



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Tecoma VIC 3160

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Website: www.tecomaps.vic.edu.au

Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

2nd March, 2023

DATES TO REMEMBER:

MARCH

Monday 6th

Smile Squad

Dental Visit

Students with consent only



Wednesday 8th

School House

Athletics Gr 3-6

Kings Park



Friday 10th

Division Swimming

Croydon Memorial Pool

Select Students



Monday 13th

Labour Day

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tuesday 14th

Parent Network

Meeting

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2023 SCHOOL REVIEW INPUT

Every four years each government school participates in a comprehensive school review as an important component of the performance improvement cycle. An externally appointed reviewer is appointed to scrutinise performance data and facilitate a Review Panel. The School Strategic Plan for the period 2023-27 will be informed through the outcomes of this process. This is our review year. There are a number of steps to completing our review and one of those is writing our self assessment.

Writing the self-assessment requires input from our 3 key stakeholders:

- Students
- Staff
- Parents

We need your input on Tuesday 14th March. Parents are invited to participate in this collaborative workshop, facilitated by School Councillors to inform the School Self Evaluation and Review Panel. This is an important opportunity to gather parent input into the priorities for our school during the next 4 years.

The theme of the workshop will be – ‘Growing Success’. The aim will be to consider several key questions and work collaboratively towards the identification of 3-4 primary areas of focus. These will be included in our School Self Evaluation for consideration for the new Strategic Plan.

If you're wanting to come along but worried about your primary aged children and who will look after them.....don't! We need them here too. Our Student Action Team members (SAT) which consists of our grade 6 leaders want to meet with them and get their input into the school.

Worried about tea? Don't!

Pizzas will be provided from 6pm.

The workshops will commence at 6.30pm and will finish by 7.45pm, early enough for you to get the children home to bed at a reasonable hour.

Please note that we will need a minimum of 15 confirmed parent attendees to proceed with the workshop. We welcome and encourage all parents and carers to attend. This was sent home on Tuesday and your confirmation slip is due back by Wednesday March 8, including any dietary requirements. We look forward to your input!



NAPLAN 2023

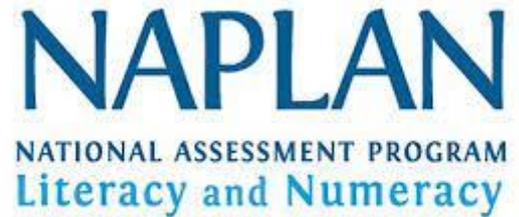
From 2023, NAPLAN will be held earlier in the year to give teachers and parents important information about a student's skills and capability sooner, so that more targeted support can be delivered to improve literacy and numeracy skills throughout the year.

The NAPLAN assessment period is from Wednesday 15th March to Monday 27th March.

At Tecoma PS we aim to complete the NAPLAN testing between Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th March.

Any students that are absent on these dates will have the opportunity to complete their NAPLAN assessments during the week of March 20th to March 27th.

For additional information about NAPLAN please refer to the website below.



<https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/f-10assessment/naplan/Pages/parents/index.aspx>

Why do students do NAPLAN?

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake. As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

CHANGES TO PREP ENROLMENT FOR 2024

Tours for 2024 have kicked off as we start promoting our school to families seeking Prep enrolment. If you know of any families with a child starting in 2024 please encourage them to have a look at our school. The Department of Education is introducing changes to the Prep (also called Foundation) enrolment process for 2024 and all families will need to be aware of the new process. We now have a common date for all Prep (Foundation) enrolment and parents/carers will need to submit their application form to the school by Friday 28th July. The main reason for this change is to give all schools greater certainty with Prep enrolment so they can plan for the staffing and facilities needs of their school. It will also discourage families from submitting enrolment forms to multiple schools, which has caused difficulties with planning. We are here to help so if anyone needs support to undertake this process come and see our friendly team in the office. The forms will be made available late in Term 1.

“GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHILD” INTERVIEWS

We had a wonderful attendance by parents at our Meet and Greet interviews last Monday evening. Teachers were very pleased to be able to spend time with parents to learn more about each student and further develop the partnership between home and school. Thank you to everyone for your contribution. The information shared will assist us to plan for and work as effectively as possible with you and your child throughout the year.



PARENT NETWORK MEETING

Our first parent network meeting for 2023 is scheduled for Tuesday March 14 at 9.00am, the day after the Labour Day public holiday. At this meeting, we look at activities we can provide our children while also doing some fundraising for the school. We would love to see you here so please lock this date in your diary.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos are scheduled for Tuesday April 4. To look our best and show pride in our school, as in all other days, students must wear their full school uniform for school photos.

GRADE 6 LEADERSHIP BADGE PRESENTATIONS

All our Grade 6 children are now proudly wearing their polo shirts and school badges.

On Monday at assembly, the children were presented with their bomber jackets, polo shirts and their leadership badges, signifying their final year of Primary School.

It's amazing how much older they look just from putting on their Grade 6 polos. Congratulations kids!

UNIFORM UPDATE

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



Identity
and Privacy



Bullying
Awareness



Know
the Rules

CYBER SAFETY

In the past few weeks, children's use of social media on the holidays, weekends and after school has reared its head again. While it's happening outside school, what goes on after school gets brought to us and we have no control over it. We know it's a different world and we need to move with the times but I long for the days where kids when they got home, went to a mate's place after school, did what kids did then returned home to their parents knowing they were

home safe and could not be contacted unless through the landline which parents had oversight of. That's not happening at the moment and I'm sure kids are not better for it. I'm not just talking Tecoma here. I caught up with colleagues last week (leaders at other schools) and they are all reporting the same issues. This is society wide.....and not just kids either!

It's why we implore parents to carefully monitor their children's social media usage.

While we understand parents need to attend to work commitments and other duties, it is most important to monitor your child's computer usage at all times, especially over weekends, after school and when holiday periods arrive. Please, be the parent and make the hard call on what your children can and can't have access to.

It's not ok to allow your kids to sign up to social media and not put boundaries in place for children. We don't give L plates to children and allow them to drive by themselves. The same with social media. Be a learner with them.

Even worse is to allow them to use these media apps when under the recommended age and think the horrible stories won't happen to them.....because it could be them. The school has run cybersafe evenings for parents and we study units of work on cyber safety, yet we still encounter social media issues. It's an area we can't ignore.

At the moment, it's TIK TOK and the age rating is 12+. Yet many of our users are not 12.

Anonymous people are creating accounts, using our kids' whole names (not just first name) and you don't have to have TIK TOK to see it. I don't have TIK TOK or the app, yet I can see it. I know I would not want my child's name out there and which school they go to.....yet this is what is happening at present.

A quick search has given us the following tips for the use of TIK TOK:

<https://www.cyp.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/A-Quick-Guide-To-TikTok-for-Parents.pdf>

All we can do is keep asking parents to support us as we try and educate the children on being cyber safe.

What does it mean to be safe online?

Behaving safely online means:

- Protecting one's own privacy and personal information.
- Protecting the privacy of others (this can be sharing personal information or images, which in most cases is unlawful).
- Selecting appropriate spaces to work. The home computer should be set up in the kitchen area or somewhere common. Not laptops tucked away in bedrooms.
- Being proactive in letting someone know if there is something that is "not quite right". At home this would be a parent or guardian, at school, a teacher.
- Ensuring a suitable "net nanny" has been activated on your computer.

Of course, these principles of safety and responsibility are not specific to the web, applying to the use of the internet both at home and at school. The virtual world of the internet involves many risks. Schools utilise and discuss positive strategies that help to minimise these risks. However, parents also have a key role to play in keeping children safe whilst online. For example, "Face Book" accounts should only be made available to children above the age of 13. Please try hard to resist the "nagging" and the old saying "But EVERYONE else has an account." This of course is not always true!

