



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

12th May, 2022

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER:

MAY

Monday 16th
CURRICULUM DAY
Student Free Day -
Whole School

Tuesday 17th
Schoolpix School
Photos
Whole School



Tue 17th - Thu 19th
NAPLAN - Grade 3

Tue 24th - Fri 27th
Maldon Camp
Year 5



Friday 27th
District Cross
Country - Select
Students

Puffing Billy
Grades 1&2



MOTHER'S DAY

We trust all of our mums, our nanna's, grandma's, aunties and special friends had a lovely Mother's Day on Sunday.

This is the second year in a row that we have not gone down the pathway of using fundraising companies to supply gifts for children to purchase for Mother's Day. Based on feedback, parents preferred something made by their children, hence we went down the pathway of the students making a gift in the art classroom. Mrs McManamon did a wonderful job with the support of our staff in putting together these items.

We asked for a small amount to cover the cost of the materials in the making of the gift, so if you haven't sent that through, please do as at the moment, the school has run at a significant loss in the children producing Mother's Day gifts for their loved ones.

PUPIL FREE DAY THIS MONDAY

As mentioned on the notification sent home on Monday, May 2, the Department of Education has recommended that schools schedule a whole school Professional Practice Day on the same day for all staff in Term 2 and that this should be taken as a pupil free day.

This has been put forward by the Department of Education as a result of the scarcity of teaching staff to replace teachers throughout the state, due to COVID and related issues. In previous years, PP Days (4 per year) have been taken by staff in small groups or individually and teachers were replaced, as there was staff available to replace them. With such a shortage of replacement teachers, this has not been able to happen this year. Hence, the department's recommendation to schools for all staff to have their PP Day on the same day and for no students to attend school on that day.

Staff have discussed the best use of the day and we sought approval from School Council for the date of **Monday May 16 to be the pupil free day.**

Therefore, this Monday, May 16, is a pupil free day across the whole school.

Don't forget Tuesday is school photos. Please also mark this on your calendar.

CELEBRATING POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS AT OUR SCHOOL

If you get a chance, please pop into the office and ask your children to show you how we are celebrating positive behaviours at our school. The children are so excited and working towards a goal collectively. Mrs Faul has written something about this further in this edition of the newsletter so please have a read.

Highlighting the positive has so much more impact than addressing the negative and this is really showing out in what our children are trying to achieve through our new school values. Get the kids to take you through it!

ELECTION DAY

Thank you to those people who put their hand up to assist with the BBQ and the cake stall on Election Day here at the school. This election and the state election in November are two of our major fundraisers for the year. The roster where you can put your name down to assist is in our office foyer.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, funds raised go directly back into student learning and resourcing, best illustrated by our recent purchase of 6 promethean interactive televisions that our children are now using. If you can't assist with looking after the stalls, you can still assist by baking something delicious that we can sell at the cake stall on the Saturday morning. Thanks for your assistance.

PHOTOS

Don't forget this Tuesday is school photos. Please make sure that as always, your child is in full school uniform for their individual, class and family photos and that you've put your order in online with SchoolPix.

COLDS AND FLU

With the spike in gastro, colds and flu at this time of year, we appreciate your assistance in keeping your child home until they are completely well. If your child presents at school with coughs and sniffles, it places all students, especially those students with compromised immune systems, and staff, at risk. We are legally required to collect and store digital or hard copies of absence notes and request that these are sent to school on your child's first day back. Thank you for your support.

NAPLAN

We are halfway through the two week window for NAPLAN to be conducted.

While it can be stressful, we try to keep it as low key as possible at Tecoma..... and hopefully that gets the best out of the children as they are relaxed about what they have to do. The following article might assist in preparing your children for NAPLAN now and in coming years.

Helping students get ready for the NAPLAN tests By Michael Grose- www.parentingideas.com.au

The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it's best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

During the third week of May Australian children in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The stated purpose of this testing program is to gain an overall picture of educational attainment levels to assist education policy and decision-making.

