



# TECOMA TIMES

## Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

2nd February, 2023

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

#### FEBRUARY

**Tuesday 7th**  
*Democracy Incursion*  
Grades 3/4A,  
3/4C & 3/4E

**Wednesday 8th**  
*Swimming*  
Grades 1 & 2



**Thursday 9th**  
*Democracy Incursion*  
Grades 3/4D & 3/4B

**Wednesday 15th**  
*Swimming*  
Grades 1 & 2

**Thursday 16th**  
*Welcome Picnic*  
5.30pm - 7.30pm  
On the Oval  
*Preps, Buddies & new students to the school.*



### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

#### WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

As a new school year is upon us, I would like to start by welcoming everyone back to school for 2023 and in particular, I'd like to welcome our Preps and new students to the school. If you have been at the school for some time and see a new face in the yard, please make them feel welcome, extend a hand of friendship (or at least an elbow!) and try to ensure everyone in our community feels included in all aspects of school life.

2022 saw the school return to relative normality and it was a breath of fresh air on Monday as families flowed into the school grounds for the first day. The sense of excitement was palpable and it was certainly a different tone to recent years. Of course, we can't measure our experiences against the last few years, as they were anomalies that we hope are not seen again. I'm not sure how you felt but it felt to me like last year was a transition year personally and professionally out of COVID, where we always had one eye looking back to make sure it wouldn't happen again and one eye looking forward hoping that it was all behind us.

Instead we look to the future with a renewed outlook. Having enjoyed a relatively relaxed summer break myself, this year feels more energised and I'm sure we are all looking forward to our students regaining their confidence in learning. The team at TPS is looking to ensure our programs are as engaging as possible and that our teaching meets each child's point of need. We will maintain a strong wellbeing focus, as well as continue our commitment to improving our teaching and learning programs. Parents can help by encouraging every child to have a go at new things and to not be afraid of making mistakes. We all learn through mistakes and it is having the confidence to try new things that we move out of our comfort zone and build new knowledge and skills. This year is a review year for our school as we look back at what we have achieved over the past four years and set the direction for the next four years. We will be seeking your input along with staff and the children as we negotiate this year's review.

Our 56 Prep children started on Tuesday and overall, they have settled in really well. They will naturally take a few weeks to adjust to the rigours of full day schooling before they start full time on March 14th.



In welcoming our Preps and new students to the school, we also extend a welcome to Mrs Kate Mercer who has joined our Grade 3/4 teaching team for the next 6 weeks (at this stage) replacing Miss Rawnsley whose back is still causing her issues. We also welcome back Mrs Venten after family leave and Mrs Porter after 6 months travelling around Australia.

Looking back over the holiday break we have seen some minor works with the hall painted inside, as well as a re-organisation of the PE storeroom. We also had some plumbing work done so that hopefully we never have the flooding of our classrooms on the eastern side of the BER building again. My thanks to all who attended the Working Bee on Sunday night as well as those who kept an eye on our school during the holidays. The school is in excellent shape, the teachers are ready and we look forward to a very positive and successful year ahead.

You can be involved in our learning. There are many opportunities for parent involvement within the school: classroom assistance with Reading (especially in the "Reading Room"), Maths or PMP; assisting at Working Bees, camps and excursions and of course, being a member of the Parent Network, who do such an amazing job of raising funds for the school and giving the children some wonderful experiences.

There have been many people hard at work over the holidays to ensure a smooth start to the school year for all. Thank you mums and dads, for ensuring your children were dressed in full Tecoma PS uniform for their return to school. I know this high standard will continue throughout the year.



A huge thanks to our staff for all the preparations they have made to ensure a great start to the 2023 school year. Over the past few weeks, they have met in teams to discuss and plan curriculum, spent hours getting rooms ready, made teaching materials and organised supplies and equipment. Already many hours have been expended on these and other tasks, both at home and school. We are really ready for another great year.

We will continue with fortnightly newsletters. Therefore, it is imperative you have the "COMPASS" app loaded onto your phone. Every effort will be made for our newsletter to be posted by 3:30pm each Thursday. It is also uploaded to our website if you ever need to refer to it for information again.