Further information can be accessed from the web addresses below:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources/online-safety-book>

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources/online-safety-for-every-family>

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Please be reminded that we have an upcoming extra-long weekend for students across the state. Monday 13th March is the Labour Day Public Holiday, and the school will be closed.

PREP STUDENTS TO FULLTIME

Our Prep students will be attending school fulltime as of the week beginning Monday March 13.

Thank you to all our Prep parents for your support throughout the first five 'Prep-free Wednesday' weeks. This has enabled the teachers to perform some valuable testing and assess each child's entry level.

SWIMMING SUCCESS

While on sport, congratulations to our swimming team who won the District Swimming competition last Friday. Great work kids, we are very proud of your great swimming!

DROP OFF ZONE

We would like to remind parents regarding the use of the drop off bay. In recent times, we have had some parents/grandparents/community members parking in the drop off bay, especially after school. The drop off bay is a stop and drop, or stop and pick up, not a park, wait and then pick up. Some are currently parking there and this has caused traffic to bank up back onto Burwood Hwy affecting the traffic flow and making congestion around drop off and pick up time even more difficult.



We acknowledge, as it is with most schools that parking around the school is problematic but with a little patience, a little courtesy and by obeying the rules and signage set out, we can make the process smoother and safer for the children than what it is at present.

HARMONY DAY AND NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING THURSDAY MARCH 9.



On Thursday, the 9th of March, Tecoma Primary School will be recognising National Harmony Day. The Junior School Council has organised this event to help raise awareness of racism and to celebrate the diversity within our school. They have also organised some activities that will run during leadership time on Thursday afternoon. Students can dress in free dress and this dress could include the colour orange in the outfit or a feature of their cultural background. A gold coin donation will go towards the Centre for Multicultural Youth, a

not-for-profit organisation that supports young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Traditionally, we wear orange on Harmony Day as it signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. Harmony Day is about celebrating differences and embracing new cultures. To bring equality between different cultures and religious groups, the month of March has been selected to mark this day as it coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination since 1999. The theme for the 2023 is '**Living in Harmony**'.

ASTHMA CHECKLIST

Approximately 1 in 10 children and adolescents in Australia have asthma and often there are asthma “spikes” which can typically occur at the beginning of a school year.

Below is a checklist to ensure that if your child is an asthma sufferer, that they are prepared for the school year.

- ◆ My child has had an annual asthma management review with their doctor and has their Asthma Action Plan reviewed
- ◆ My child has up to date ambulance membership
- ◆ My child knows how to recognise early symptoms of asthma and knows when to seek help from staff
- ◆ My child understands the importance of taking reliever medication when necessary and knows how to use their puffer and spacer, either independently or with assistance.
- ◆ An updated Asthma Action Plan has been provided to my child’s school.
- ◆ A reliever puffer and spacer have been provided to the school. With the change in infection control guidelines, spacers can no longer be shared between children.

THIS WEEK AT ASSEMBLY WE:

- Handed out our “student of the week” awards
- Handed out the Grade 6 bomber jackets and badges.
- Heard some wonderful weekend achievements including athletics over the weekend.

See you around the school!

Rohan Thompson
Principal

Sherbrooke District Swimming Carnival 2023

On Friday 24th February, 26 of our students made their way to Belgrave Outdoor Pool to represent Tecoma Primary School at the Sherbrooke District Swimming Carnival. It was a fantastic day with all students swimming their very best and representing Tecoma proudly.

Congratulations to all of our students who did an amazing job, supporting and encouraging each other throughout the day.

At the end of the event race points were collated. I am very proud to say that Tecoma placed 1st in our district for this event. This was made possible by some very enthusiastic Tecoma students who were willing to jump into events at the last minute. Well done to our Tecoma students for showing great team spirit.

Our first and second place achievers in both individual and relays will now represent Tecoma as part of the Sherbrooke District swimming team at the Divisional Swimming Carnival at Croydon Memorial Pool on Friday 10th March.

