



# TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Tecoma VIC 3160

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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

6th October, 2022

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

### OCTOBER

**Monday 10th**  
Bodyworks Program  
Grade 6

**Tuesday 11th**  
Bodyworks Program  
Grade 5

*Kinder Visits*  
Grade 4

**Wednesday 12th**  
Swimming  
Grades 5/6



**Thursday 13th**  
*Kinder Visits*  
Grade 4

**Monday 17th**  
Bodyworks Program  
Grade 6

**Tuesday 18th**  
Bodyworks Program  
Grade 5

**Wednesday 19th**  
Swimming  
Grades 5/6

**Step Into Prep**  
**Japanese**

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### HOLIDAYS

Welcome back to school for the final term of 2022. I trust you had a great holiday with the children, hopefully being able to get away somewhere especially with that opportunity to have the two public holidays in a row tagging onto a weekend. The weather on both those days was absolutely magnificent so I hope you were able to make the most of it.

Judging by the growing collection of Geelong supporters on footy day on the last day of term, there would have been some celebrations from the group that wear the blue and white hoops. As far as I'm concerned, cricket season started when my team went for a month's holiday at the end of August, though some might say it started earlier than that! Always next year!

Talking to our staff and some families, the consensus was it was nice to stop but the holidays absolutely flew by. It's that final recharge we need before we begin the sprint to the finish line of 2022 which is the 16th of December. Please see those details further in this edition of the newsletter.

Looking at our term overview, there is a lot that we need to get done so please keep an eye out on COMPASS for notifications that come your way. The process for sending back forms is so much easier so please make it a priority that if your child needs to attend something or is required to attend something, submit the form as soon as you get it online so that we aren't having to chase it up.

### STAFFING AND GRADE STRUCTURES FOR 2023

I cannot believe we are at this time of year, but we are now looking at structures for 2023.

Throughout November and early December, we will be working on our class structures and student combinations for next year. Changes in student numbers and staffing combinations usually cause us to reshape our proposed class structures several times throughout this term.

We have several staff placements that may or may not be a part of our 2023 staff team, with various interview processes to occur.

At this stage, we hope to hold 19-20 classes next year for what is expected to be anything between 420 and 430 children. However, we need definite numbers across all levels before we make that decision.

Due to this, it is vital that we are made aware of any circumstances that may impact on our enrolment numbers. Please let us know urgently if you intend to enrol a child at our school, if you are aware of people in our community who will be enrolling or if you intend to transfer to another school.

We desperately require this information as soon as possible in order to establish grade structures for the start of the new school year. If you will not be at Tecoma in 2023, please notify the school office in writing as soon as possible.



### **What are the criteria that we use to make up class lists?**

Factors influencing class structure are:

- the educational needs of the students;
- the projected number of students in each year level;
- the ratio of girls to boys;
- the number of teachers employed at the school;
- resources and facilities.

Factors which are considered in the placement of students include:

- academic performance – judgments over time;
- work habits eg. ability to work independently;
- Behaviour;
- Gender;
- social network /friendships;
- social maturity;
- special needs eg. twins, siblings.

### **What is the process for placing students into classes?**

Based on the criteria listed above, teaching staff and administration meet mid Term 4 to establish classes for the following school year.

Teachers ensure each new class has:

- a balance of academic ability;
- gender balance;
- socially balanced groups.

During this process, changes and adjustments are made over several weeks. Each change may trigger a chain reaction of other changes. Proposed class lists are submitted to myself and Assistant Principal, Di Double, for final ratification.

At this stage, the new classes will be announced on the proposed Orientation Day, December 6.

### **2023 GRADE PLACEMENT REQUESTS**

Parents are now invited to write to me about any concerns they may have for their child's educational needs for 2023.

Please note, requests for particular teachers will not be considered as the best interests of all of the children and the effective management of the school must be taken into account.

**Letters will be considered up until 4pm, Thursday October 27, 2022.**

Letters received after this date will not be accepted unless in exceptional circumstances. These letters are to be addressed directly to myself with all details and information provided kept in confidence.

While I have letters on file from previous years, I will only be taking into account letters I receive this year. Often friendship concerns become outdated as the children grow in maturity and have developed new friendships. However, if you have information from previous years that you feel I need to know that is relevant in regard to your child's placement, please include this in your letter. Please don't assume I know!

As you may understand, the allocating of children to classrooms is a very complex task and one that requires patience and a great deal of thought and manipulation. Please assist us to make this process as smooth as possible by taking note of the requests as outlined.

Please also be aware that requests are indeed requests and does not mean it will automatically happen. We have decided, on balance, in previous years to not grant some requests.

This is done with all the information that we have at our disposal and every decision will be made for the betterment of all children.