"Student of the week" will be announced weekly either via the fortnightly newsletter or via a PDF alert in "COMPASS" on the "off week."

Please see the office news section of this week's newsletter for further information on office procedures for receiving information, payments and lunch orders.



### **Administration**

**Principal:**

*Mr Rohan Thompson*

**Assistant Principal:**

*Mrs Di Double*

**Business Manager:**

*Mrs Karin Hartnell*

**Office Administration:**

*Mrs Marnie Martin and Mrs Anthea Cresswell*

### **Education Support Staff**

**(Integration Aides):**

*Mrs Megan Wilson*

*Mrs Kath Young*

*Mrs Rita Senior*

### **Out of School Hours Care Staff**

*Mrs Adelle Young*

*Mr Daniel Gasson*

*Mrs Annemarie Dufour*

*Mrs Rita Senior*

### **Class structure for 2023**

<b>Prep A</b>	<i>Mr Phillip Darbyshire</i>
<b>Prep B</b>	<i>Miss Helen Kesarios</i>
<b>Prep C</b>	<i>Ms Paulina van Elmpt</i>
<b>1A</b>	<i>Mrs Deb Langford</i>
<b>1B</b>	<i>Ms Kathy Perushyn</i>
<b>1C</b>	<i>Miss Dilek Ugrasbul</i>
<b>2A</b>	<i>Mrs Helen Neal (Monday – Wednesday) &amp; Mrs Gemma Porter (Thursday &amp; Friday)</i>
<b>2B</b>	<i>Mr Trevor Wilson</i>
<b>3/4A</b>	<i>Miss Tahlia Bye</i>
<b>3/4B</b>	<i>Mrs Kate Mercer until Miss Laura Rawnsley returns (6 weeks at this stage)</i>
<b>3/4C</b>	<i>Miss Chelsey Robins</i>
<b>3/4D</b>	<i>Mr Stuart Mclean</i>
<b>3/4E</b>	<i>Ms Felicity Young</i>
<b>5A</b>	<i>Mrs Lisa Hoskins-Faul</i>
<b>5B</b>	<i>Mrs Bree Schafter</i>
<b>5C</b>	<i>Miss Hayley Ward</i>
<b>6A</b>	<i>Mrs Monica Griffiths</i>
<b>6B</b>	<i>Ms Polly Swan</i>
<b>6C</b>	<i>Mr Liam Wright</i>

### **Specialist Programs for 2023**

<b>Physical Education:</b>	<i>Mrs Nicole Cumming</i>
<b>Visual Arts:</b>	<i>Mrs Jane McManamon</i>
<b>Performing Arts:</b>	<i>Mrs Sally Connell (Grades 1-6) and Mrs Lauren Abbott (Prep)</i>
<b>Japanese:</b>	<i>Ms Masae Uekusa</i>
<b>Science:</b>	<i>Ms Masae Uekusa</i>
<b>Reading Room:</b>	<i>Mrs Di Double</i>
<b>Tutors:</b>	<i>Mrs Cassandra Venten (Literacy), Mrs Shelley Smith (Numeracy) and Ms Mel Rowland (extension)</i>

### **WELCOME PICNIC**

We would like to provide the venue for a welcome picnic where our new families, Prep families and the grade 5 buddies can get together and meet each other.

It will be held on Thursday February 16 from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

It is a BYO picnic or you getting take-away from over the road or ordering from a food truck that we are in the process of organising. Therefore we invite new families to set aside the night of Thursday February 16, 2023.

### **DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

#### **SCHOOL CAMPS:**

Grade 3/4: The Island CYC Youth Camp, Phillip Island 28th-30th August, 2023.

Grade 5: Urban Camp, Melbourne from the 24th-27th May, 2023.

Grade 6: Camp Coonawarra from the 27th-31st March, 2023.

#### **SCHOOL PRODUCTION:**

Monday September 11 and Tuesday September 12 at Discovery Church, Mt Evelyn.

