



# TECOMA TIMES

## Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Tecoma VIC 3160

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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

27th April, 2023

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

#### APRIL

**Thursday 27th**

Bodyworks Personal  
Growth and  
Development  
program

**Parent info session**  
**6:00 – 7:00pm**

**Friday 28th**

Cross Country  
**WHOLE SCHOOL**  
Wear House Colours!



#### MAY

**Tuesday 1st**

Bodyworks Personal  
Growth &  
Development  
Year 5's

**Wednesday 2nd**

Myuna Farm  
Preps



**SWIMMING**  
**Grades 3&4**

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

#### WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to Term 2 everyone. I hope you all had a safe and pleasant break, or at least had more time as a family.

While the Easter weather was pretty dreary, it brightened up considerably by the end of the break leading into some beautiful weather over the past few days. I hope you were able to get out and enjoy the great outdoors, whether it was away on holidays or out in the backyard or in the park with friends. I do set the challenge to the children to not be on screens over the holidays and this break gave them every chance to be out and about. I hope they met the challenge. I was here during the second week of the break and it was great to see so many people using the yard. The vandals appear to have left us alone with only a bit of rubbish to clean up before the children resumed. With Easter being the start of the holidays, I trust the Easter egg supply has been exhausted! We are really looking forward to the second term of the year after such a great start in Term 1. A reminder that this term is 9 weeks and ends on Friday June 23 at 2:30pm.

Term 2 promises to be busy and exciting for everyone at TPS, including:

- ANZAC Day services
- Bodyworks Personal Growth and Development Program for Grade 5/6
- Cross Country
- School nurse screening for Prep children
- Myuna Farm excursion for Prep children
- Swimming for Grade 3/4 children
- HMAS Castlemaine service at the Shrine of Remembrance
- **May 12 Pupil Free Day**
- Grandparents and Special Friends Day
- Grade 5 camp
- District Cross Country
- Following on from the parent forum we ran last term, we have our school review this term which involves 3 days: one validation day, 1 fieldwork day and the final day where the strategic direction is set.
- Grade 1/2 MCG excursion
- Upwey Volleyball Cup
- Grade 3/4 Indigenous Landscapes Excursion
- King's Birthday Public Holiday
- Japanese Day
- 2:30 finish on June 23

I encourage all parents to put ten minutes aside each fortnight to read the school newsletter, stay informed and get involved in events and learning programs whenever possible. We are also sending out our Term Overview for parents to put on the fridge.

There is always a lot for the children to participate in and engage with at our school. Staff look forward to a very busy and rewarding term for the children.

### **PUPIL FREE DAY, FRIDAY MAY 12**

You may or may not be aware that under the new teacher agreement brokered between the State Government and representative bodies, Professional Practice days are being phased out. Previously there was one per term or 4 in the school year, taken at varying times in the term, however now there are two days this year, one for each semester which are to be used for report writing purposes. Earlier this year, the Department advised that instead of trying to find relief teachers which are in very short supply, schools could allocate these days on one common day and advertise them as Pupil Free days.

On Monday, our School Council approved Friday May 12 as a day that teachers, as a collective, can take their Professional Practice Day. This is now a Pupil Free day.

This is the best option for this day with Friday, May 19 being Grandparents Junior School Concert and Year 6 Parliament Excursion, and we run into Grade 5 Camp the following week. The day is designated for report writing purposes, therefore the best use of the day is May 12.

### **GRANDPARENTS and SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY for JUNIOR SCHOOL**

A date to mark in your diary, our Grandparents and Special Friends Day on Friday May 19. It's great to have it back!

We have changed the format this year as we need the hall for lessons after recess so we have kept the activities to 2.5 hours as in previous years but have made it from the start of the day.

We have split the concert so that we can comfortably fit all the people expected. Our Prep concert will begin at 9:30am and our Grade 1/2 concert will begin at 10:00am. Around that, we would love to have you in the classrooms, reading with your loved ones, maybe even reading some of the material you loved reading as a youngster!

The format is below; we would love to see as many Grandparents and Special Friends as we can on May 19.



Time	Event	Where	For who?
9:15-9:55am	Grandparents and Special Friends reading with their Grade 1/2 child in the classroom	In the Grade 1/2 classrooms	Grade 1/2 Grandparents and Special Friends
9:30am	Prep Concert	Hall	Prep Grandparents and Special Friends
10:00am	Grade 1/2 Concert	Hall	Grade 1/2 Grandparents and Special Friends
10:00am - 10:45am	Grandparents and Special Friends reading with their Prep child in the classroom	In the Prep classroom	Prep Grandparents and Special Friends
10:45am - 11:30am	Morning Tea	Hall	All Grandparents and Special Friends
11:30am	Grandparents and Special Friends leave	Thank you so much for coming. The children love having you come to their school and sharing what they do.	