The program, first implemented in 2008, has drawn some criticism from a number of different quarters, particularly in regard to the use of the information gained through the NAPLAN tests. You've probably heard a number of different viewpoints expressed in the media over the last few weeks.

One view commonly put forward is that the NAPLAN tests put undue pressure on children to perform in test situations. If so, then perhaps the best approach for parents and teachers is to help them handle the pressure rather than avoid it. The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it's best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

Children and young people take their cues from their parents about how to handle many situations. American psychologist Martin Seligman discovered more than a decade ago, through his research into children's thinking styles, how closely a child's explanatory style mimics that of the parent they spend most time around. Optimistic parents beget optimistic kids, just as anxious parents can beget anxious kids. The impact of a parent's explanatory style seems to be magnified somehow in small families where there are fewer voices to be heard.

As a parent it helps your child, if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests. It's better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring on. It's also worth remembering that many children don't stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in their stride, wondering what all the fuss is about.

Whether your child stresses or takes them in their stride here are some tips to help prepare for the NAPLAN tests:

1 Take your cues from your child: If your child doesn't worry about them then neither should you. Be careful not to create a problem that doesn't exist by incessantly talking about, or worse, worrying about the test.

2 Focus on doing their best and trying hard: Choose your words carefully when you speak with your kids. As with all their learning activities place your focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure on kids should be to try hard rather than to do well.

3 Listen to any concerns they have: If your child confesses to some nerves then validate their feelings, rather than shut them down with a 'get over it' response. "Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them." Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognising how kids feel.

4 Give them some relaxation ideas: Anxious or nervous kids will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercising the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

5 Help them retain their perspective: One way to help children who become excessively anxious about an event is to ask what's the worst thing that could happen? Okay, they may not do as well as they would like but the sun will still rise tomorrow, regardless of how well they do. Keeping perspective is a life skill that we all need to practise.

A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it's going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.

This week at assembly we:

- Handed out some wonderful student of the week awards
- Reminded students of the pupil free day on Monday and that NAPLAN is running this week.
- Congratulated the children on making their Mother's Day gifts and reminded them that \$3 needs to be paid to cover the costs.
- Congratulated all the groups of children who've been going out on excursions and incursions in the past few weeks including the children who went to the Polly Woodside and the HMAS Castlemaine in Williamstown followed by the Shrine of Remembrance in the city.
- Wished everyone a great week!

See you around the school.

Rohan Thompson
Principal



CAKES SLICES

BISCUITS

ELECTION DAY!

Are you a budding Masterchef, Baker or Pastry Chef?

Well, we need your help.

As part of our big fundraiser, we are having a Cake Stall and we need your donations.

So, get your favourite recipes ready..... And let's sell some cakes!

They can be dropped at office on Friday 20th.

(No fresh cream please)

(Please note that the date made & the ingredients need to be listed)

Inter House Cross Country

Well done to all of our Tecoma Prep to 6 students who participated in Tecoma's inter-house cross country last Friday. It was great to see so many students get into the house spirit and wear team colours to this fun event.

The top 8 students (from grade 3 to 6) in the 9/10, 11 and 12/13 age groups will now go on to represent our school at The Sherbrooke District Cross Country Carnival taking place at King's Park on Friday 27th May.

I would like to say a huge thank-you to all our parents who volunteered their time to man the race course as well as some of our wonderful teachers and parents who ran as race hares and tortoises. Without their help events like this would not be possible.

The house results for 2022 are as follows:

1st Mungarie

2nd Alinta

3rd Karee

4th Binowee

Well Done Everyone!







STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep K	Max G	When Max's original idea to create a model of a turtle out of recyclables didn't go to plan, he worked through his frustration and re-worked his plan to create a lovely piece of coral instead. It is great to see you displaying our school value of resilience, Max!
Prep Y	Natalie E	For being such a good sport and congratulating her partner for winning when playing the race to ten game in Maths. Well done Natalie!
1V	Emilie G	Emilie wrote a very creative story based on a picture prompt of a delivery man carrying a massive box. She used clear thinking skills to edit her own work and added a clever twist at the end of her story! She is also a wonderful friend, who is always supportive, accepting and respectful. Awesome work Emilie!
1W	Angus A	Angus, you quickly made your flowers for Mother's Day and creatively worked out how to put together the stem and petal. I was truly blown away how you stopped everything and began helping others in the classroom! We're so lucky to have you Angus.
2L	Ella B	Ella consistently shows all of our school values. She is respectful, resilient, creative and always does her personal best. You are a fantastic role model Ella. Well done!
2R	Marlie F	Marlie, I was so impressed by the respect you showed in helping a fellow classmate with their learning. When you saw that someone was having difficulty in Maths, you stopped your own work and helped her solve the problem. Well done, you are a true friend.
2W	Xavier M	I love Xavier's enthusiasm in class. He is always so keen to make sure he has finished tasks and also volunteers for most of our Class Monitors roles and other jobs. As well as that, this week he read really well in our Literacy Groups, carefully checking for punctuation in the text. You're a ripper Xavier.
3H	Dante M	Dante puts so much effort into our Maths lessons! He utilises his prior knowledge of mathematical concepts and applies this knowledge to solve a variety of problems in a creative way. Well done Dante!
3W	Ned O	Ned has fully embraced a growth mindset through our 'Marvellous Math Mistakes' program this term. He was the first to find and share a mistake he had made during our lesson on "Time", and was happy to share it with the class so that everyone could learn from it. That kind of attitude will take you a long way in your learning Ned! Well done!!!
4B	Caleb D	Caleb wrote a fantastic journal entry through the eyes of a convict. When he was finished, he told me that once he found out who the convict was, he went home and did his own research on him. Caleb, I love how you took it upon yourself to find out more details about this convict, so that you could make your writing more rich. Keep up the fantastic effort!
4D	Alex T	For carefully crafting an entertaining and fabulous narrative piece of writing about 'The Gate'. Alex has cleverly used his knowledge of word choice and sentence fluency to build suspense and give his writing purpose. Congratulations Alex.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
5G	Josh M	Josh has gone above and beyond in his writing this week. He listened attentively during our persuasive writing lessons and applied strategies taught to his own persuasive essay. I was so impressed with his introductory paragraph and read it to the class as an exemplar of great writing. Josh had such a good flow in his writing, you could feel the inspiration behind his piece. Well done, Josh! Keep up the good work!
5G	Quin H	Quinn has been an absolutely awesome PA this week. He is on top of all of his responsibilities, is always keen to help out and sticks to a clear routine. It has been wonderful watching him interact with others in the class as he is always positive, kind and respectful. Thank you Quinn for being such a role model for those around you!
5M	Liam P	Liam, you bring such a wonderful, positive energy to our classroom. Always smiling, you respect and value everyone in our class and treat everyone as if they are your friend. It's been wonderful to see you give your best towards your Maths over recent weeks through our probability work. Well done Liam!
5U	Elliot E	For returning back to school and making some positive changes towards your learning. Elliot, you seem more focused and engaged this week, especially when reflecting on our classroom environment. You tackled NAPLAN with a growth mindset and you were respectful towards the expectations of our classroom. You really impressed me this week Elliot. Keep up the great work!
6F	Ollie O	Ollie demonstrates outstanding bookwork in every session, every day. He takes time to set his work out in a way that makes it easy for him to refer back to, as well as for me to check and correct. The dedication Ollie has to consistently work to his best is admirable. Thank you for being such a positive role model in our class!
6G	Finn M	It is so great to see your enthusiasm in our ANZAC unit. You are full of interesting facts about Australia's war history and it is lovely to hear your knowledge and thoughts about the topic. Keep up the great work Finn.
6S	Jasper T	Congratulations on an awesome week Jasper. You created a comprehensive list of suitable vocabulary for your soldier's letter and shared your thoughts and ideas as we explored the push and pull factors associated with migration. Keep up the amazing effort!
6S	All of 6S!	Wow 6S, what a week!! This award is for the whole class as I was blown away by how well you all worked together as a team and showcased the school values everyday. I'm very proud of you all. Thanks for making my return to school from being sick so delightful!
Japanese	Mani C	For his consistent effort in learning Japanese. It is great that Mani-kun takes some work home and tries to extend his Japanese speaking. Excellent work!
Japanese	Brodie L	For putting a lot of effort into his tasks throughout the lesson. It was great to hear you say "I got the maximum Dojo points in a Japanese lesson today!". Fantastic work!