#### **NAPLAN:**

NAPLAN will be held during Term 1 from Wednesday 15 March to Monday 27 March. This is nationwide and is for Grade 3, Grade 5, Year 7 and Year 9 students across the country.

A reminder that we have our assemblies, beginning at 9:00am, every Monday. You are certainly welcome to attend to find out what is happening around the school and to give a hearty cheer to those student that receive the “Student of the Week” award. “Student of the Week” award recipients are announced via “COMPASS” each week, giving you time to organise your availability to attend assembly the following Monday. Please come along if you can as your child gets a great thrill from having you there.



## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

On Monday, we sent out “Expressions of Interest” for the four vacant parent member category positions for the 2023/24 school years via COMPASS. Nomination forms are available at the office.

Thank you to Lisa Dell, Sanjay Singh, Matthew Ford and Travis Cochrane who have completed their 2-year term. We appreciate your commitment and dedication to our school over the past two years. Once we know our new School Council, we will meet for the first time on February 21 where Office Bearers will be decided.



## **DEVELOPING A PARTNERSHIP WITH TECOMA FAMILIES**

Our teaching and support staff are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure all students can achieve their highest potential. We recognise that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school, never more exemplified than in the past 2 years.

We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our student's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time ready for the day's learning program
- 2) Completes all homework given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life

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

Getting to know your child Parent/Teacher meetings will be held on **Monday February 20, from 1:30pm to 6:00pm.**

The school will again set up a process where parents are required to book a time online to see a teacher. It is not compulsory to see a teacher about your child at this stage of the year but we would certainly like to see you all here; 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. 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.



## **2023 PARENT PAYMENTS REMINDER**

Parent payments help the school to operate effectively. TPS provides a significant range of programs that cannot be delivered without the optional support of families. We would like to thank the parents that have already made these payments.

## **PARENT PERMISSION FORMS FOR EXCURSIONS/INCURSIONS**

One of the many exciting parts of going to school is the different experiences children receive when going on camps and excursions/incursions. Students really become immersed in the topic as they receive information in a different setting and from a different source. Staff spend a great deal of time organising excursions and all excursions require parent permission to participate. In previous years, staff have unfortunately spent time chasing up these permission forms on the morning of the excursion when first aid kits, communication lists, equipment and various other items have to be organised.

On some occasions, excursion groups have left late because permission forms have not been returned and are being chased up by staff. This is unfair both on staff but also on those families and children that have sent the forms back on time. Quite often, excursion venues also require final numbers days before and we get billed on this figure, even if some students do not attend. We have decided that this year the cut off for permission forms and therefore children being able to attend is the day before the incursion/excursion.

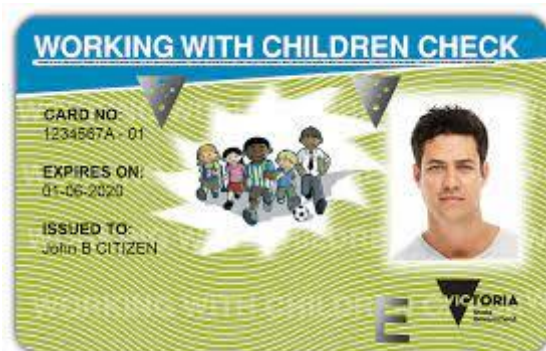
To make it easier, the vast majority of permission forms can be completed online, taking away the problem of paperwork not making it home. This can be done on the COMPASS app.

***If the permission form is not completed by the day before, then the student will not be attending. We cannot continue to chase or accept permission forms on the morning for the above stated reasons.***

This is in fairness to all involved. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

### **WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS (WWCC)**

We encourage and value parental and community support at Tecoma Primary School. There are many ways that parents, grandparents and friends can assist at our school. We encourage all parents to obtain a Working with Children's Check that will allow you to be involved in your child's education. These checks are free for volunteers and will allow you to be involved in as many school events as you require. Once you have your WWCC, please come to the office so we can photocopy this and we will add your name to our list of parents who have a current WWCC.