Should you wish to discuss any concerns with 2023 grade placements, please contact the school office to arrange a time for a chat.

### **EXTREME & CATASTROPHIC FIRE DANGER DAYS**

Our school is one of many schools across Victoria that is a Bushfire at Risk school. Like all Bushfire at Risk Schools, we are closed on any declared Catastrophic Day.

Information about the current and expected Fire Danger Ratings can be found in weather forecasts on daily news programs, published on websites and in newspapers, broadcast on radio and on the CFA website.

With fire season fast approaching it is a good time to remind our families to ensure that all your details are up to date at the school. We know that a number of families circumstances have changed recently and we require the most up to date records to ensure we can contact you. If you have changed address, got a new phone number or have a new alternative contact, please contact the office to give us the details so that we are able to contact you if required.

### **SUNSMART**

A reminder that as the UV levels increase at this time of year, we need to be SunSmart!

The Cancer Council recommend a combination of sun protection measures:



1. Slip on some sun-protective clothing that covers as much skin as possible.
2. Slop on broad spectrum, water resistant SPF30+ (or higher) sunscreen. **Put it on 20 minutes before you go outdoors and every two hours afterwards.** Sunscreen should never be used to extend the time you spend in the sun.
3. Slap on a hat – broad brim or legionnaire style to protect your face, head, neck and ears.
4. Seek shade.
5. Slide on some sunglasses – make sure they meet Australian Standards.

Our Sun Smart Policy specifies that all students must wear a sun smart hat whenever they are outdoors at school. Please support our Sun Smart policy by providing a 'sun smart' hat for your child. Hats are available for purchase at the uniform shop.

### **PUPIL FREE DAYS NEXT TERM AND THE BEGINNING OF 2023**

As mentioned in the last newsletter of Term 3, we let parents know that we have three days this term to be utilised as Pupil Free Days. These are the remaining 2 of the 4 Curriculum Days allocated per year and the Term 4 Professional Practise Day (PPD) as part of the Victorian Government Schools Agreement.

- Professional Practice Day on Friday October 28
- Pupil Free Day on Monday December 19
- Pupil Free Day on Tuesday December 20

**The final day of 2022 for all children is Friday December 16 with our final assembly and farewell to our grade 6 children from 2:30-3:30PM that day.**

Next year, we start with:

- Pupil free day to start the year on Friday January 27, 2023.
- Children in grade 1-6 start on Monday January 30, 2023
- Prep children start on Tuesday January 31, 2023.

**Please put all this in your calendar.**

### THIS WEEK AT ASSEMBLY WE...

Started the term with an assembly on the top basketball court where we welcomed back the children for Term 4 and welcomed our new students, Kody in grade 5 and Zoe in Grade 1.

We reminded the children about the need to wear hats this term and we also wished the grade 5-6 children well for their summer sports day on Thursday.

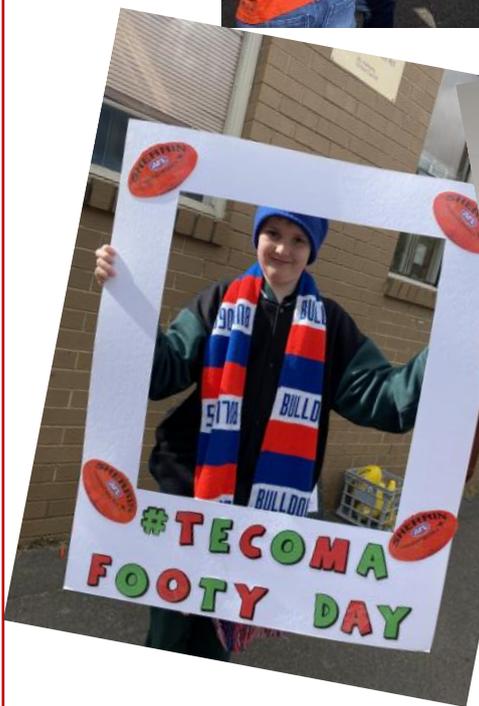
We heard some wonderful weekend achievements from children who had been to a “Joeys” camp over the holidays and also some local footballers.

See you around the school. Have a great term everyone. It’s going to be busy and it’s also going to fly!

