



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



1536 Burwood Highway,

Tecoma VIC 3160

Tel: 9754 2354

Email: tecoma.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website: www.tecomaps.vic.edu.au

Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

16th February, 2023

DATES TO REMEMBER:

FEBRUARY

Monday 20th

*Tell Me About Your
Child Interviews
1.30pm—6.00pm*

Wednesday 22nd

*Swimming
Grades 1 & 2*



*No Preps
(Assessments in
classrooms)*

Friday 24th

*District Swimming
Select Students
Belgrave Pool*

MARCH

Wednesday 1st

*Swimming
Grades 1 & 2*

*No Preps
(Assessments in
classrooms)*

Wednesday 8th

*School House
Athletics Gr 3-6
Kings Park*

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

ATTENDANCE

Now that COVID is behind us (did I just tempt fate by saying that?), we can now look optimistically to the children being at school without constant fear of interruption. That means bringing back our “It’s not OK to be Away” slogan. Schools were sent a reminder from region about absence data for last year during the week. Last year, of our 430 children, 205 had 20 days or more absent last year. That is minimum 4 weeks of learning.....not all this was down to that long awaited family holiday or COVID.

At Tecoma Primary School we are committed to providing your child with an excellent education. The building blocks of a great education begin with all students coming to school each and every day. Regular school attendance is vital and missing school days can have a big impact on your child’s future – missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. From Prep to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school!

Just as important as regular attendance is punctuality.

Our music plays at 8:57am with the aim that students will be in class, organised and ready for their school day to start at 9:00am. If you are finding that you are regularly late, please take the time to look at the morning routines and see if there is something which can be changed to help you get your child to school on time each day. As well as the missed learning time, your child being late also impacts the other students in the class as teachers time is taken up re-introducing the learning tasks and means that your child is playing catch up from the time they enter the room. If the school can be of any assistance please feel free to make a time to see me to discuss the issue.

The following information shows the impact of lost time.



5 days off per year is approximately a day off every 8 weeks	=	Just 5 days off per year adds up to 7 weeks of missed schooling throughout your child's time at Primary School.
10 days off per year is approximately a day off every 4 weeks	=	10 days off per year adds up to 14 weeks of missed schooling throughout your child's time at Primary School which is about a term and a half of school.
15 days off per year is approximately a day off every 2 1/2 weeks	=	15 days off per year adds up to 21 weeks of missed schooling throughout your child's time at Primary School which is about two terms of school.
20 days off per year is approximately a day off every 2 weeks	=	20 days off per year adds up to 28 weeks of missed schooling throughout your child's time at Primary School which is almost three terms of school.

5 minutes late every day = 3 days of school lost a year

10 minutes late every day = 6.5 days of school lost a year

15 minutes late every day = 10 days of school lost a year

20 minutes late every day = 13 days of school lost a year

30 minutes late every day = 19 days of school lost a year

SCHOOL UNIFORM

You may have heard that both myself or Mrs Double, your child's teacher or teachers on yard duty have been reminding the children about being in uniform.

Our Uniform Policy is set by School Council under the schools School Uniform and Student Dress Code Policy and is updated yearly.

We are being extra vigilant as coming out of covid, we had a real battle last year with uniform.

I've been coming around to the classroom to talk to the children about our uniform. I've talked to the children that being out of uniform or wearing jewellery is no different to the Basketball association, or the Netball association or the Football association having rules about what can and can't be worn in the competitions they run. The children seem happy to comply there, but less so here.

It is essential for primary school-aged children to wear school uniform for several reasons. School uniform promotes a sense of unity and community among students by reducing emphasis on individual differences and fostering a more inclusive learning environment. This can be particularly beneficial for students who may feel self-conscious about their appearance or socio-economic status. By wearing a school uniform, all students are placed on an equal footing, encouraging a more cohesive and supportive school community.

School uniform can facilitate exploration and learning in the classroom by eliminating distractions related to fashion and appearance. When students are not preoccupied with these distractions, they can focus on their studies and engage more fully with educational activities. This can create a more positive and productive learning atmosphere, enabling students to explore new ideas and concepts without interruption.

School uniforms can promote a sense of aspiration among students by setting high expectations and encouraging a commitment to education. By providing a clear and consistent dress code, schools can inspire students to take their studies seriously and strive for success.

Wearing a school uniform can instil a sense of pride and belonging, motivating students to work hard and pursue their goals.

Our Uniform Policy includes make up and jewellery. Jewellery is a safety issue with ear rings, chains, bangles and rings all dangerous if fingers get under them, or get caught when running around the yard, when playing sport etc.

At Tecoma Primary School, we expect all students to wear school uniform every day to school except on a special occasion which is advertised such as a dress up day.