### **CAR PARKING**



Just a reminder about the carparking in and around the surrounding areas of the school. Our school carpark is open in the morning and has a drop off bay outside the hall. If the carpark is full there are spaces available for parents to park on Burwood Hwy, in behind the Salvation Army and Bon-Ton and the church next door. There is a small amount of spaces available on McNicol Rd however please be aware parking inspectors were out and about last year booking cars for being parked in the wrong areas.

Our carpark works extremely well in the afternoon when the pick up bay is not used for parking; please only stop in the drop off bay when you see your child waiting there. If you do not see your child there, please do another loop. If your child is at an age where they need assistance to get in the car, carry their bags or need help with seatbelts etc, then please don't use the drop off bay.

It works really well when we all do the right thing.

It ensures the traffic keeps flowing and leads to much less frustration for all road users.

The pre-school carpark is for kinder parents only. This is also the case at the Imaging and Audiology Centre on the corner of Burwood Hwy and McNicol Rd due to the Emergency Vehicles (eg Ambulances) that might need access to the premises. Please be respectful that these carparks are not ours and should not be used by our community as such.

Thanks for your assistance.

### **ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

The Department of Education and Training (DET) does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. The Department of Education states that reasonable low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector. Similarly, DET (which includes the school) does not offer replacement of personal items which are brought to school and are lost, broken or stolen. Sentimental or expensive belongings and toys, including sports equipment and electronic devices, are normally best left at home.

## PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT OWNER'S RISK

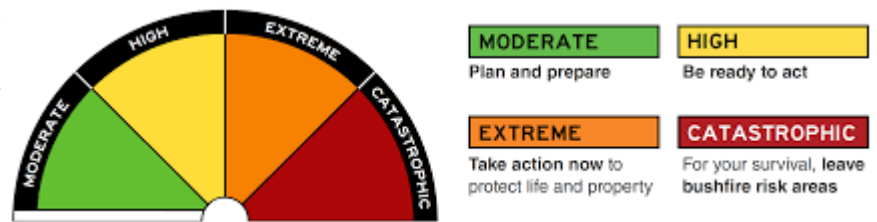
The Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools. Principals are requested to remind students and parents/guardians of this at the beginning of each academic year and to discourage parents/students from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school. Please, try and avoid bringing these items as it can be most upsetting for all concerned when items do go missing.

## STUDENT SAFETY – BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES @ TECOMA PS

While “La Nina” has brought a much milder and wetter spring and summer than previous years, we live in the Dandenong Ranges which classifies our school on the ‘Bushfire At Risk Register’. It is vital you are aware of the following information:

### **SCHOOL CLOSURES ON CODE RED DAYS**

Should there be a predicted **“CATASTROPHIC”** day school community members will be notified three days prior to the predicted closure through Compass. One day prior to the closure day(s) another alert, letter/phone call will confirm the closure. If the school is closed, nobody will be on site. This includes all staff and students. As the Out of School Hours Care Program will also be closed families will be required to make alternate arrangements for such days. It is recommended that you enact your fire plans on these days.



### **Active Fire Procedures**

In the event of an active fire occurring in the area all students will be evacuated to the safer place which is our school hall. Parents will be notified should we ever evacuate to the hall.

We ask that you do not come to the school to collect your children, at this time, as the potential for traffic closures and hazards in such conditions could result in tragic consequences as was the case in the Black Saturday fires. Please note that the school's Safer Place is not a community refuge and we discourage you from using it as a plan of action in your family's emergency management plan. Many parents will choose to enact their family fire plans well before a real threat is faced. This may mean leaving the local area the day before a day of extreme heat and/ or wind. Of course this decision lies with each family and should mean that your route down the Highway is not blocked or impeded as may be the case if a fire was in the area.

## VISITING THE SCHOOL and CHILDREN COLLECTION AT THE END OF THE DAY

A reminder to everyone that we have a policy which requires all visitors to report to the office first when entering the school. Should you need to visit the classroom, see your child at recess or are a helper at school, please report to the office first, to sign in as a visitor. This ensures that in an emergency we are able to account for all people at school.