## **ANZAC DAY and the HMAS CASTLEMAINE**

A special thank you to our Junior School Council, our School Leaders and our Choir for the service they ran on Wednesday here at the school. The flowers that were placed under the flag, have been taken down to the memorial at the base of the 1000 Steps at the Ferntree Gully National Park. As mentioned during the service, we don't celebrate war but we respectfully acknowledge the sacrifices our defence force men and women have made for our country, both in the past and currently on active service.



After our service at school, our school leaders, together with many schools in the local area, attended a service at the memorial based at the 1000 Steps in Ferntree Gully which acknowledges the efforts of the 2/14th, 2/16th and 39th Battalions along the Kokoda track. On behalf of the school, our leaders laid a wreath and 2 of our School Captains spoke about the significance of the 1000 Steps track and the many plaques along the way. We then headed back to the Upwey Belgrave RSL where the children had lunch and then were given access to the amazing museum they have there at the RSL.

On Friday May 5, our Grade 6 children will be heading to the Shrine of Remembrance to take part in a service to remember those that served on the HMAS Castlemaine, a mine sweeper that was in operation during the WW2. This ship was adopted by Tecoma Primary School under the Shrine of Remembrance "Adopt an ex-service organisation." The link to the ship is a former student of our school from the 1930's, Mr Peter Chandler, who served on the HMAS Castlemaine. Peter regularly spoke to our children on various occasions before his passing in 2013. In his honour, and for all those that served, our Grade 6 children hold this service at the Shrine of Remembrance just after ANZAC day every year. These children visited the ship in November last year as part of their leadership program. It will be a great learning experience for our leaders.

## **TEACHING OUR CHILDREN ABOUT ANZAC DAY**

There are many ways that parents can get their children involved in the ANZAC Day experience and enable them to gain an understanding of the important place ANZAC holds in Australia's history. Firstly, historical knowledge is important and there are many high quality, child friendly accounts of the ANZAC story, and the ANZAC characteristics that resonate with Australians. Many of these books are available at local libraries; they are also available through the Department of Veterans' Affairs free of charge. These books make it clear that Anzac Day is not an event glorifying war, but exactly the opposite. It is a time of reflection and remembrance. Endurance, resourcefulness, courage, teamwork, loyalty and mateship are key attributes. These are virtues to be encouraged and emulated at any time and are a part of our national story that we can focus on around ANZAC Day.



There is also the experience of taking your children to a Dawn Service March or other commemorative activities on ANZAC Day. All this will be more meaningful and educational if some of the previous reading and discussion has occurred. In any event, the questions that come from watching a march, studying a war memorial or experiencing the emotional stillness of the minutes silence and bugle call are opportunities to talk about the impact of war on Australia and the significance of the ANZAC Story.

## **PREP ENROLMENT**

The Department of Education, just prior to the break released its State-wide Enrolment Procedures for children transitioning into Prep in 2024.

Terms 1 and 2, 2023	Primary schools conduct tours and other activities with the recommendation that all tours are completed by the end of term 2.
End of term 1, 2023	School zones for the 2024 school year go live on <a href="http://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au">www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au</a>
From Monday April 24, 2023 onwards	<b>Enrolment applications open</b> – parents/carers may submit their completed ‘ <i>Application to Enrol in a Victorian Government School</i> ’ (application form) to a government primary school from this date.
Friday July 28, 2023.	<b>Enrolment applications due</b> – parents/carers submit their completed application form to a government primary school <b>by</b> this date.
By Friday 11 August 2023	<b>Primary schools provide parents/carers with written notification of Foundation (Prep) enrolment outcomes</b>  The Foundation (Prep) Appeal Form should be included with <u>unsuccessful application letters</u> .
By Friday 25 August 2023	Parents/carers sent a <u>letter of offer</u> return the completed enrolment form by this date, to indicate acceptance of their child’s enrolment offer.  Closing date for parents/carers to lodge a written appeal with <b>primary school</b> .
By Friday 15 September 2023	Primary schools notify all parents/carers, in writing, of the outcome of appeals by this date.
During Term 4, 2023	Primary schools host transition sessions.  <b>(Tecoma Primary School will shortly advise parents of our transition session dates for term 4.)</b>

The key change to what we have done previously is the dates for our Transition sessions. In past years, we have run these fortnightly from July to give the Pre-school children as much preparation time as possible as a lead into Orientation Day (Tuesday, December 12, 2023) where they meet their teacher for the first time. With this no longer permitted, we will host weekly transition sessions from the first week of Term 4. We will advertise these dates shortly.