Good luck to all!

Thank-you to all parents who walked with our students to and from the venue, time kept and came along to cheer on our students. We appreciate your time and support.

Nicole Cumming,
P.E. Coordinator .



Planned Burns in the Dandenong Ranges this Autumn.

Some of these burns may be in close proximity to you, your customers, members and/or residents.

We wanted to give you advanced warning that these burns are planned to be carried out throughout **AUTUMN 2023**, if conditions are suitable.

You may be impacted by smoke and experience potential traffic delays or road closures while we undertake this important work.

The burns in the Dandenong Ranges that you may be interested in are listed below:



Planned burn notifications

METRO Fire District

FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT VICTORIA

Planned Burns Victoria is a web-based service that sends you an SMS and email about upcoming planned burns. Subscribe to Victorian locations of interest and you'll be notified about Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) and Country Fire Authority (CFA) in those locations.

Step 1 – Find a location

- Go to plannedburns.ffm.vic.gov.au
- Type a postcode, suburb, town or address into the 'Search' box.
- Select the best option from the choices shown.

Step 2 – Subscribe to a location

- The map shows the location you selected
- Type the + and - symbols to select the size of the area you want to be notified about. Click the blue 'Subscribe' button to subscribe to this area.

Step 3 – Customise your notifications

- Add your mobile number and email address and click 'Save.' You're now ready to get notifications!
- Make sure you tick the box/es to subscribe to SMS updates and/or email updates.

Step 4 – Receive notifications

- When a burn you subscribed to gets close to being carried out, **Planned Burns Victoria** will automatically send you notifications. You'll receive an SMS and/or email as a burn reaches **Within 10 days, Next 24 hours, In progress**, and when it is being **Patrolled**. Note - burns may be delayed and not go ahead, even if you received a message that it is happening soon.
- You can subscribe to more than one location. You can subscribe to a location even if there aren't any burns showing on the map at that location. Any new burns that get added to your selected area later will be automatically included in your subscription.

Step 5 – Need help? Need more information?

- Call the **VicEmergency Hotline** on **1800 226 226**.

FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT VICTORIA

CFA

Burn Name	Traffic Management
Rowdy's Track 4.9 KM NNE of Olinda	One lane will be closed on Mount Dandenong Tourist Rd between Browns Rd and Inverness Rd with traffic alternating in each direction. Expect delays or detours. Sections of Jasper Rd and Hands Rd will be closed - local traffic only. Expect delays.
Mountain View Road 2.2km NE of Kalorama	Mountain View Rd will be closed - local traffic only. Local residents may experience minor delays.
Mount Dandenong - Doongalla Forest 2km SW of Mount Dandenong	No Planned Road Closures.
Sassafras Wannawong 0.9km NW of Sassafras	Mountain Highway –Road Closure from Inverness Ave to Chudleigh Crs. Recommended detour via Basin-Olinda Rd. Residents within road closure envelope to follow traffic management directions. Wannawong Rd & Hilton Rd (north of Clarke Rd intersection) will be closed, local traffic only.
Sassafras - Caterpillar Track 1.6km NW of Sassafras	Basin-Olinda Rd Closed from Sheffield Rd to Sunset Ave. Detour via Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd and Mountain Hwy. Residents within road closure envelope to follow traffic management directions.
Olinda - Road 17 3.3km E of Olinda	Silvan Rd Closure from Mathias Rd to Olinda Creek Rd No through access.
Kalorama - Track 13 1.2km E of Kalorama	No planned road closures