If you are having someone collecting your children that is not on your emergency contact list or does not normally pick up your child, can you please send a note to your teacher. This is especially important for the junior children as we release the children from their class for the day.



### MOBILE PHONES

There is a state-wide policy on Mobile Phones in Victorian Government Schools. All students are required to turn off and hand in mobile phones to prevent usage during school hours. This includes watches and other devices that can make calls or text. We have electronic safes to secure the devices in for each classroom in the grade 3-6 areas. Phones will be placed in the safe at the start of the day and handed back at the end of the day.

If students in Prep-2 have a mobile phone, this will need to be handed to their classroom teacher or to the school office. Our mobile policy is on the school website so please familiarise yourself with our procedures.



## **SUNSMART**

During term one, please remember that hats are compulsory at all times when outside at school (including Phys Ed sessions). As a Sunsmart school we strictly enforce the use of hats.

**Remember these 5 SunSmart steps during the sun protection times, even if it's cool or cloudy**

1. ***Slip on covering clothing.*** If you can see skin, UV can reach it.
2. ***Slop on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum sunscreen.*** Apply sunscreen before going outdoors.

3. ***Slap on a sun protective hat.*** The best hat shades the head, face, eyes, ears and neck. Our school hats comply with Sun Smart regulations.

4. ***Seek shade.*** Shady spaces help block some of the sun's UV but not all so you still need to wear hats, clothing and sunscreen even in the shade.

5. ***Slide on sunglasses.*** If practical, help protect your child's eyes with sunglasses.

For further information go to: [www.sunsmart.com.au](http://www.sunsmart.com.au)

***Students who don't have a Sun Smart hat will be directed to play in a designated shade area.***

## **HOT WEATHER**

On days of extreme heat, students will remain in their classrooms with all staff sharing the supervision of grades. This will only apply to days of extreme and excessive heat and will operate similarly to the wet day timetable.

## **AND FINALLY.....**

- Lunch orders are available on Wednesday and Fridays only at this stage via the QKR app. Order can be placed from Sushi Express or the Blacksmith in Belgrave and must be done by 9:00pm the night before. Please make sure you've updated your child's year level to this year's Grade (ie. 1A).
- The playground is supervised from 8.45am and children should not be at school before this time unless prearranged by a teacher due to a school event. Each day teachers will be in their classroom at 8.50am should you have any questions to ask. Parents should note that lessons will begin at 9am sharp. For more complex issues an alternative meeting time, at a mutually agreeable time, can be arranged after school.
- If your child is ill at school, or suffers an accident, then staff will give immediate care and appropriate first aid. However, it is necessary on occasions to contact parents and we are often frustrated by out of date information that delays this process. Please make sure you notify the office of any changes to your address, your Emergency Contact details as well as mobile phone numbers for our SMS system. Obviously in extreme cases we may also deem it necessary to call an Ambulance before consulting parents and you need to be aware of this. Please also keep the office informed of any change in medical issues faced by your children as this helps us to make the best choices for their welfare. Your up to date contact information is especially important for our SMS system in case we need to contact you in case of an emergency eg bushfire.

Thankyou everyone for a sensational start to the school year. Have a wonderful 2023!