Our uniform policy can be found here:

<https://tecomaps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/School-Uniform-and-Student-Dress-Code-Policy-1.pdf>

POLICIES AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

While on the topic of policies, our community can find the following policies on our website. We welcome any feedback from our school community on our school policies:

- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Child Safety Code of Conduct
- Complaints Policy
- Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures
- Volunteers Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Digital Learning Policy
- External Provider Policy

“GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHILD” INTERVIEWS

On Friday, 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 on Monday from 1:30pm to 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. 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.

We look forward to talking with you next week at interviews.



WELCOME PICNIC CANCELLED

On Tuesday, we sent out a notification to let the parents of Prep, Grade 5 buddies and new families know that we have cancelled the welcome picnic that we had scheduled for today due to the 37 degree predicted forecast. If you have missed the notification, hopefully you see this so that you don't arrive at 5:30pm to see an empty yard!

CAMPS

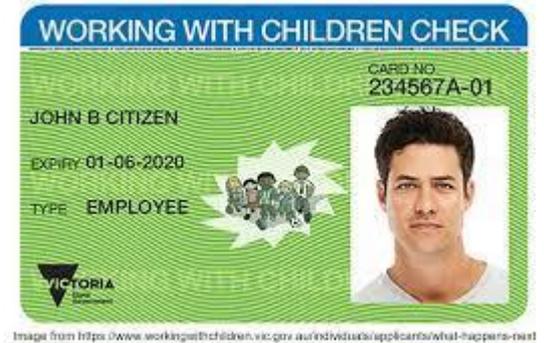
In the media over the holidays, you will have heard that some schools are either not offering camps, reduced the camp length or not having overnight camps due to the New Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) entered into between key education staff stakeholders and the Victorian Government last year. With a number of schools no longer offering camping experiences, we are proud to share that students from Year 3 – 6 will be attending camps this year to: Phillip Island (Year 3/4), Urban Camp (Year 5) and Coonawarra (Year 6).

Information will be distributed shortly to outline the ways parents can support the school in this regard; many of you aware the changes in government policy and teacher working conditions (EBA). With no government funding received by the school to provide camp experiences, we rely solely on parent payments.

School Council will review and undertake a risk-assessment at the end of the year to inform the future viability of camps as this matter is currently being discussed at Fair Work Australia with the outcome unknown at this stage.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN'S CHECK

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 very involved in your child's education. These checks are free for volunteers and will allow you to be involved 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 check.



PRIVACY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

During the ordinary course of your child's attendance at our school, school staff will collect your child's personal and health information when necessary to educate your child, or to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing or health in the school context. Such information will also be collected when required to fulfil a legal obligation, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law. If that information is not collected, the school may be unable to provide optimal education or support to your child, or fulfil those legal obligations.

For example, health information may be collected through the school nurse, primary welfare officer or wellbeing staff member. If your child is referred to a specific health service at school, such as a Student Support Services officer, the required consent will be obtained. Our school also collects information provided by parents and carers through the School Entrance Health Questionnaire (SEHQ) and the Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) Transition Form.

Our school may use online tools, such as apps and other software, to effectively collect and manage information about your child for teaching and learning purposes, parent communication and engagement; student administration; and school management purposes. When our school uses these online tools, we take steps to ensure that your child's information is secure. If you have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact us.

School staff will only share your child's personal or health information with other staff who need to know to enable the school to educate or support your child, or fulfil a legal obligation.

When our students transfer to another Victorian government school, personal and health information about that student will be transferred to that next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of our students and assists that next school to provide optimal education and support to students.

In some limited circumstances, information may be disclosed outside of the school (and outside of the Department of Education). The school will seek your consent for such disclosures unless the disclosure is allowed or mandated by law.

Our school values the privacy of every person. When collecting and managing personal and health information, all school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law. For more information about privacy including about how to access personal and health information held by the school about you or your child.

See our school's privacy policy:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx>

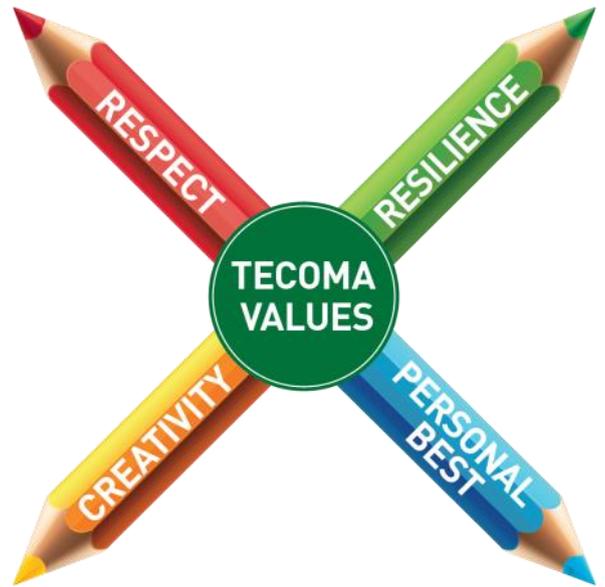
Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes Principals, Teachers, Student Support Service Officers, Youth Workers, Social Workers, Nurses and any other allied health practitioners and all other staff at our school. This includes employees, agents and service providers (contractors) of the Department, whether paid or unpaid.

