



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**

14th December, 2023

DATES TO REMEMBER:

DECEMBER

Friday 15th

**Cameo Cinema
Grades 1 & 2**

**Prep Graduation
10.00am - 11.00am**

**Monday 18th
Grade 6 Graduation**

**Rehearsal
9.00am - 1.00pm
Ceremony
4.30pm - 7.30pm**



**Wednesday 20th
Last day of term 4!
2.30pm FINISH**



JANUARY 2024

Wednesday 31st
Term 1 begins
Grades 1 - 6 @
9.00am

FEBRUARY 2024

Thursday 1st
Prep classes begin!
9.30am

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

LAST DAY OF TERM, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 20, 2023

As you would be aware, next Wednesday is the last day of the school year for the children of Tecoma Primary School.

There will be a final assembly either on the oval, the top basketball court, or the hall (not all children will attend if it's in the hall), commencing at 1:45pm and the children will be **dismissed at 2:30pm** that afternoon. We will let you know by 12:30pm Wednesday where it will be held, after assessing the weather.

Before school care will operate in the morning only on the last day.

SCHOOL CROSSING

Our School Crossing Supervisors have reported some instances where vehicles, including those associated with the school, have hurriedly passed through red lights at the crossing. This understandably raises concerns for the safety of pedestrians, particularly our students.

To ensure a secure environment around the school, we kindly ask for your support. We remind parents/carers to prioritise caution and mindfulness when driving near the crossing, especially during peak school hours. Respecting traffic signals and being extra attentive to pedestrians and our School Crossing Supervisors will help support safety around the school. Thank you for your ongoing support.

CLASSES AND STRUCTURE FOR 2024

On Tuesday, while our Grade 6 children were heading off to Secondary School as part of the Statewide Transition Day, the rest of our children were meeting their new teacher and class for 2024. At the same time, our new Preps for 2024 were meeting their teacher for the first time and they also had a picnic with their buddies.

It's always an exciting day as the children begin their learning and social journey in the new school year.

Class structure for 2024:

Prep A: Mr Phillip Darbyshire

Prep C: Ms Paulina van Elmpit

1/2A: Miss Tahlia Bye

1/2B: Mrs Deb Langford

1/2C: Mrs Helen Neal (Monday – Wednesday)
& Mrs Lisa Fleming (Thursday & Friday)

1/2D:	<i>Ms Kathy Perushyn</i>
1/2E	<i>Mr. Trevor Wilson</i>
3/4A:	<i>Miss Helen Kesarios</i>
3/4B	<i>Mrs Kate Gardner</i>
3/4C	<i>Mr Stuart McLean</i>
3/4D	<i>Miss Chelsey Robins</i>
3/4E	<i>Ms Polly Swan</i>
5/6A:	<i>Mrs Monica Griffiths</i>
5/6B:	<i>Mrs Lisa Hoskins-Faul</i>
5/6C	<i>Ms Renae Lansdell</i>
5/6D:	<i>Miss Hayley Ward</i>
5/6E:	<i>Mr Liam Wright</i>

Specialist Programs for 2024

Physical Education:	<i>Mrs Nicole Cumming</i>
Visual Arts:	<i>Mrs Jane McManamon</i>
Performing Arts:	<i>Mrs Sally Connell (Grades 1-6) and Mrs Lauren Abbott (Prep)</i>
Japanese:	<i>Ms Masae Uekusa</i>
Science:	<i>Ms Masae Uekusa</i>
Reading Room:	<i>Mrs Di Double</i>
Tutor:	<i>Mrs Cassandra Venten</i>

Administration

Principal:	<i>Mr Rohan Thompson</i>
Assistant Principal:	<i>Mrs Di Double</i>
Business Manager:	<i>Mrs Karin Hartnell</i>
Office Administration:	<i>Mrs Marnie Martin & Mrs Anthea Cresswell</i>

Education Support Staff

(Integration Aides):	<i>Mrs Megan Wilson</i>
	<i>Mrs Kath Young</i>
	<i>Mrs Rita Senior</i>

Out of School Hours Care Staff

<i>Mrs Adelle Young</i>
<i>Mrs Anne-Marie Dufour</i>
<i>Mrs Rita Senior</i>

We welcome 3 staff next year. Renae Lansdell who comes to us after teaching for many years at Monbulk Primary School and then subsequently Cranbourne East Primary School and Lysterfield Primary School. We also welcome Lisa Fleming 2 days a week, coming to us from Launching Place Primary School, Livingstone Primary School, and Mont Albert Primary School. We also welcome Kate Gardner who has taught with us on short term contracts and this year taught at Narre Warren North Primary School. We are very pleased and excited to have all 3 ladies on board.