Rohan Thompson  
**Principal**



2023 TERMS, KEY EVENTS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY DATES			
Friday	27 January	All day	Pupil Free Day
Sunday	29 January	4:30pm-8pm	Working Bee
Monday	30 January	9:00am	<b><u>Term One commences</u></b> – Grade 1-6 students begin
Tuesday	31 January	9:30am-1:00pm	Prep Students begin
Wednesday	1 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation
Wednesday	8 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation
Wednesday	15 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation
Thursday	16 February	Welcome picnic	Prep and Grade 5 buddy picnic: 5:30-7:30 pm
Wednesday	22 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation
Wednesday	1 March	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation
Wednesday	8 March	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation
Monday	13 March	All day	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday	14 March	All day	Preps commence full time schooling
Wed-Fri	March 15-24		NAPLAN Gr 3 and 5
Mon-Fri	March 27-31	Grade 6 camp	Coonawarra
Thursday	6th April	2:00 – <b>2:30pm</b>	Assembly (Term 1 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u> )
Friday	7th April		Good Friday (in school holidays)
Monday	10th April		Easter Monday (in school holidays)
Monday	24 April	9:00am	<b><u>Term Two commences</u></b>
Tuesday	25 April		Anzac Day
Tues-Fri	23-26 May	All day	Grade 5 Urban camp
Monday	12 June		Queen's Birthday Holiday
Friday	23 June	2:00 – <b>2:30pm</b>	Assembly (Term 2 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u> )
Monday	10 July	9:00am	<b><u>Term Three commences</u></b>
Mon-Wed	Aug 28-30	All day	Grade 3/4 Phillip Island Camp
Mon-Tues	Sept 11/12	6:30pm-9:30pm	Whole school production
Friday	15 September	2:00 – <b>2:30pm</b>	Assembly (Term 3 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u> )
Monday	2 October	9:00am	<b><u>Term Four commences</u></b>
Tuesday	7 November		Melbourne Cup Holiday
Wednesday	20 December	1:45 – <b>2:30pm</b>	Assembly (last day of 2023 - <u>early dismissal</u> )



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
1C	Quinn J	For settling into a new school year so beautifully. Quinn, you are always contributing your wonderful ideas to the class with confidence and showing respect at all times towards your classmates, belongings and classroom. We are going to have a great year together!
2A	Charles G	For ALWAYS showing respect to your teachers and classmates. Charles, you have been a model student during our first week back at school and have demonstrated all of our school values consistently. You have especially embodied the value of respect. Thank you for being such a great role model and helping create a wonderful class environment.
3/4A	Zara G	Zara has had a wonderful start to the year. She was quick to offer her assistance and help me with a worked example to show the class when making our time capsules. Zara, I love that you are displaying such excellent leadership qualities already! Keep up the fantastic work.
3/4B	All of 3/4B!	Thank you 3/4B for being so welcoming to me in my first week at Tecoma Primary School. It is a pleasure to see your smiling faces each morning and to hear you using kind and respectful words throughout the day in the classroom.
3/4C	All of 3/4C!	For the wonderful start every single one of you has made in 3/4C. You have worked so well together and I know that we are going to have a fantastic year. You are all superstars! Well done!
3/4D	Logan P	When discussing the highlight of our day, Logan spoke about another child's achievement as being HIS highlight. Being able to see the great things that other people do is an incredible skill Logan and that, coupled with the effort you have put into your learning this week, has set yourself up for a great year.
3/4E	Dante M	Dante, congratulations on a STELLAR start to the year! Your enthusiasm, engagement, and...above all...attention and respect of our school values has shown me the amazing learner you will be this year. Thank you for the level of respect, and the enthusiasm you have shown in the first week in our classroom.
5B	Sienna N	Wow! What an amazing start to Grade 5 you have had Sienna! You have approached all of your learning with such a mature and positive attitude. Thank you for being such a wonderful P.A. for our class this week. You have really set the tone for a wonderful year of learning. Congratulations!
6A	Allora C	What an amazing start to the year, Allora. You have shown kindness, enthusiasm for learning and respect for others, all in our very first week together. You are definitely a well deserving student of the week! Well done!
6B	Brooklyn P	Well done on a great first week, Brooklyn. Starting at a new school can be challenging, but you have done a great job settling in. We are very lucky to have you in Grade 6 this year!
6C	Zoe G	Congratulations on your start to Grade Six Zoe. You have met all of the changes and challenges of starting a new school year with a positive mindset and you always put the needs of the grade before your own. It is a pleasure to have you back in my classroom!
Music	Griffin L	Thank you Griff for helping to clean up the music room without being asked. I appreciate your help!
Japanese	Tori L	Well done Tori-san (Ms Tori) for writing her Japanese name in Kanji and Hiragana without any help. Fantastic work!

