



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

1st November, 2023

DATES TO REMEMBER: NOVEMBER

**Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd
CURRICULUM DAY
Student Free Days**

**Monday 6th
PUPIL FREE DAY
Report Writing Day**

**Tuesday 7th
MELBOURNE CUP
DAY PUBLIC
HOLIDAY**



**Wednesday 8th
Step Into Prep
Japanese
Swimming
Grades 5 & 6**

**Friday 10th
Morning Munchies
Ice Cream**

**BOOK CHARACTER
DAY!!
Dress up as your
favourite book
character.**



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

PUPIL FREE DAY

As you would be aware from previous editions of the newsletter, we have pupil free days over the next few days.

- Pupil free day tomorrow, November 2, 2023. This day will be used for staff professional learning on site around Early Years Literacy and School Wide Positive Behaviours.
- Pupil free day this Friday November 3, 2023. This day will be used for staff professional learning around the implementation of the new School Strategic Plan
- Professional Practise Day this Monday November 6, 2023. This day will be used for report writing purposes.

CLASS PLACEMENT 2024

I would like to thank all the parents who have taken the time to share information with me recently, regarding their child's class/group placement for next year.

In lieu of the 2 pupil free days, I will move the original closing date from this afternoon at 4.00pm to this Friday November 3, 2023 at 4.00pm.

We will then begin the process of allocating the children to classes.

Our staff work hard to set up balanced, fair and productive classes across the whole school. As staff continue with the thorough process of allocating children to class groups, many meetings occur and all children will be placed into a class group for next year, with at least one friend of their choosing.

PLANNING FOR 2024

We are currently putting together our plans for 2024.

We will be running 17 classes next year. This is based on the funding that we get from the Department of Education and 17 is the maximum that we can afford. Numbers wise, Prep aside, the other year levels will be multi-age, similar to what we had in Grade 3/4 this year.

The Department of Education have also provided funding for tutoring (Tutor Learning Initiative or TLI) for the next 2 years, though this has been greatly reduced (cut by more than half) as it is linked to our NAPLAN results and the number of children identified as "needing additional assistance". We would obviously have liked to have been funded the same amount as this year but that would mean we have more children not meeting the expected bench mark. It's a good problem to have.



We will also run the Reading Room as we have in previous years, run by our Assistant Principal Di Double and the wonderful support of our volunteers.

As you can see, we are finalising what we can set up and afford for 2024 so if you are doing a sea change, chasing warmer weather, getting away from Melbourne's traffic or moving to more traffic and an inner city life, can you let us know in writing as soon as possible.

DIFFERENTIATED LEARNING

It is important to recognise that all classes are multi-age classes, in that the teacher must cater for a range of abilities and this is called differentiation of the curriculum. This means that the teacher must assess your child's ability in English and Mathematics and provide them with learning opportunities which will be appropriate to their level of understanding, but also allow them to be challenged and grow in their learning. This approach happens in 'straight' classes and 'multi-age' classes regardless of the age of the child. Therefore, straight or multi-age classes makes little difference.

I also believe that there are great social benefits from having multi-age classes. Children get to make friendships with children in the year above and the year below and not just the children in that year level. A wider social network of friends leads to happier children.

Whether we have multi-age classes relates to how the Education Department provides us with funding and the set number of buildings based on the total number of students. Based on our current numbers, as mentioned above, it is anticipated that in 2024, we will have multi-age across the school, with the exception of Prep.

WORLD TEACHER'S DAY: WE CELEBRATE "TECOMA STAFF DAY"

Last Friday, whilst it was World Teacher's Day, we will celebrate this Friday internally as Tecoma staff day. It's a day where we take the time to reflect on the job every member of staff does. Collectively, every person that works at Tecoma Primary School has an important role to play and no role is any more important than any other. All staff are on site and we will have a lunch together with no yard duties to drag anyone away!

I would like to take the time to publicly thank our wonderful staff for their continued efforts to help TPS improve in all facets of our teaching and learning. The staff go to enormous lengths behind the scenes to ensure that we are catering to all of our students' individual needs, both academically and emotionally. A significant part of this work is done after hours and at home, so it is not always seen by the general public. I can guarantee that the stereotype of 9.00am-3.30pm could not be further from the truth. I am very proud to lead this dedicated and hard working staff and if you do get the chance to drop them a line between now and the end of the year, I'm sure your thanks will go a long way to brightening their day.

PREPARING FOR 2024 - WHAT IS STUDENT TRANSITION?

Student transition involves the programs, processes and opportunities used to support students entering, moving through and exiting our school. Our transition program supports students transitioning:

- ⇒ Into school – 'Kinder – Prep' and new student enrolments from P-6
- ⇒ Through school each year - As students progress through each Year level and
- ⇒ Exiting the school - Year 6 to Year 7 and accessing special education settings.