OFFICE NEWS

Excursions on Compass Camp Maldon Parent Volunteer Requests
Puffing Billy Grade 1/2
District Cross Country
Polly Woodside Grade 3
Immigration Museum Grade 6
Chesterfield Farm Prep
Immigration Museum Grade 5



Interactive Televisions - Thank you for the donations we received from your Voluntary Contributions! From this we were able to purchase Interactive Televisions to enhance our students learning. From the photo's you can see how much they enjoy using them.



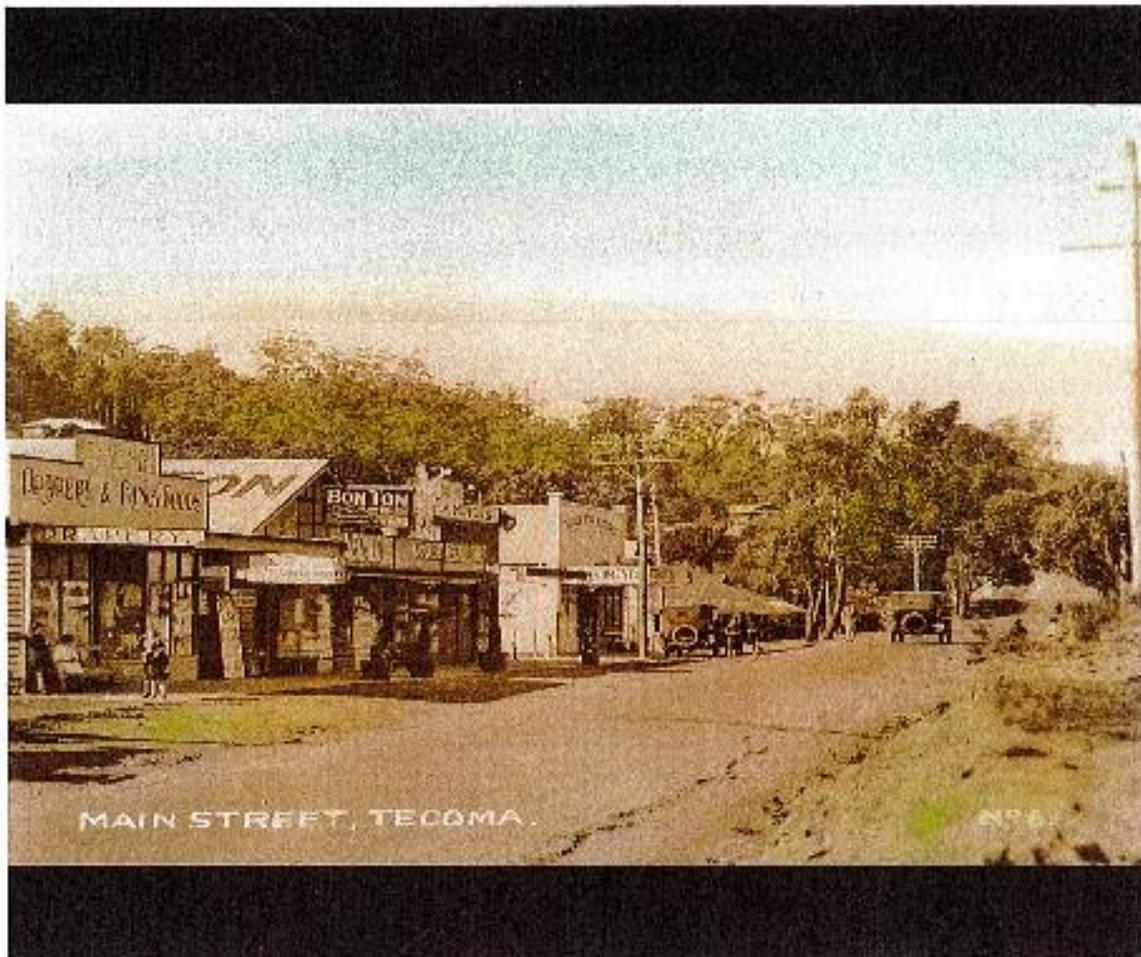
ABSENCES - If your child is not well or going to be absent, please notify the school via School Stream, through Compass, email or phone ASAP that morning or before 10.30am on the day of their absence. Holiday absences can also be advised through these communication options. Thank you.