Smile Squad is coming  
to this school



#### What is Smile Squad?

The Victorian Government free school dental program – Smile Squad – is visiting this school soon.

This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

#### How to access free dental care

We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

#### Sign up to Smile Squad:



<https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

Let us know if you need a paper form to complete. We look forward to seeing you soon!



## GOLDEN COBRA MARTIAL ARTS

Your local not-for-profit club for fitness, self defence and traditional martial arts.



## Try Karate for FREE!

Call today and ask  
about our free trial  
class for students  
aged 4 and older.

**9754 7882**

1011 Burwood Highway  
Upper Farningham

Got Questions? Visit [goldencobra.org.au](http://goldencobra.org.au)

# Single-use plastics ban

**From 1 February 2023**  
these single-use plastic items  
will be banned in Victoria



The Victorian Government is encouraging businesses to take steps now to get ready for the ban.

#### Why are we introducing a ban?

Single-use plastics make up a third of the litter in our streets and waterways. They remain in the environment for a long time, harming our wildlife and contaminating our food and water. This ban will also help reduce plastic waste and contamination at recycling facilities.

The Victorian Government has received thousands of responses from local businesses, community organisations and customers supporting bans on single-use plastics.

#### What items are banned?

From 1 February 2023, these items are banned in Victoria:

- × Single-use plastic drinking straws
- × Single-use plastic drink stirrers
- × Single-use plastic cutlery
- × Single-use plastic plates
- × Single-use plastic cotton buds
- × Foodware and cups made from expanded polystyrene

From 1 January 2026, these items are also banned when they are pre-packaged into a food or beverage product by a mechanical process (e.g. straw attached to juice box, plate in a frozen meal).

Compostable plastic alternatives are also banned. The ban applies where the items are sold or supplied for free, and where they are provided individually or in packets.

#### Who does the ban apply to?

The ban applies to all business and organisations. Key sectors include:

- **Retail and hospitality businesses**, such as cafes, bars, restaurants, hotels, takeaway food outlets, party stores, discount stores, supermarkets, market stalls, festivals, events, and online stores.
- **Suppliers, such as manufacturers**, distributors, importers, wholesalers, and online marketplaces.
- **Organisations and non-for-profits**, such as health and community services, charities, community groups, sporting clubs, schools, and government bodies.

The ban does not apply to individuals undertaking private or domestic activities.

#### How will the ban be enforced?

Banned items cannot be sold or supplied from 1 February 2023, even if they were purchased before the ban.

The Victorian Government will first work with businesses to ensure they understand their obligations, however penalties apply for non-compliance.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is responsible for enforcing the ban. Non-compliance can be reported to the EPA from 1 February 2023.



[www.vic.gov.au/plastics](http://www.vic.gov.au/plastics)



DO YOU LOVE TO SWIM?



*Come join us!*

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

We would love to hear from you

<https://swimlandswimclub.com>

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



# FREE Bookaburra Story Time

Excludes public and school holidays.

**Monday 9:15am - Mt Dandenong Primary School**  
13-15 Fardons Rd, Mt Dandenong

**Tuesday 9:30am - Mt Evelyn Reading Room**  
Wray Cres, Mt Evelyn

**Wednesday 9:15am - Japara Neighbourhood House**  
54-58 Durham Rd, Kilsyth

**Wednesday 10:30am - Monbulk Reading Room**  
Main St, Monbulk

**Thursday 9:15am - Chirnside Park Community Hub**  
33 Kimberly Dve, Chirnside Park

**Friday 9:15am - Victoria Rd Primary School**  
Victoria Rd, Lilydale

**Join volunteer story tellers and enjoy some favourite stories and songs.**



Suitable for children 0-6 years - No booking required!



For enquiries contact: Yarra Ranges Council  
1800 368 333 / [earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au)



## Parenting Anxious Children

For parents and carers of children 0-8 years

Does your child worry, feel anxious and seem stressed at times?  
Would you like to gain a greater understanding of anxiety and learn some helpful strategies to support your child?

