



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**

21st March, 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER:

MARCH

Thursday 21st

Book Fair!

3.30pm - 7.00pm
In the Library

Friday 22nd

Book Fair!

8.30am - 9.00am &
3.30pm - 4.30pm



**Region Swimming
Select Students**



**Wednesday 27th
Morning Munchies
BYO Cup!**



Easter Raffle Draw

**Thursday 6th
End of Term 1
2.30pm finish
NO ASSEMBLY**

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

COMMUNICATION

Communication at Tecoma Primary School predominantly flows through Compass, as the first port of call, so I encourage families to make sure they have this app and/or access the platform regularly via their internet browser. This is where you will find notices as well as newsletters and important updates via your news feed.

Our website <https://tecomaps.vic.edu.au/> also contains valuable information and is another reference point for families.

While on communication, if parents feel something needs to be addressed about another child, please discuss this with your child's teacher as a first step. Please do not approach the other child or the other parents, as this can sometimes exacerbate the issue. There are often 2 sides to the story, or facts that we are aware of or support that is being provided, that you may not be aware of.

PLANNING WEEK FOR TEACHERS

During the last week of term, from Monday 25th March, all of our teaching staff will have a full day of planning for Term 2. This ensures that all teachers have time together in their grade level/specialist area over an extended period to plan and discuss their program for the upcoming term. Time is spent developing differentiated planners, assessment tasks and excursions. It is a most productive time and sets everyone up for a smooth transition into the next term whilst working towards our school goals and targets. During these days your child may have specialist teachers or a CRT in their class.

EASTER RAFFLE

Please keep your Easter raffle donations coming in, as well as trying to sell your 5 tickets that were sent home. The cut off for the donations is this Monday as our Parent Network will be gathering to put the hampers together.

The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 27th March.

Thank you for your support!!



END OF TERM

It is hard to believe, but next week is the last week of Term 1.

The timetable for the last day of Term One, Thursday, 28th March is as follows:

9:00am – 11:00am	Students in class
11:00am – 11:30am	Recess
11:30am – 1:00pm	Students in class
1:00pm – 1:10pm	Students eat lunch in class
1:10pm – 2:00pm	Lunch play
2:00pm – 2:30pm	Students in class
2:30pm	Students dismissed.

Please be aware that school finishes at 2:30pm next Thursday and that there will be no assembly on this day.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos are scheduled for the **first Wednesday of Term 2, 17th April**. 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 (no sports tops please on this day). Order forms went home with the students on Wednesday. Please contact the office if you did not get yours.



SMILE SQUAD

We will also have SMILE SQUAD return to our school, early in Term 2, so please keep an eye out for more information about when this starts here at Tecoma. Smile Squad is the Victorian Government's free school dental program. This program is led by the Department of Health and Dental Health Services Victoria, with input from the Department of Education. Services are delivered across Victoria by local community dental agencies. The program is completely free for all Victorian government school students. Students will be seen by Smile Squad staff during school hours, saving families time and money. Smile Squad includes all required treatment (excluding orthodontics). Any student enrolled in a Victorian government primary, secondary or specialist school is eligible. You do not need a healthcare card, Medicare card or the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS). Dental packs and oral health promotion are provided to all students. Dental check-ups are carried out in the school, using portable equipment and further treatment is delivered in their treatment vans that house a full dental clinic. Smile Squad staff include oral health therapists, dental therapists, oral health educators, dental assistants, dentists and specialists.



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Mobile phones are now banned in all Government Schools in every state of Australia. We understand that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Tecoma Primary School students are not allowed to use phones during school hours, and in keeping with the policy at our school, students must hand their phones to their class teacher at the beginning of the day, who will lock it in a safe in their classroom.

Students are not allowed to store phones in their bags.

For the purpose of our Mobile Phone policy, 'mobile phone' refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.

When situations occur where you need to contact your child during school hours, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Tecoma Primary School will be issued with consequences consistent with our school's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

At Tecoma Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is any use during school hours, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- ◆ in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- ◆ to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- ◆ to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- ◆ to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- ◆ to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, at swimming pools and any other sporting events
- ◆ during tests and assessments.

Our Mobile Phone Policy clearly stated that Tecoma Primary School Council has agreed that if a mobile phone is not handed in, or is used inappropriately during school hours, the phone will be removed from the child and a parent will be required to collect the phone from the school office.

If your child is bringing a phone to school, can you please chat with them to ensure they understand, and fully comply with, our school's mobile phone policy.

NAPLAN

Our Year 3 and 5 students have now completed the annual NAPLAN (National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy) testing. This is the third year that the test has been online (except for the Year 3 Writing task) and I thank our Year 3 and 5 teachers along with Mr Darbyshire, who has coordinated it all behind the scenes. Appreciative of the technical support of Daniel Nisi, I'm sincerely grateful for the efforts of Mr Darbyshire, as it has taken many hours to enter student details, create test sessions, and print student logins, create new timetables, etc.

Families may have noted that NAPLAN changed last year. Instead of the old 10 band system used previously, students receive one of 4 ratings for each test area.