### **REMINDER ABOUT 2023 CSEF APPLICATIONS**

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) helps eligible families with the cost of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card which was valid on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023, you may be eligible. Note the card needs to be in your name and not your child’s name.

Payment amounts are \$125 for each eligible primary school student. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. This funding can also be used in conjunction with any CSEF funding remaining from previous years.

Thank you to parents who have completed and returned their application forms to the office.

For anyone eligible who is yet to apply, please call into the school office and ask for an application form. Bring your benefits card as we need to take a photocopy of it to attach to the form. You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training’s Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page.

<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>

The closing date for applications is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023, however the sooner your application is received and submitted to the Department, the sooner the money will be available for use with upcoming events.



## **WINTER IS COMING, SO IS FLU SEASON!**

As we enter the colder months of the year, it is important to remind families that whilst the restrictive days of COVID are over, there are many things we can still do to prevent the transmission of illness be it COVID or flu like colds and coughs:

- ◆ Stay home if unwell
- ◆ Ventilation (Air purifiers on in school)
- ◆ Vaccinate
- ◆ Wash hands thoroughly after going to the toilet
- ◆ Sneeze into elbow
- ◆ Sanitise hands on entry to buildings
- ◆ Mask wearing

Our combined efforts to implement these above-mentioned strategies will go a long way to ensuring the overall health of all students, staff, and parents.

## **HATS**

Please be advised that as per our *SunSmart Policy*, students are not required to wear Hats from May to August. We still encourage students to wear hats during times when the Bureau of Meteorology forecast UV levels to reach 3 or higher. At these levels, sun protection (sunscreen, long sleeve clothing, shade, hats and sunglasses) is recommended for all skin types.

## **THIS WEEK AT ASSEMBLY:**

We hosted our ANZAC Day Remembrance Ceremony.

The Junior School Council did a wonderful job, along with our School Captains and Choir to ensure the ceremony ran smoothly. Thank you to Mrs. Connell and Mr. Wright for coordinating the organisation of the ceremony.

Have a great term 2 everyone. See you around the school.

Rohan Thompson

**Principal**



# **OFFICE NEWS**

## **1. [Student Family Occupation/Education Details.](#)**

This form has been handed out to the eldest child, so we can make sure all our details are correct. Please make sure you take the time to fill this in correctly and drop it back to the office, or email it in.

## **2. [Correct Grades for Lunch Orders.](#)**

When ordering through Qkr, double check you have the correct grade for your child so it doesn't go to the wrong classroom.

## **3. [Naming your Childs uniform and lunchbox/drink bottles.](#)**

Please, please make sure they are named. It is so sad that we must throw so many quality items out at the end of each term. We also encourage your children to look through lost property for their items.

## **4. [Appointments/Messages.](#)**

Due to the importance of learning, as of this term we will not be phoning classrooms for messages to students ***unless it is an emergency***. This request has also been conveyed by our teaching staff. You can come to the office and sign your child out and collect them from the classroom.



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep A	Miles W	Miles is already kicking goals in Prep A! He has settled back into the routines of school with ease. He is a friend to everyone and always tries his personal best. Keep up the awesome work!
Prep B	Isabelle J	Isabelle, you have shown such remarkable resilience during your short time at Tecoma Primary School. Even though you arrived late in Term 1, you settled into the routines of the Prep room with ease, made some new friends and have given all learning activities a personal best go! We are so delighted to have you in Prep B!
1A	All of 1A!	For showing great respect at our ANZAC day service on Wednesday.
2B	Zoe C	I love how easily Zoe works with our class routines. This week she got herself organised and worked quickly and quietly during our Reading Groups, Inquiry session and other activities. She asks questions to check her understanding and then just gets the job done. You are a great role model Zoe.
3/4A	Indiana S	For the positive way you have returned back to school. You have come back so eager to learn and it was fantastic to watch you listen so respectfully during the ANZAC service. Keep up the fabulous work!
3/4B	Sophie T	You impressed us all, Sophie, when you immediately engaged in the classroom activity upon your return from singing with the choir at the 1000 Steps ANZAC service. You listened carefully to confidently state connections between the characters in the ANZAC Biscuits picture story book even though you had missed the full reading of the story, well done!
3/4 C	Genevieve S	For the positive start you have made to Term 2. I loved learning about the adventures you had during the holidays in your wonderful holiday passport. You have also created some goals to work towards this term. Amazing effort Genevieve!
3/4E	Charlie B	Charlie, you have shown amazing resilience coming back to school for the start of Term 2. You recognised that you were in the yellow zone on our first day back at school, but confidently and enthusiastically shared your holiday highlights, and engaged happily in all class activities.
5A	Scarlett M	Scarlett has returned to school with a real can-do attitude. She has embraced all our learning this week, such as offering insights into the 1000 Steps when we began learning about the Kokoda Track. Scarlett you are a wonderful, positive member of 5A. Keep up the excellent work!
6B	Quilla F	Quilla, as usual you displayed the school values of respect and personal best, especially during our ANZAC excursion to the 1000 steps and the RSL. You listened intently during the presentations and asked thoughtful questions during the museum tour. Well done for a great start to Term 2!
6C	Harry H	Harry, what an excellent job you did leading our ANZAC service last week. You spoke so confidently in front of the school and you should be proud of how quickly you adapted the script when things didn't go to plan. Well done mate!