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



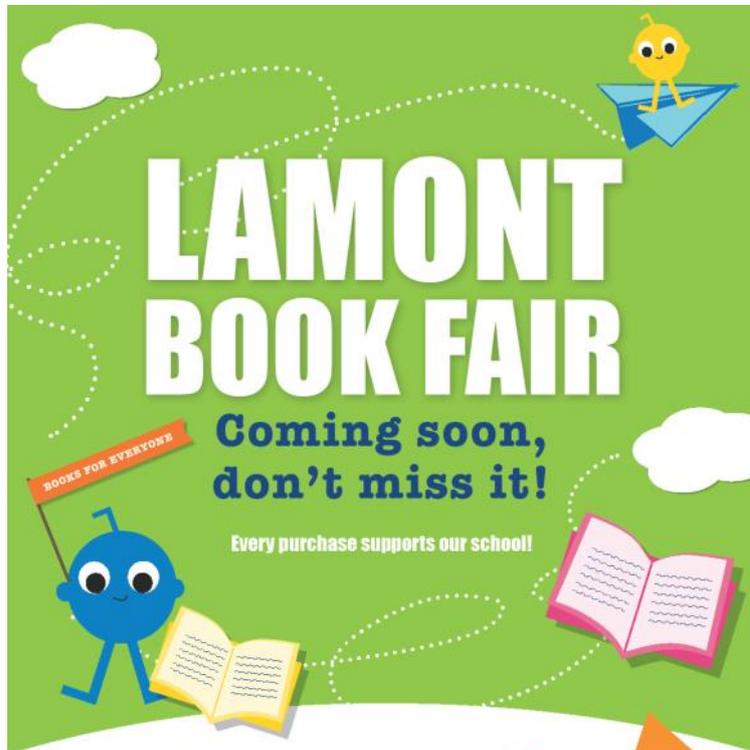
GRADE	NAME	REASON
1A	Florence E	Florence is always working hard to achieve her SMART goals. She is becoming a respectful listener and tries to ignore distractions to assist her in completing each task on time. Well done Florence and keep up the good work.
1B	Anthony N	Anthony, I am so proud of you overcoming your hesitations and fears of getting into the water during swimming lessons and now taking part in the lessons and learning lots of important swimming skills. FABULOUS WORK Anthony!!!
1C	Remy M	For being a wonderful teacher assistant and setting the standard high for all the future assistants in 1C. You were a wonderful help and completed jobs quickly. You even took out your table's learning books and popped them on their desk so that they were ready for learning too. Go Remy!
1C	Alma H	For reading out 5-digit numbers with confidence in our Place Value Maths lessons last week. Such a great achievement for Grade 1! Keep it up Alma!
2A	Pippa P	Pippa, it was wonderful to see your enthusiasm for maths this week. You have jumped into addition with great enthusiasm and shown your personal best, always putting in maximum effort! Well done Pip!
2B	Fiona B	Fiona was a bit confused about using the Jump Strategy for addition. She remembered one of our 2B mantras that "Smart Kids Ask Questions" and so she asked me for help. Then a few others joined in and the whole group was able to work together with me. Well done Fiona for being aware of your own learning needs and speaking up.
2B	Riley C	Riley always makes an effort to complete his homework and usually gets it done early. This week his 2D Shape Hunt was exceptional. He had photos of all the shapes he found around the house and recorded himself saying what shape it was. We all enjoyed watching it Riley. Thank you.
3/4A	Savannah M	Savannah worked so well during our Maths lesson working on the compensation strategy for subtraction. She was focused the whole time and made sure to use a growth mindset. Well done Savannah, keep up the great work!
3/4B	Jack P	Jack, we were all impressed with your quick response to complete the homework task this week, well done. Your list of home rules are certainly fun for kids! Good luck developing a persuasive text to convince Mum and Dad.
3/4C	Grace C	Grace, you consistently demonstrate all the school values every day. You always show respect to those around you, try your hardest at all tasks, don't give up if something challenges you and you are prepared to try new things. What a Tecoma Super Star! Well done!
3/4D	Gabby W	Gabby, well done on the description of the character from your book. You described the character as adventurous and brave and then gave evidence in the book that supports what you were thinking. This is really taking your thinking to the next level.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
3/4E	Hazel W	Hazel, you are an up and coming Author! Your choice of words that you use in your writing, along with the expression that comes through in your characters, makes your writing a joy to read!
5A	Ava M	Ava has been consistently working hard to complete all her work to an excellent standard, especially efficient with her homework! Ava, I am so impressed with your work ethic every day. Keep it up!
5B	Eli M	For always displaying our school values and being a role model and leader in our classroom. Eli, your mature attitude to always challenge yourself, help others and display integrity are always noticed and I thank you for always leading by example. Congratulations on settling into your new school and class so well.
5C	Harper W	Harper has been instrumental in creating our class gratitude wall! On Friday, she finished her work early and went around the class asking her peers what they were grateful for and collecting their answers. Harper did this without being asked and has also helped to create our class gratitude display. Thank you Harper!
6A	Hannah A	Hannah, it was so lovely to see you guide our junior students in the Art Club. It was a bit out of your comfort zone, but you pushed aside your reservations and displayed such positive leadership skills. Thanks for your wonderful effort Hannah, keep it up!
6B	Nate S	Congratulations on an awesome start to Grade 6 Nate! You always show respect to your teachers and classmates, try your personal best, seek feedback to develop your creativity and you showed resilience earlier in the week when you overcame a setback. Well done!
6C	Adam L	Adam has stepped seamlessly into his role as a Sports Captain, setting an excellent example for others and working collaboratively with his fellow captains. It's so great to hear the positive feedback about you from other teachers, Adam! Keep it up!
Music	Eli M	For his fabulous playing of the piano. Well done Eli.
Japanese	Lenny K	For incorporating Japanese words into his conversation by maximising the Japanese room resources. Fantastic effort!