THIS WEEK AT ASSEMBLY WE:

- Handed out our "student of the week" awards
- Wished Mr. Wright a lovely birthday
- Heard some wonderful achievements including a triathlon and hurdles over the weekend..

See you around the school.

Rohan Thompson
Principal



saverplus INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS

Saver Plus pairs you with a savings coach so you can learn tips, tricks and information to grow your budgeting and saving skills. You save for 10 months, then ANZ matches your savings dollar-for-dollar up to \$500. We'll talk about how it all works, plus who is eligible and how to join.

MEETING DETAILS

- Thurs February 16th 2023, 10 - 11am (Vic Time)
- Wed February 22nd 2023, 10 - 11am (Vic Time)

Zoom Meeting Link:
<https://bsl.zoom.us/j/68016074995?pwd=K2d4dWl4WjRMbGRlRng0NGhoVVVZz09>

Passcode: 027166

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!

KEY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO JOIN SAVER PLUS

- Have a current health care card OR pensioner concession card
- Have a child in school OR be studying yourself
- Have regular income from work (yourself OR your partner)



RSVP

Scan the QR code or click the link below to register
<https://forms.office.com/r/zPTAvyaP5e>

SAVERPLUS.ORG.AU **1300 610 355** **SAVERPLUS@BSL.ORG.AU**

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.





STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
1A	Lydia H	Lydia has made a fantastic start to Grade 1. She listens intently and tries her best to complete all her work on time. She takes the time to ensure her work is completed to a high standard. Keep up the great work Lydia.
1B	Max G	For the way Max is exhibiting personal resilience during class activities and trying to stay in a positive and calm state of mind when dealing with the different circumstances that occur during the school day. I'm SO PROUD of you Max! Keep up the wonderful work.
1C	Natalie E	For willingly helping out a peer during our Maths graphing lesson. Natalie, you showed great leadership when you confidently shared your understanding of the task. It was so lovely to see you step up and want to help others. Keep up the great work!
2A	Ashley H	Well done on your amazing effort in maths this week Ashley! You did a great job challenging yourself with your think board place value task. Keep up the amazing work.
2B	Vivi H	Vivi has had an awesome week. She showed her strong understanding of ordering numbers up to 99 during Maths. She is also a helpful member of our class who volunteers to help me and is a kind friend to others. Thanks Vivi.
3/4A	Xander W	Xander is often the first one with his book out each morning. He enters the room respectfully and knows the morning routine perfectly. When I told him he could have a personal best tick for doing the right thing, he said 'can I please finish this chapter first?'. It is so great to see you so immersed in your reading each morning. Keep up the fabulous work!
3/4B	Taj H	It was great to observe your high level of engagement when completing the vertical maths addition this week Taj. You challenged yourself to master vertical addition with regrouping with terrific success.
3/4D	Banjo L	This week, Banjo and a classmate showed courage in challenging some younger students about their behaviour. He asked them to use the facilities properly and not be silly in there. Well done on using your initiative and showing great leadership skills.
3/4E	All of 3/4E!	For being a terrific class and for supporting one another. I have been most impressed that some students are helping their partner to get started on activities each day.
5A	Ava T	Ava was instrumental in explaining one of our maths activities around the room on Friday, able to verbalise how to work out a place value question that was worded in a confusing manner. Thank you for your logic and your wisdom - you made the activity much more accessible for the class! Thank you!
5B	Jack G	Congratulations on your mature and positive attitude towards all of your learning. You have started Grade 5 with so much enthusiasm and I am so very proud of your approach to your learning. Jack, you thought so carefully about your 'one-word goal' for the year and you are putting in so much effort with everything you do!