We farewell 4 staff next week. Breeann Schafter who has picked up an ongoing job at another school in Wantirna, Dilek Ugrasbul who picked up a contract at a school closer to the house she has bought with her partner; Kate Mercer who is returning to her base school of Selby Primary School and Mel Rowland who is looking to pursue other opportunities in education.

Bree began her teacher career with us as a graduate in 2008 starting as Miss Grigor and finishing with us married to Mr Schafter and with 2 lovely children. It's been wonderful to watch your journey Bree, but we also understand moving to another school and not staying at one school is a good move professionally. On-going employment is also a bonus! Thank you, and all the best, Bree. Dilek Ugrasbul came to us in April of 2021

in Grade 5 and we have been lucky enough to have her for nearly 3 years, this year finishing in Grade 1. We wish Dilek well in her move to Montrose Primary School which is just around the corner from where she has just bought her house so she is saving a lot of time in commuting. Thank you, and all the best, Dilek.

We were lucky that Kate Mercer was available at the start of this year when Miss Rawnsley informed us that her back had not recovered sufficiently to return to teaching in the classroom. What was originally going to be 6 weeks ended up being the year and we thank Kate as she had overseas plans for the second half of this year which she cancelled for the betterment of the children in her care this year. Thank you, Kate, and all the best back at Selby Primary School.

Mel Rowland has had several roles within our school from extension to teaching across all areas, this year in Grade 3/4. Mel is looking to move outside of classroom teaching and more into tutoring and providing support for children at both ends of the learning spectrum which is a passion of hers. Thank you, Mel, for all of your work over many years here at Tecoma Primary School and we look forward to hearing how your tutoring business takes off!

We hope all our departing staff who are leaving take many happy memories with you of your times at Tecoma Primary School.

REPORTS

On Friday, 15th December, student reports will go 'live' on COMPASS. The Prep-2 children will bring home a reflection sheet whereas this is embedded in the report for Grade 3-6.

The Mathematics and English components of the reports will be based on teachers making judgments of student progress using the Victorian Curriculum in Mathematics and English based on a range of assessment approaches. Your child's teacher has reported against the relevant curriculum area achievement standards based on assessments undertaken and evidence collected.

All reports will contain a comment on what they have achieved in literacy and numeracy, a comment on other curriculum areas, comments from specialist areas, a general comment and show your child's progression on a five-point scale for all subject areas.

We acknowledge that growth in learning looks different for each child. There are times in their schooling when your child may make more than 12 months of learning growth in any one year, whilst at other times they may make 6 months of learning growth for the same period, or even plateau. Any concerns or questions you have about your child's learning should be emailed to your child's classroom teacher.

Thank you again for the ongoing support that you have provided your child and the teachers this semester.





GRADE 6 GRADUATION NEXT WEEK

Next Monday, 18th December, our Grade 6 students will attend their Graduation ceremony at Burrinja to celebrate 7 years of primary schooling and their transition to secondary school. We are very proud of the many achievements of our Grade 6 cohort and wish them all well as they move on from Tecoma PS. Many thanks to the staff and parents who have been working to ensure the evening event will be an exciting and positive event for the students to remember. We look forward to sharing some of the images and awards from the event in next week's newsletter.

LIBRARY BOOK & TAKE-HOME BOOKS PLEASE RETURN!

Please keep looking this week and over the holidays for those lost library books. There are still many outstanding books to be returned. We know there are also many take home books out there in the community, as many of the coloured tubs are empty. These are between \$10-15 to replace, and we need them back so children can begin the year taking home books at their reading level. They will be in the car, in the schoolbag or under the bed. You will probably also find those missing socks that matches up the lonely socks in the washing basket!



START OF 2024

Teachers resume on Monday 29th January, and the children commence on Wednesday January 31st, at 9:00am. Preps commence the following day, on Thursday February 1st, at 9:30am. Our school office will be open from Wednesday 24th January, from 9:30am-3.00pm if you need to contact the school.

ACKNOWLEDGING PARENTAL SUPPORT

On Monday, December 11, the staff organised a morning tea to say thank you to all of our parent helpers for 2023. We acknowledged their ongoing efforts to support the school in so many ways. As a school, we appreciate and understand the importance of having a supportive parent group, which is a hallmark of the most successful schools.



Some of the ways that our parents have helped in 2023 include; the fantastic support we get in running our Reading Room, supporting classroom learning, attending excursions and camps, fundraising, running stalls, baking cakes, attending working bees and just generally being on hand to lend a hand. It's really appreciated and supports our school to deliver high standards of learning and lots of fun for all! If it's your final year at Tecoma Primary, we hope you leave knowing you have been able to make a difference for all children at the school through your generous support!