## LUNCH ORDERS

### Wednesday's & Friday's

Orders must be done through the Qkr! App by 9.00pm the night before! Thank you.

Please be aware that The Blacksmith Belgrave Pty Ltd also own & operate Sushi Express.

When you notice a transaction on your credit card to THE BLACKSMITH BELGRAVE it could be for sushi.

They have had several queries regarding payments because people are not aware that THE BLACKSMITH Belgrave Pty Ltd owns SUSHI Express. This can lead to them not being paid for the lunch orders they have provided. Please consider this before you contest a payment. Thank you.

## Tecoma Primary School Lunchtime Activities Timetable

### Monday

- Lemo and Lewis' Lunchtime Sport
- Art Club - Room 3
- Gardening Club
- Choir

### Tuesday

- Volleyball - Hall
- Craft Club - Library
- Coding Club - Room 9
- Gardening Club

### Wednesday


- NEVR Choir - Library

### Thursday

- Volleyball - Hall
- Lego/Chess Club - Room 17
- Japanese Club - Japanese Classroom
- Gardening Club
- Junior Literacy books

### Friday

- Gardening Club
- Aerobics - BER
- Library Club



## WAVERLEY WINTER

## HEROES

## T-BALL COMPETITION

COST


**\$40**

FOR NEW PARTICIPANTS

**FREE**

FOR EXISTING MEMBERS

UNLEASH YOUR INNER HERO WITH THIS FUN & INCLUSIVE T-BALL PROGRAM



DATES	TIME	AGES
WED MAY 3 to WED JUNE 21	5:00 - 8:00PM	7-12 YEARS


WAVERLEY SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION  
JELLS RD, WHEELERS HILL

WAVERLEYSOFTBALL@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.REVOLUTIONISE.COM.AU/WAVERLEYSA/HOME/

• 8 WEEK COMPETITION  
• MIXED GENDER TEAMS

Waverley Winter Softball Competition is starting soon for juniors aged 7-12!!

The perfect competition for juniors to unleash their super skills learnt at home, school or in club training as well as develop and foster new skills in a supportive team-based competition!!



Fun, inclusive, welcoming comp for all

Mixed gender team competition

Wednesday nights from 5-6pm

Once players register they'll be placed in a team

♥ RSVP HERE:  
<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/waverleysa/events/183328/>

AND TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS TO COME AND BE HOME RUN HEROES TOO!!



# 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.**

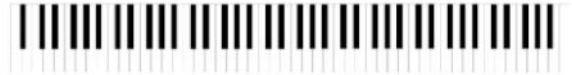


## Instrumental Music Lessons

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



## Emotion Focused Parenting

**A 6-week Parents Building Solutions Program  
for parents of children aged 5 to 12 years**

### Would you like to:

- Learn strategies to help your child manage their emotions?
- Develop resilience in your child?
- Improve communication and challenging behaviours?
- Improve relationships as an emotionally intelligent parent?

**Join us to learn strategies, share stories and take some time out for you**

**When:** Thursdays (6 afternoon sessions)

**Dates:** May 11th to June 15th 2023

**Time:** 12:30 to 2:30pm

**Where:** Online via Zoom

**Registrations:** [Click here](#)

**Cost:** Free (bookings essential)

**Email:** sharon.muir@anglicarevic.org.au

**Please Note:** Emotion Focused Parenting is an interactive program. You will need a device with video and audio in order to participate.



## Dads Matter

**Dad's at their best - helping children to thrive**

Are you a dad who would like to:

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

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

**When:** Mondays (6 evening sessions)  
**1st May - 5th June 2023**

**Time:** 7.00pm to 9.00pm

**Where:** Online - Via Zoom

**Who:** Dads

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

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

**Questions:**  
**Julia at Parentzone 9721 3629 or**  
**julia.russell@anglicarevic.org.au**

PARENTZONE

BETTER  
TOMORROWS

PARENTZONE

anglicarevic.org.au