These ratings are:

Exceeding – A child has met the proficiency standard

Strong – A child has met the proficiency standard

Developing – A child has not met the proficiency standard

Needs additional support - A child has not met the proficiency standard

These standards, are designed to provide a clearer understanding of each child's achievement levels. As is always the case at Tecoma Primary School, we use the information from NAPLAN and all of our testing to inform planning and cater to the point of need of each of our students. The NAPLAN tests will provide information as to what areas our Year 3 and 5 students need to focus on next. NAPLAN provides each student with a snapshot of their learning and this information is integrated with school-based assessments to provide a rounded view of each child's progress. This then allows the school to provide extension or intervention on that needs basis.





PARENT NETWORK

A big thank you to our Parent Network and our Tecoma families for the amazing efforts of fundraising at the Colour Fun Run held last year. Not only was it an explosion of colour, it was so much fun for the kids on the day and the funds raised were able to buy our school a new set of bars to be added to the 3/4 playground. These are being well used by the students at recess and lunch time which is fabulous to see.

Whilst some may see the main objective of this group as fundraising for the school, a dual aim of this group of parents is to

promote a sense of community within the school by organising a range of events that the students and our entire school community, can benefit from.

On Tuesday morning, we were very happy to run our elections, where Kelly Sullivan was elected as our Parent Network President and we have also put a Vice President in place this year, with Brianna Kneebone putting up her hand to carry out this role. Thank you to both ladies for your continued commitment in supporting the Parent Network and the school. 13 of our community members (which was a very good attendance) met to discuss some upcoming events:

- * Morning Munchies
- * Hot Cross Bun orders
- * Easter Egg Raffle
- * Mothers' Day stall

These meetings provide the opportunity for adults in our community to connect, make friends and also learn more about what is going on within the school. Business Manager Karin Hartnell and myself appreciate the opportunity to engage in dialogue with parents at these meetings.

We would love you to join us at the next meeting on **Tuesday 7th May**.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I would like to wish all staff, students and families a wonderful holiday. It has been a great Term One at Tecoma Primary School and we look forward to this continuing in Term Two.

We welcome the community using our facilities during the holiday break as it is great seeing children and families being active and playing outdoors, however, if you see anyone acting suspiciously or inappropriately around the school grounds please contact the Belgrave Police Station on 97546677 or the Emergency Management area of the Department of Education and Training (DET) on 9589 6266.

We look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 15th April.

See you around the school.

Di Double

Acting Principal





Splashing Success: Divisional Swimming Recap

Congratulations to the 24 dedicated members of the Sherbrooke Swim Team, who showcased their talent and determination at the Dandenong Ranges Divisional Championships on Friday, March 8th, held at Croydon Memorial Pool. Our Tecoma swimmers exhibited great performances and deserve commendation for their outstanding efforts.

We are thrilled to announce that several of our students clinched first and second positions in their respective events, thereby securing a spot in the upcoming Eastern Region Championships scheduled for Friday, March 22nd.

We wish Oscar G, Ned O, Adelaide B, James R, Dante M, Eli E, Hailey E, Emma C, Gabby W, and Sienna N all the best for the next round of competition.

Thank you to the parents who generously volunteered to transport students to and from the venue, as well as those who cheered our swimmers on from the stand our Tecoma participants.

Let's continue to rally behind our Tecoma team as they prepare for further triumphs ahead at the SSV Regionals!

GO TECOMA!





OUR CLIL ROOM



What is 'CLIL'???



Each team rotates roles every week - Speaker, Manager and Director



Y3/4s 'Pickler' for reflection



Welcome to our 'Japanese CLIL Science' room! This unique blend of Science and Japanese learning through Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) is an innovative approach that promotes bilingualism, critical thinking, and a global perspective. While the term 'CLIL' is relatively modern, dating back to 1994 in Finland, the concept itself has roots tracing back to the 1960s. This method goes beyond traditional subject teaching by immersing students in the language (Japanese) to facilitate learning and using language skills to explore scientific content. By integrating Science and Japanese, students not only deepen their understanding of scientific concepts but also enhance their language proficiency. Let's step into our CLIL room and see how students are enjoying the lessons!