SCHOOL COUNCIL – THANK YOU

While we are handing out thank you's, our final School Council meeting for 2023 was held on Tuesday night. I would like to express my sincere thanks to our School Council members for their commitment to our school.

The time and effort dedicated to this role often goes unrecognised and whilst rewarding, can also be challenging. At Tecoma, we are fortunate to have an outstanding group of people led superbly by our School Council President Mrs Lisa Dell.

Each of our councillors has performed a very important role to support our school purpose and in doing so has made an extremely valuable contribution to the educational outcomes of each of our students.

The broad scope of work by School Council this year has included:

- Heavily involved in our school review process
- The communicating the broad direction and vision of the school within our community
- Approving the annual budget and monitoring expenditure
- Acquiring feedback from the school community to inform decision making
- Developing, reviewing, and updating school policies
- Overseeing the maintenance of the school's grounds and facilities
- Establishing further funding to complete our building works
- Reporting annually to the school community and to the DET
- Creating interest in our school in the wider community
- Enhancing communication within our school community
- Overseeing the running of Out of School Hours Care
- Working through policies and ensuring we are strictly adhering to its principles

Thank you to our 2023 School Councillors:

Lisa Dell, Travis Cochrane, Hannah Godlevsky, Kelly Sullivan, Natalie Leys, Kimmy Taylor, Steve Gray, Di Double, Lisa Hoskins-Faul, Bree Schafter and minute taker Karin Hartnell.

I would like to thank our 7 School Councillors who at the last meeting are finishing on School Council: **Hannah Godlevsky, Kelly Sullivan, Natalie Leys, Steve Gray, Lisa Hoskins-Faul, Bree Schafter and Di Double.**

I want to thank you all for your support and service over that time.

Looking forward to 2024, I ask all parents to consider how they are contributing to the Tecoma Community? Maybe membership of the 2024 School Council is a role that you would like to take on? Watch out early next year as the election process begins!

PICNIC WORKING BEE

There is to be a picnic working bee in the New Year. Please put this in your diary. It gives our community a chance to get together after the break and have our school looking brilliant for the children's return.

What: Working Bee
When: Monday January 29, 2024
Time: 4.30pm to 8pm.

Hope to see you all here.

Rohan Thompson
Principal.



2024 TERMS DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday	29 January	All day	Staff return
Monday	29 January	4:30pm-8pm	Working Bee
Wednesday	31 January	9:00am	<u>Term One commences</u> – Grade 1-6 students begin
Thursday	1 February	9:30am-1:00pm	Foundation/Prep Students begin
Wednesday	7 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation/Prep
Wednesday	14 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation/Prep
Wednesday	21 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation/Prep
Wednesday	28 February	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation/Prep
Friday	1 March	Welcome picnic	Bushwahzee Community Bushdance
Mon-Fri	4-8 March	Grade 6 camp	Coonawarra
Wednesday	6 March	No School for Prep	‘ <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ’ for Foundation/Prep
Monday	11 March	All day	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday	12 March	All day	Preps commence full time schooling
Wed-Fri	March 13-25		NAPLAN Gr 3 and 5
Thursday	28 March	2:00 – 2:30pm	Assembly (Term 1 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u>)
Friday	29 March		Good Friday (in school holidays)
Monday	1 April		Easter Monday (in school holidays)
Monday	15 April	9:00am	<u>Term Two commences</u>
Wednesday	17 April	All Day	School photos
Thursday	25 April		Anzac Day
Friday	26 April	No school	Pupil free day (Maths)
Monday	10 June		King's Birthday Holiday
Friday	28 June	2:00 – 2:30pm	Assembly (Term 2 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u>)
Monday	15 July	9:00am	<u>Term Three commences</u>
Wed-Fri	14-16 Aug	All day	Grade 5 Urban camp
Wed-Fri	14-16 Aug	All day	Grade 3/4 Forest Edge camp
Friday	20 September	2:00 – 2:30pm	Assembly (Term 3 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u>)
Monday	7 October	9:00am	<u>Term Four commences</u>
Tuesday	5 November		Melbourne Cup Holiday
Thursday	19 December	1:45 – 2:30pm	Assembly (last day of 2024 - <u>early dismissal</u>)



Christmas Raffle

Congratulations to the 5 winners of the beautiful Christmas hampers. We are very lucky to have so many generous local businesses who provided donations by way of vouchers or gifts to go towards these hampers. We would like to thank and acknowledge the following businesses:

Lovechild

Railyard Saloon

Remi & Mars

Rhoda

Rogue Bear

Silhouette Grooming & Pet Supplies

Upwey Myotherapy



FROM THE OFFICE GALS.



