**

**50 YEARS ANNIVERSARY**  
**UPWEY TECOMA JFC**

1972 2022

LET READY TO KICK!  
UPWEY TECOMA JFC

AUSKICK AT YOUR LOCAL JUNIOR CLUB

ICON SPORTS MELBOURNE MEDIA