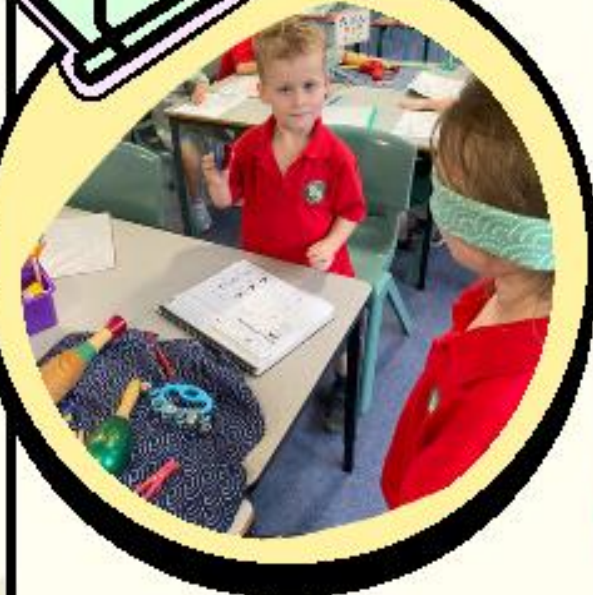


Foundation: Sound Experiment

Inside our CLIL room



うたがな



'GENKI monsters' to learn different emotions in Japanese



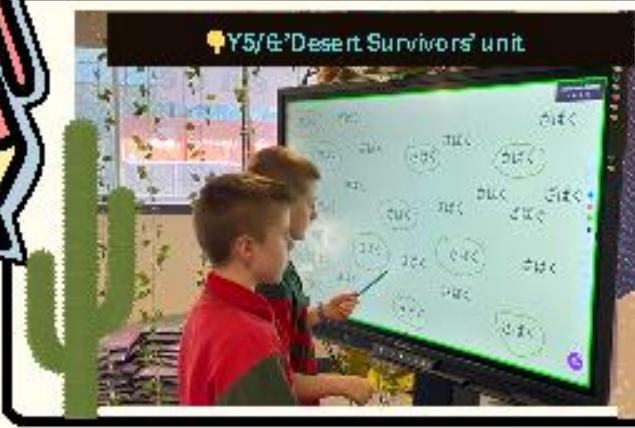
Foundation: Touch Experiment ('Senses' unit)



Y1/2: 'Growing Well' unit



Y1/2: Practising Kanji for water, soil and light



Y5/6: 'Desert Survivors' unit

Let's look for the correct 沙ばく (sa-ba-ku: desert) written in Hiragana script!



Sense of Hearing	
Can you hear?	How did you hear?
—	With my eyes
—	With my hands
—	With my feet
—	With my nose
—	With my mouth
—	With my ears

Bilingual worksheet to record the results of the 'Sound' experiment



Bilingual displays to support learning

Read more about CLIL at

<https://arc.educationapps.vic.gov.au/learning/sites/clil?fuse=1>
(Education Department Website)



Art around the school

It's nearly the end of term and displays of artworks have gone up around the school for all year levels. Here's a peak at some of the displays but please come in and see the student work for yourself.

Portraits have been a major focus this term with each grade level completing different styles of self-portraits. The Preps drew themselves and painted colours around them. Their works have been displayed in the Prep bag locker foyer.



Grade 1's and 2's have made monochromatic portraits, selecting one-colour and different materials to complete their work. These have been displayed in the entrance to the BER and in the office display case.



The Grade 5 and 6 students have explored the characters created by Tim Burton and have drawn themselves in his style. Their focus was using shading to add depth to these works. The works that have been completed so far have been displayed in the corridor outside 5/6E and 5/6B (Mr Wright and Mrs Faul's classes).





FOOD TRUCK BUSINESSES



While our Grade 3 students were working hard to complete NAPLAN assessments, over the last two weeks, our Grade 4's delved into the world of entrepreneurship and design. Collaborating in pairs, they conceptualised and developed their own food truck businesses, complete with menus, budgets and floor plan layouts. The Grade 4's enjoyed the opportunity to get creative and we observed many unique food ideas, ranging from bubble tea and doughnuts, to kebabs and smoothies. Perhaps we will see these innovative businesses become a reality someday!



CAMP COONAWARRA!!!



The Grade 6 students were thrilled to be off to Camp Coonawarra for a week of adventure, bonding and plenty of eating! They participated in activities, such as raft making, canoeing, a disco and a movie night. They showed our school value of resilience to face the heights of the giant swing and flying fox and showed respect for one another by cheering each other on and helping out at meal times.

Some of the students were even lucky enough to catch a fish or two in the lake.

Thank you to our wonderful parent helpers and staff who helped make the week a great success!



FLETCHERS

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



The winner will be voted by the public from the top 10 entries in each age group at the Kalorama Chestnut Festival, Kalorama Reserve on Sunday, 5th May.

Please bring your photos to our Olinda or Tecoma Offices by Friday 26th April.

Gold Coin Donation Entry - Proceeds are donated to Mt Dandenong Preschool

First Prize: \$250 for each age group

Age groups: Up to 12 yo & 12 yo to 16 yo

Photo size to be 8x10"



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fletchers.net.au

2024 SOUTH BELGRAVE



Friday 12 Apr 2024 - 28 Jul 2024
(5:00pm - 6:15pm)
Belgrave South Recreation Reserve.
Price \$100 includes Auskick Pack

For more information please contact Auskick Centre
Coordinator Kim
kim.tempest@hotmail.com



TECOMA PRIMARY SCHOOL

SchoolPix is coming to photograph on:

Wednesday 17th April 2024

ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.SCHOOLPIX.COM.AU



Early Bird orders with free delivery to your school close five working days after your last photography session.

A postage fee will apply for orders placed after this date.

Sibling orders must be placed prior to 8am on Wednesday 17th April 2024



Misplaced your order flyer? Please visit www.schoolpix.com.au and use the student search to find your child's unique ID or contact our Customer Care team on 1300 766 055.

Please note: Cash orders will not be accepted



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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.