Why is a transition program important?

Each student's life experience is different. Our students come from many different backgrounds as well as a variety of family structures. Each child will have developed a range of skills and abilities that form the basis of their positive school experiences and ability to adapt to new situations.

Throughout each child's school journey the various stages of transition create periods of change for the child and their family. These periods can be both challenging and exciting. The aim of our transition program is to support each student to make every transition as smooth as possible. It is important to understand that the preparation for each stage of transition starts well before students take their next step and is supported through a combination of special and whole school programs.

How are Tecoma P.S students supported through the phases of transition?

Student transition is most successful when:

- Each student's sense of belonging at school is strong
- Processes are in place to build familiarity and reduce anxiety and students are supported to build their capacity to adapt positively to change.
- The key components of our comprehensive transition program are delivered through our curriculum, whole school teaching practices, special programs, parent evenings and meetings.

On Monday November 13, we begin our transition week where children are mixed up into next years level, re-acquainting themselves with friends from other classes. Then on Friday, they choose 6 friends they would like to be with next year.

The list provided below is not exhaustive but provides further insight into our multi-dimensional transition program.

- Sharing reflections on extra-curricular events to expose our younger students to some of the different activities our older students do (for example camps and excursions and incursions)
- The use of our data tracking COMPASS program to give teachers a clear picture of student progress
- Staff visiting other classes.
- Specialised programs
- Kinder – Prep Transition
- December 12th Transition morning where all students meet in their 2024 classes.
- Whole school special days and events where students spend time with different teachers, students and in various rooms. (For example Japanese Day, Kidsmatter Days, whole school celebration days and the like...)
- The leadership hour on Thursday where our whole school cross tutors
- Parent Involvement - Information Nights, Forums, Welcome to Tecoma Evening / Teacher Interviews and meetings

CHRISTMAS CAROLS/CONCERT

Please put the date of **Wednesday December 6** into your calendars for our Christmas Concert. We are thrilled that we can again host these wonderful community events. More information about this night will be shared with the community over the upcoming weeks.

We look forward to a great night!

SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2026

There have been changes to Victorian school term dates for 2026. Following the announcement that the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Victoria will not proceed, the original 2026 school term dates have been reinstated.

The 2026 Victorian school term dates are:

- *Term 1: Tuesday 27 January to Thursday 2 April 2026*
- *Term 2: Monday 20 April to Friday 26 June 2026*
- *Term 3: Monday 13 July to Friday 18 September 2026*
- *Term 4: Monday 5 October to Friday 18 December 2026.*

For the list of school term dates until the end of 2030, refer to School term dates and holidays in Victoria.

[School term dates and holidays in Victoria | vic.gov.au \(www.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.vic.gov.au/school-term-dates-and-holidays-in-victoria)

See you around the school. If you are managing to make a long weekend of it, please drive safely.

Rohan Thompson

Principal

OFFICE NEWS

1. PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS 2024.

Parent contributions for next year will be out in the next couple of weeks. We are very proud to be able to say they are almost the same as they were for this year!