Rohan Thompson  
**Principal.**

## FOOTY COLOURS DAY....







# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep K	All of Prep K!	Prep K, I am so proud of the way each and every one of you has displayed our school values this week! You have all commenced Term 4 with a positive attitude and a readiness to learn. I cannot wait to see how much you will all achieve in your final weeks of Prep. Bring it on!
Prep P	Indiana N	For being our responsible sustainability monitor to ensure our new recycling bins are used correctly by everyone. I'm sure you'll do a great job Indi!
Prep Y	Merry E	Merry, you have kicked so many goals this week! You were nominated as our class sustainability representative and as our first class presenter for show and tell. In both roles you modelled to the class how to give lots of detail when explaining your sustainability role, and also discussing your show and tell piece. You spoke beautifully.
1V	Ava T	In Science, Ava demonstrated her personal best when working in her group to set up their tub for our Decomposition Experiment. Ava then completed her write up of how the experiment was done and what materials they used. She worked independently and also used the charts in the room to spell tricky Science words accurately and as a result, her sentences were spot on! I'm very proud of you Ava! Great work!
1W	Imogen C	Imogen has been working extremely hard in all activities and always puts her own spin to any creative task that she completes. She is always respectful of others and waits her turn patiently. Imogen, you should be really proud of your achievements!
1W	Zoe C	WOW Zoe you have started with a BANG at Tecoma. Zoe has settled into the classroom routine and is always well equipped for each lesson. Her concentration levels are fantastic and she is willing to have a go at every task. It truly feels like you have been part of our class the whole year Zoe. Keep up the positive energy!
2L	Sookie A	Sookie has been working extremely hard during Maths sessions, choosing to have a go at the Spicy maths questions. Her concentration has allowed her to apply the skills learnt to achieve great results. Keep up the great work Sookie.
2R	Oakley W	Congratulations on the amazing effort you have put into your reading. Your hard work has paid off and now you are reading from "1" band box. Well done Oakley, you should be very proud of yourself!
2W	Nell S	Nell is always writing great stories. I love her creativity when choosing characters and settings. When she had a long holiday last term she even wrote two stories in Swedish!! (Sadly I couldn't read that language but the ideas sound great.) Keep it up Nell and one day I would love to see that you have published your very first book.



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
3W	Marlie L	Marlie was given the responsibility of being an environment captain this week and has taken the opportunity with both hands. She is supporting the class in the use of the school's new sustainable waste stations, helping students to work out what rubbish goes in each bin. Well done Marlie!
4D	Nicki S	Nicki created a wonderful presentation about Scotland for her Country research project. She was so very engaged with her country, that she also researched a recipe for shortbread. Further research showed that this was a traditional recipe that was used by Mary Queen of Scots! Congratulations Nicki. Keep up the wonderful work.
4R	Nate T	Nate shows a high level of respect in the classroom. He interacts politely with others in whole class discussions and group situations. He conducts himself in a caring and considerate manner in the classroom and he organises and looks after both his own and shared belongings in a careful manner. Thank you for all of your hard work this week Nate!
6F	Isabelle H	I am so impressed by how Isabelle is approaching her learning in Term 4. Taking on a growth mindset, Isabelle is trying her personal best to achieve small steps each day. This leads to great things! Well done Belle.
6G	Amaya H	Amaya's kind and caring personality ensures she is well respected by her peers. She possesses a good moral compass and reflects all the qualities of a positive leader. You are a well valued member of 6G Amaya!
6S	Riley O	Riley, I was so impressed with your enthusiasm to share your working out and answers as we explored statistics and probability in maths. It was great to see you confidently apply your knowledge of converting fractions to decimals and percentages in a range of chance scenarios. Well done!
Art	Griffin W	Griff was an exemplary Art Captain when helping with the Art "Step into Prep". He was a natural at putting the students at ease and was a fantastic role model for Tecoma.
Art	Tahlea B	Tahlea was an exemplary Art Captain when helping with the Art "Step into Prep". She used initiative and her caring nature put the students at ease. You are a fantastic role model for Tecoma.
Art	Laura J	Laura was an exemplary Art Captain when helping with the Art "Step into Prep". She demonstrated all of our school values and was an excellent role model for Tecoma.
Japanese	Kieran W	Kieran has always been respectful and has tried his very best during Japanese throughout the year. Fantastic effort!!!



## Dads Matter

Dad's at their best - helping children to thrive

Are you a dad who would like to:

- Better understand your importance in your child's life?
- Have agreements that work?
- Further develop your relationship with your young people?
- Get your head around what they need from you?

Come along to these 6 online sessions. Share strategies, strengths and stories. Take some time out for you and celebrate the importance of being a Dad!

**When:** Tuesdays (6 evening sessions)  
8th November - 13th December 2022

**Time:** 7.00pm to 9.00pm

**Where:** Online - Via Zoom

**Who:** Dads

**Cost:** Free (Bookings are essential)

**Bookings:** [Click here to book](#)

**Questions:**  
Julia at Parentzone  
9721 3629 or 0400 866 495

PARENTZONE



## Surviving Separation

Are you in conflict with the other parent?