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.

OLD TIME TECOMA GET TOGETHER



We are holding a social get together to reminisce and catch up with old and new friends who love the area.

- Did you live in Tecoma or surrounding areas?
- Did you go to school or work in the area?
- Did you play sport, holiday or visit the area?

When: Sunday 15th May

Where: Tecoma Primary School, Main Rd. Tecoma

Time: 11am

BYO lunch.

Tea, coffee and cool drinks will be provided



SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS



We are really excited to have launched our School Wide Positive Behaviours initiative this term. This is a process that involves lots of unpacking, developing protocols and expectations. Our journey began last year with the reimagining of our school values. This process took in voices from staff, students and parents to refresh Tecoma's values to the following:

Respect
Personal Best
Creativity
Resilience

At the end of the year we had a competition for students to create a new logo for our values. There were an incredible amount of entries. Our winner was Sophia Briggs, who reimagined our school pencils! Sophia's creation has now been created by one of our parents, Natalie Leys, into a professional design. We thank Natalie for her work in developing Sophia's idea, along with the needs of the logo for the school.

At the beginning of this year, each class was given a Positive Behaviours board to record our students demonstrating our values. Students can be 'caught' displaying one of our values by anyone at school, and be rewarded! Many students have accumulated many points over the term.

This term we now get to transfer this wonderful behaviour into our whole school token collector. Set up in the Administration Building, students will receive a token for every 10 points they earn. They will take their token to the office and swap it for a ping pong ball. As you can see by the picture of our token collector, once one of the tubes is full the whole school receives a reward!

These rewards were discussed in every class meeting, so our students have had full ownership over the ideas for rewards. Each representative brought them to the Student Action Team (SAT) and the most popular rewards were decided! The first rewards our students will be working towards are:

1. Free Dress Day - House Colours
2. Disco Party - Junior and Senior
3. Extended lunch - during leadership time
4. Fun Activities Day - whole school mixed group

Staff are currently unpacking expected behaviours in different parts of the school, completing an expected behaviours and values matrix. Once complete, this will be rolled out to all students and shared with the community.

We look forward to the students continuing to be motivated to display our school values for the betterment and consistency of behavioural expectations for the whole school!



LUNCH TIME CLUBS

AND ACTIVITIES...