**Wednesday**  
**22nd February**  
**2023**

**7.00-8.00pm**

**Via zoom**



This information session will cover:

- Understanding the role of anxiety and normal childhood development
- The signs and symptoms in your children
- Types of anxiety disorders
- What's helpful and not helpful
- Methods and strategies to support your children
- Relaxation techniques and tools, mindfulness, breathing etc.
- Where to go for more information/help

To register visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/CFBKG>

Enquiries Contact: Michelle Lehmann  
Early Years Community Support Officer  
[earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au) / 1300 368 333



Presented by Anxiety Recovery Center Victoria



## CIRCLE OF SECURITY™

### An Attachment - Based Parenting Program

*The Circle of Security Parenting Program™ is a practical attachment-based group for parents and caregivers. It is based on decades of attachment theory and research and gives you a pathway to fostering a secure relationship with your child. Security is the surest way to giving your child life-long psychological resilience.*

#### Goals

- Understand your child's emotional world by learning to read their emotional needs/cues
- Support your child's ability to successfully manage emotions
- Enhance the development of your child's self-esteem and confidence in themselves
- Honour your innate wisdom and desire for your child to be secure
- Better support yourself through your child's emotional storms

#### Details

- All kinds of caregivers of young children (baby to early primary school years) are welcome!
- 10-weekly sessions in TLC Birth and Beyond
- Thursday 630pm-8pm, starting Feb 16th
- \$60 per session. \$33.45 Medicare rebate available via GP referral
- \$60 discount for up-front payment of all sessions

*The program is run by Dr Candice Loopstra, a local Clinical Psychologist based in the Dandenong Ranges with over 10 years' experience, specialising in early parent-child relationships, and its application in individual psychotherapy. Register via [candice.loopstra@gmail.com](mailto:candice.loopstra@gmail.com) or 0433 513 876*





## 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 - Singing - Violin**  
*Groove Foundations Music School*

Jordan Scotney - 0408 881 395 - [groovefoundations@gmail.com](mailto:groovefoundations@gmail.com)

**Guitar - Ukulele**

Juan Aravena - 0402 688 836 - [juanaravena@hotmail.com](mailto:juanaravena@hotmail.com)



## 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.



## Accommodation available in Tecoma

Available from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023    Contact Crystal 0484 740 068  
Currently \$300pw inc internet - Other Bills split 50/50 - All food and other expenses your own.

### Location

8min walk to Tecoma and Upwey stations  
20min walk into Belgrave  
5min walk to cafes and Maccas  
5 mins to servo and bus stops  
5min walk to Tecoma PS  
2 min walk to Upwey Secondary

### The Household

My name is Crystal and I am a full time working professional with 2 kids (6 and 9yo) whom I have only half the time. We also have shared care of my border collie Nahvi. We often go away on weekends and don't party at home, although enjoy entertaining at home occasionally, when it's appropriate – We have a BBQ and a nice deck area.

I currently share with a 21yo teachers-aid who occupies the ground floor, but is sadly leaving to travel. Our ideal replacement tenant is another single young woman, working PT-FT, but am open to anyone who finds the space and the house dynamic suitable. No pets. Smoking away from house only.

The space:

2 beds or 1 bed & Lounge (See pics and plan)  
Dining (living) area with semi-kitchenette  
Large private bathroom  
Own entrance and patio  
Own driveway and large garage  
Shared large lawn  
Shared Laundry  
Shared Full kitchen



**FAMILY TENNIS FUN DAY**  
**SUN FEB 19 2023**  
**11am-2pm**



**FERNY CREEK TENNIS CLUB**  
FREE BEGINNER'S COACHING, SAUSAGE SIZZLE,  
NEW MEMBERSHIP OFFERS

**ALL WELCOME**

Ferny Creek Reserve, Hilton Rd, Ferny Creek

**PARAGON SUPERHEROES**

2 FREE TRIAL CLASSES

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.

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

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Class caps apply - get in quick to avoid disappointment.  
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