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
5C	Bessie C	Bessie wrote an insightful and thoughtful piece of persuasive writing about why the voice of Siri should change. Her Voice and Ideas were strong and clear and I can't wait to read the revised and published piece soon!
6A	Heath S	Heath reflected such positive qualities during his 5/6 Sport Leadership session. He treated others with kindness and respect, and was so impressive directing his group. Keep up the fantastic effort Heath!
6B	Mason E	Well done for such an awesome Monday afternoon Inquiry session. I was so impressed with the time and effort you put into your Australian map flip book, it was probably the neatest I've ever seen! Keep it up.
6C	Josh M	Josh worked alongside Riordan to complete the BOSS LEVEL factor tree challenge. The boys were able to apply their knowledge of Prime Factorisation to complete the factor tree for the number 7,875. Keep up the amazing work Josh!
6C	Riordan H	Riordan worked alongside Josh to complete the BOSS LEVEL factor tree challenge. The boys were able to apply their knowledge of Prime Factorisation to complete the factor tree for the number 7,875. Keep up the amazing work Riordan!
Japanese	Abigail Y	Thank you Abi-san for volunteering your recess and lunchtime to assist with the Japanese room decoration. You are always respectful and efficient. Arigatou!
Japanese	Yaroslava S	For reading all 46 Hiragana letters at an accuracy of 98% without any assistance or revision. Fantastic work, Slava-san!!!



AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



Is this your daughter?

Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to sing, dance and perform.

Join us at our FEBRUARY OPEN DAY!



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS



An experience that goes far beyond the stage!

Girls blossom as members of the AGC, both on and off the stage. Your daughter will develop confidence, public speaking and presentation skills, resilience and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Our senior performers have shared the stage with a long list of artists including Hugh Jackman, Amy Shark and Christine Anu. You may have seen our girls perform at the National Memorial Service for Queen Elizabeth II, the AFL Grand Final or on the recently released 'I Still Call Australia Home' campaign for Qantas.

Now accepting enrolments for our rehearsal venues in Berwick, Box Hill, Caulfield North, Cheltenham, Essendon, Glen Waverley, Greensborough, Heidelberg, Nanthee, Kew, Ringwood and Yarraville.



QANTAS

JOIN US AT OUR FEBRUARY OPEN DAY

Register now at ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc or phone 03 9859 6499



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS



LAMONT BOOK FAIR

Coming soon, don't miss it!

Every purchase supports our school!

LAMONT BOOK FAIRS

www.lamontbooks.com.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 / 1300 368 333



Presented by Anxiety Recovery Center Victoria



CLEANERS NEEDED



TECOMA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Are you looking for extra income with flexible afternoon/evening working hours, that's close to home?

Tradeflex is looking for cleaners to provide cleaning duties at Tecoma Primary School. Permanent Part Time available.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Nil or minimum 6 months experience in cleaning
- Valid work rights in Australia
- Ability to manage and complete jobs in a set period of time with limited supervision
- A high work ethic
- Excellent English speaking and reading skills
- A can-do & positive attitude
- Must have a Mobile Phone (for clocking in and out)

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU:

- Job security with a stable & growing business
- Training & uniform provided
- Employee of the Month & Year Awards
- Wages & entitlements with the Cleaning Services Award 2020.

CALL NATHAN
0423 759 478

tradeflex



Instrumental Music Lessons

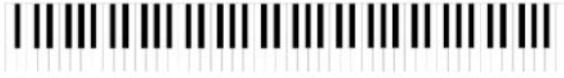
Have you ever wanted to learn a musical instrument or singing? Tecoma Primary Schools team of instrumental teachers engage with the music you love, as well as reading and other musical styles.

Piano - Drums - Singing - Violin
Groove Foundations Music School

Jordan Scotney - 0408 881 395 - groovefoundations@gmail.com

Guitar - Ukulele

Juan Aravena - 0402 688 836 - juanaravena@hotmail.com



ROWVILLE
SECONDARY COLLEGE

Presents

SCHOOL OPEN NIGHTS

EASTERN CAMPUS

SPORTS ACADEMY
INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS

Monday 27 March
5:30pm & 7pm

WESTERN CAMPUS

GENERAL EXCELLENCE
MATHS & SCIENCE ACADEMY

Wednesday 29 March
6:30pm

Bookings & Program Information Nights visit:
ROWVILLESC.VIC.EDU.AU



ROWVILLE *One great school*

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.



REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2023 SEASON!
UTJFC.COM



Upwey Tecoma Junior Football Club
Auskick / U9-U13 Mixed / U15-U17 Boys / U12-U14 Girls

★ Meet the Coaches ★
Registrations ★ Merch ★ BBQ ★ lots of fun!

Upwey Tecoma Senior Football Ground, Chosen Ave, Upwey
Sunday March 5th from 10am-1pm

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

Belcoma Netball Club

PLAYERS WANTED

We always welcome new players of all ages, but this season we're looking for a couple more MODIFIED U11, U13 & U18 players.

Please contact belcomareg@gmail.com or belcoma.president@gmail.com or visit our website for more info.

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

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

Find us on Facebook

facebook.com/mykarateschool