MONDAY

Mrs Griffiths – Art (Rm3)
Mrs Cumming – Sport training
Mrs Connell – Aerobics (Library)
Masae Sensai – Japanese Club (BER)
Miss Kesarios – Gardening Club

TUESDAY

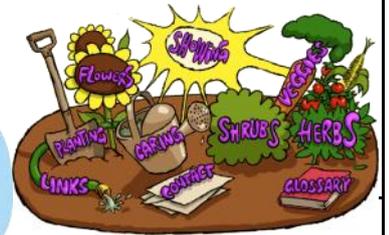
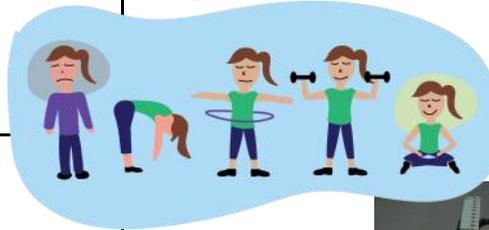
Mrs Cumming – Sport Training
Miss Ugrasbul – Gardening Club
Mrs Weeratunga – Dance (BER)
Mrs Connell – Choir

WEDNESDAY

Miss Rawnsley – Senior Coding (Rm 9)
Miss Graham & Mrs Smith – Volleyball
Mrs Connell – SSSV Choir (Library)
Miss Robins - Lego Club (Rm 20)
Mrs Langford – Gardening Club

THURSDAY

Mrs Langford - SSSV Dance (Library)
Ms Rowland – Gardening Club



FRIDAY

Miss Graham & Mrs Smith – Volleyball
Mrs Young – Mindfulness/Yoga
Mrs Porter – Gardening Club



BEST PRACTICE TENNIS IN BELGRAVE IS NOW OFFERING:

AFTER SCHOOL TENNIS LESSONS

**AVAILABLE FOR AGES 3+
ALL ABILITY LEVELS WELCOME**

**PROGRAM RUNNING AT:
BELGRAVE TENNIS CLUB
1 BLAIR ROAD, BELGRAVE
FROM 3PM-LATE**

The program is conducted by Tennis Australia qualified coaches delivering the ANZ HotShots program and Kinder Tennis program.

**ONLY \$20
PER CLASS**

ENROL NOW!



Contact: Charlie Crawford
Best Practice Tennis
0427 027 527
info@bestpracticetennis.com.au

**BEST
PRACTICE
TENNIS**

OPEN DAY 28 May



Tecoma Preschool

9-11 am

www.tecomapreschool.vic.edu.au



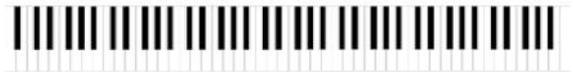
Instrumental Music Lessons

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



UNIFORM SHOP HOURS...

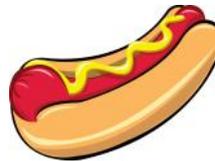
**Mondays:
9.00am—9.30am only**

**Thursdays:
9.00am—9.30am &
3.00pm—3.30pm**

If you are unable to visit during these times you can place your orders through the Qkr! App. Also, feel free to come in for second hand uniform. As our shop is run by parent volunteers, please be patient.



Please wait in the corridor for your turn. Thank you.



LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE FRIDAY'S ONLY

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





NETBALL IS BACK

Players Wanted!

Make friends, develop skills, build confidence & have FUN!

South Upwey Netball Club is looking for players Girls/Boys to join our club for spring 2022. Players welcomed from 7yo.

We're a community-based club run by volunteers. We pride ourselves on being a fun, friendly and inclusive club and offer junior and senior players the opportunity to play great netball whilst enjoying being part of a social netball club.

We participate in the Saturday netball comp at MDNA in Ferntree Gully with team training on Wednesday afternoons 4pm-5pm.

All skill levels welcome. For more info contact Geoff on 0438 880 419 from 5.30pm or email southupwey.netball@gmail.com



COULD YOU FOSTER A CHILD?

We **URGENTLY** need **Foster Carers** in your area. Enquire now on how you can help change a child's life.

Canifoster.com.au | 1800 932 273

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

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facebook.com/mykarateschool