LAMONT BOOK FAIR

Coming soon, don't miss it!

Every purchase supports our school!

BOOKS FOR EVERYONE



IGNITE A PASSION FOR THE GAME!

JOIN THE FUN AT BELGRAVE JFC!

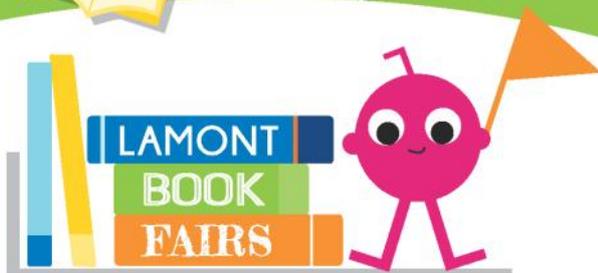
1A Reserve Road, Belgrave 3160

Friday nights at 5.30pm

Starts - Friday, 28 April 2023

For further info, please call Mel - 0403 337 563

play.afl/auskick



www.lamontbooks.com.au



Tesselaar

Fund-raising with Bulbs 2023

We will be fund-raising for our school this term using Tesselaar bulbs once again!

All orders are to be done online by Friday 31st March.



Order early to ensure stock availability!!

Make sure to let your extended families & friends know so you can put in a bulk order ☺

Go ON-LINE to place your order at:

www.bulbfundraiser.com.au/TECOMAPS



Instrumental Music Lessons

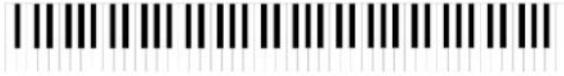
Have you ever wanted to learn a musical instrument or singing? Tecoma Primary Schools team of instrumental teachers engage with the music you love, as well as reading and other musical styles.

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



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!



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

**CLEANERS
NEEDED**



**TECOMA
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

CALL NATHAN
0423 759 478

tradeflex

**WANT TO
PLAY**


BELCOMA
NETBALL CLUB INC.
Est. 1961 The Tradition Continues...

NETBALL?

Belcoma Netball Club are seeking boys & girls for our **U11 & U13** age groups to fill the last couple of places in our teams for 2023.

Contact us today!

belcoma.president@gmail.com or
belcomareg@gmail.com



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.