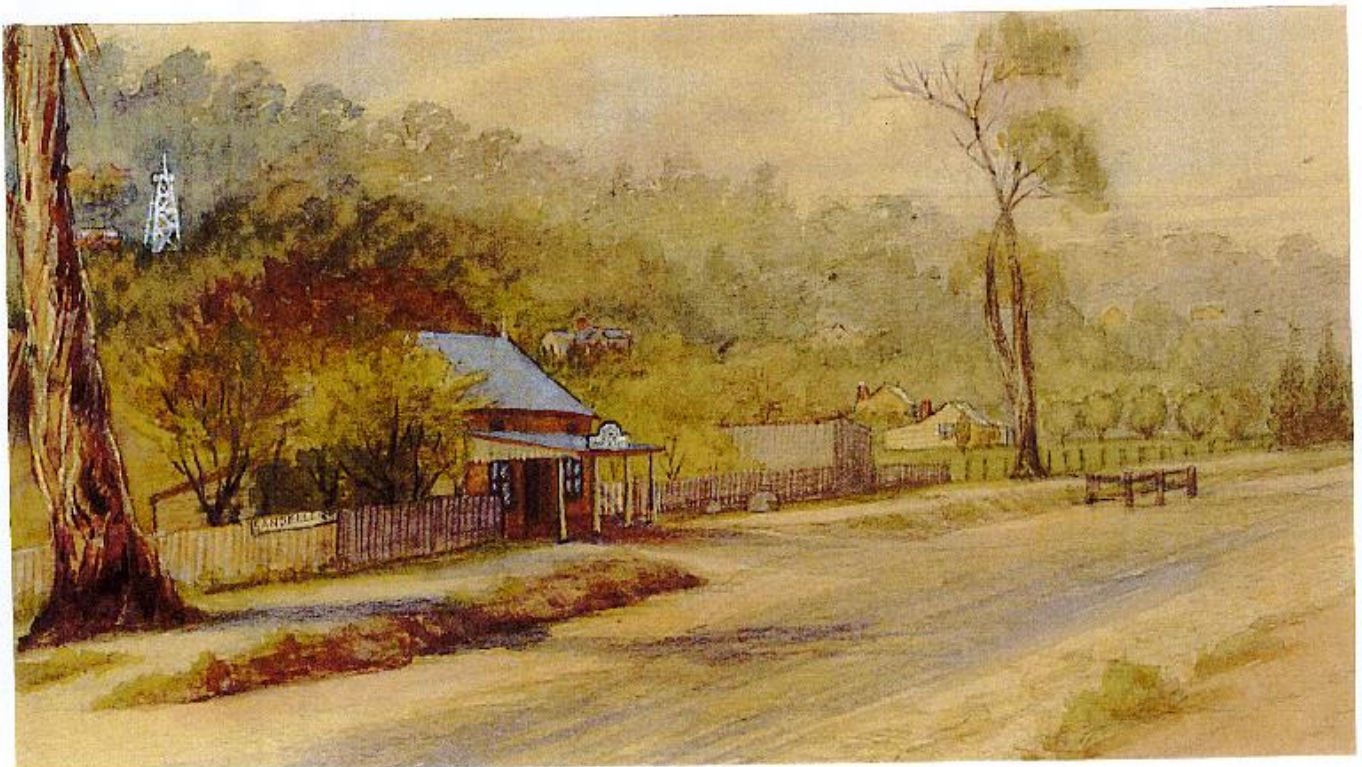


2. LOST PROPERTY.

There are another 5-6 baskets full of our beautiful bomber jackets that have been brought up to lost property over the last 2 weeks. PLEASE remind your kids to put their jackets in their school bags when they take them off at school. Please also feel free to come in before or after school if your child's jacket is missing, to have a look through lost property.

SHERBROOKE FOOTHILLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
2024 CALENDAR'S FOR SALE AT THE OFFICE \$10 EACH
LARGE SQUARES TO A MONTH TO WRITE YOUR APPOINTMENTS IN.

CALENDAR 2024



Sherbrooke Foothills Historical Society



Tecoma Primary School

-Order keepsakes featuring your child's artwork-



Greeting Cards - \$15

- Beautifully presented quality A6 (155 x 110 mm) cards featuring your child's artwork per pack of 8 cards.
- Name and age as created by the artist is printed on the back of art cards along with the School/Centre name and/or Logo.
- Blank inside for your personalised message.
- Shrink wrapped in packs of 8 including red envelopes.

ORDERS CLOSE
Sunday
5th
November

Celebrate your child's creativity by ordering
keepsakes you'll treasure forever!

Order your child's artwork and order keepsakes at:



www.crazycamel.com.au/10769

All orders will be processed and sent to the
school after the closing date.

Child's details entered during purchasing will
determine which artwork has been ordered.



Every purchase benefits your school!

BOOK CHARACTER DAY

Friday the 10th of
November (Week 6)

*Try Our Scavenger
Hunt at Lunch Time
in the Library!*

Dress as your favourite book character for the Book
Character Parade. This will be held at 9:30 on the top
basketball court.



MORNING MUNCHIES

**FRIDAY 10TH
NOUEMBER**

**ICE CREAM \$3
PAY ON QKR!**

**ORDERS DUE END OF DAY
THURS 9TH NOU**



Let's kick off our fundraising efforts and make our goals a reality 🎉💰

TAKE NOTE ! Students have received their sponsorship booklet and can now create their online profile at www.australianfundraising.com.au.

Big prizes are up for grabs! Unlock your first incentive prize simply by raising \$10 online. The more your child raises, the more prizes they will receive.

You can also share in \$200k of extra prize credit, win a PlayStation 5 Gaming Bundle and become a Fundraising MonSTAR! ★

#schoolrun4fun #funrun #australianfundraising #fundraising #colourexplosion





Get Active Every Day

Physical Activity Guidelines for Children

60 minutes
moderate - vigorous
activity daily

or

4 x
15 minutes
daily

Recommended daily
physical activity
guidelines for kids
aged 5 - 12

- Walk, ride or scooter to school
- Dance to music
- Play with your pet
- Throw or kick a ball
- Jump on the trampoline
- Play at the park
- Play a sport



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.



COME & TRY WATER POLO

Calling all 8 to 18 year olds who
would like to try a new sport.

Join us on:

Sunday

● 12th November

● 19th November

● 26th November

4pm to 5pm

@ Aqualink Nunawading



Use this QR code
to book your
place



Or Contact Us

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