Firstly, we would like to wish all our families and students a very happy, safe and wonderful Christmas.

Thank you all for your support and understanding in 2023.

Just a couple of reminders.

- ♦ Grades 1 – 2 Swimming in February. Please make sure you enter your child's swimming ability ASAP so your child can attend (link is in the Compass Event).
- ♦ Parent Contributions - thank you to all those who have already contributed to our school. These funds help us to supply your child with all the relevant curriculum materials and will be handed out on the first day of school. Payment can be made via the Compass App or at the office.
- ♦ Lost Property. There are baskets of jackets, jumpers, and lunch boxes. These will be put out on the last week in the Rotunda. After that, un-named items will be put in 2nd hand uniform and lunch boxes/water bottles will be put in the recycle bin.
- ♦ The office will be open on the 24th January & 25th January from 9.30am to 3.00pm.

See you in 2024

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HEALTH

Reduce Daily Stress

Use these tips to help reduce children's daily stress

Encourage your child to:

- Take a slow breath in for 5 seconds and out for 5 seconds, repeat
- Take a mindful walk. Ask them, what can you see, smell and hear?
- Tell you what they are grateful for - this hour, today and this week
- Listen to their favourite music
- Go outside to play, explore or exercise



YOU ARE INVITED
FESTIVE STREET PARTY

Light Up Upwey

DECEMBER
SATURDAY 16 3-5PM
2023

Activities include:

- Carols
- Street Hunt
- Festive Window Displays
- Yummy Treats
- Shopping & Dining
- Kids Entertainment
- Festive Activities

Partners:

- Bank of Melbourne
- Upwey Community Group
- Yarra Ranges Council

BELGRAVE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB REGISTER NOW FOR 2024 SEASON

Players Wanted

- Auskick 
- Under 9, 10, 11 (MIXED)
- Under 12, 13, 14 (BOYS)
- Under 12, 14, 16, 18 (GIRLS)



To register: www.playhq.com/afl/register/f2c336

For queries: bjfc_registrations@yahoo.com

Free shorts & socks for new players not previously registered with BJFC

BELGRAVE RECREATION RESERVE, RESERVE ROAD, BELGRAVE

Splash's
learn to swim

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACCELERATE PROGRAM

Book now! 

Jan. 8th-10th
April 2nd-4th
July 1st-4th
Sept. 23rd-26th

It is a well researched fact that short burst of intensive learning accelerates motor skill development



BOOK TODAY

Inspiring a lifelong love of swimming

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4/111 Pines Fwy, Pakenham, VIC. 3810
T.(03)9701 3225

137 Sand Rd, Dandenong, VIC. 3175
T.(03)9792 5461

5/121 Graces Rd, Clyde Nth, VIC. 3978
T.(03)7009 4030

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Want to give back to the community, and supplement your income?
Become a School Crossing Supervisor.

Multiple positions available, get in touch today
Call: 03 9325 3200
Email: schoolcrossing@hoban.com.au

HOBAN Recruitment

BELCOMA NETBALL CLUB WE WANT YOU

in 2024

Registrations now open for players of
all ages* and skill levels.

- Fun and fitness *min age of 5 to train, 7 to play
- Girls & boys from age 5+ (boys up to age 14).
- Supportive, inclusive, family-friendly club
- Endorsed NetSetGo Development Centre

Interested? Want to know more? send us a
message via our website (simply scan the QR
code below) or socials.



Belcoma Netball Club



@belcomanetballclub



FARMS TO FAMILIES MARKET

FREE fresh food and hampers

DATE: Sunday, 10 December 2023

TIME: Register online for times

WHERE: Knox City Council Civic Centre,
511 Burwood Hwy, Wantirna South VIC 3152



Scan the QR code
to register.

Proudly supported by



<http://kix.vt/foodbank-market-at-knox>




JOIN THE FUN!



NAB AFL Auskick is for everyone and is one of the best, first experiences for kids aged 5-12, wanting to learn all about Australian Football.

Register with the link or QR code

<https://bit.ly/uftg-auskick>



CityLife Community Care



Farms to Families free food market

Day: Tuesday, 12 December 2023

Time: 11am-1pm

Location: Citylife Community Care,
1248 High St Rd, Wantirna South

Register online:

Please bring your own bags.



<https://www.citylife.church/r/1532/food-bank-mobile-market-bus/>