Would you like to:

- Manage your parenting arrangements with less conflict?
- Learn how to best support your children through separation?
- Learn better ways to deal with your emotions and theirs?
- Build communication skills for the future, for yourself and your children?

Come along, learn some skills to resolve conflict and connect with other parents about the best ways to co-parent, always putting your child's needs first.

**When:** Mondays - October 10th - December 5th inclusive (eight evening sessions, no session on October 31)

**Time:** 7.00pm - 9.00pm

**Where:** Online via Zoom

**Who:** Separated parents

**Cost:** Free (Bookings are essential)

**Bookings:** [Click here to register](#)

**Questions:** Julia at Parentzone  
9721 3629 or 0400 866 495

PARENTZONE

## Dads Den Modern Day Parenting Workshop



**Wednesday**  
**12th October**  
**and**  
**26th October**  
**7pm-9pm**

\*This workshop runs over 2 sessions

Dad's, Step Dads, Grand Dad's and father figures of children 0-8 years, are invited to a FREE interactive workshop supporting and strengthening your role as a father/carer, building positive relationships with your child and exploring the important role a Dad has in their child's life:

- Tools to further connect with your child.
- Partnership of parenting.
- Supporting your child's development and play.
- Talking, sharing and developing trust.
- Services and supports for Dad's and male carers.
- Meet some other great Dads!

Please note -  
Due to the conversation content this workshop is for adults only, children cannot be accommodated for.

To register visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/CCXQY>  
or contact Michelle Lehmann at Yarra Ranges Council on  
9294 6207 / [m.lehmann@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:m.lehmann@yarraranges.vic.gov.au)



## Join the JOEY RANGERS

Join Scouts Victoria and Parks Victoria for a combined Scouts and Junior Ranger program for 5-7 year olds at Dandenong Ranges National Park.

Enrol today for this four week program, to learn valuable life skills, foster independence, and immerse yourself in the beauty and adventure at Dandenong Ranges National Park.

Activities will include bushwalking, water bug discovery, campfire cooking and more!

The cost is free!

The program starts on October 18 and will run from 4:30-5:30pm. Applications close on October 14. Visit [scoutsvictoria.com.au/joey-rangers](https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/joey-rangers) to join.



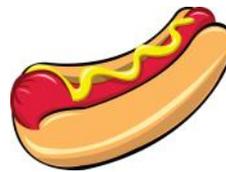
# UNIFORM SHOP HOURS...

**Mondays: 9.00am—9.30am**

**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. Cash is preferred for second hand items as this goes towards our chook food and the vegetable garden. Thank you.



## LUNCH ORDERS

**Wednesday's & Friday's**

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



# 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

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

COVID SAFE SPACE

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)

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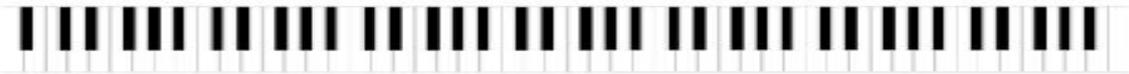
## Instrumental Music Lessons

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



## Early Intervention and Support Information session for Families



**Thursday 6th  
October 2022  
10am-11am**  
or  
**Monday 17th  
October  
7:30pm-8:30pm**

link will be provided upon registration

This FREE online session for families with children ages 0-7 years provides information and tools to:

- Learn about Early Intervention supports for children with developmental concerns aged 0 – 7 years.
- Discussion regarding 'Red Flags' and how to identify developmental concerns in your child
- Discussion regarding LINK Health and Community Early Supports for children
- Discussion regarding NDIS pathways
- Opportunity for Questions.

Resources and an information pack will be provided to attending families.

Book for Thursday morning: <https://www.trybooking.com/CCLNV>  
Book for Monday evening: <https://www.trybooking.com/CCLOB>

or contact Michelle Lehmann at Yarra Ranges Council on  
9294 6207 / [m.lehmann@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:m.lehmann@yarraranges.vic.gov.au)



Yarra Ranges Council is a Child Safe Organisation



Delivering the NDIS in your community

2022/23 Season runs October '22 to Mar '23

**WHERE?**  
Kings Park, Upper  
Ferntree Gully

**WHEN?**  
Starting 8<sup>th</sup> October,  
Saturday's 8.45am start

**HOW MUCH?**  
\$175 includes summer  
'22 & winter '23

### Free 2 week Trials!



**Safe, fun, family environment for ages 6-16**

Compete in up to 7 events each week.

Try to beat your personal best!

For more information or to register visit  
[Sherbrookelac.org.au](http://Sherbrookelac.org.au)

Contact Gill with further enquiries on 0407 858 456