



# TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



1536 Burwood Highway,

Tecoma VIC 3160

Tel: 9754 2354

Email: [tecoma.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:tecoma.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.tecomaps.vic.edu.au](http://www.tecomaps.vic.edu.au)

Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

2nd May, 2024

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

#### MAY

**Friday 3rd**  
HMAS Castlemaine  
& The Shrine  
Service - Grade 6

HMAS Castlemaine  
Grade 5

**NO Assembly**



**Monday 6th**  
Smile Squad at  
School this week.

**Tuesday 7th**  
PFA Meeting 9.00am

**Wednesday 8th**  
Bodyworks program  
Grades 5 & 6

NEVR Concert  
Rehearsal  
Select Students

Swimming  
Grades 3 & 4

### WORKS AROUND THE SCHOOL

In the past four weeks we have had a lot of work done around the school. Over summer, the first stage of painting the senior building was having the hallway painted. In the April break, we had the 3 classrooms on the basketball court side of the senior building, including the back offices, all painted. In the June break, we will have the left hand side (church side) of the building going down the corridor, including all three classrooms and back offices, painted.

This week we have had our external lighting checked and upgraded where needed. Last weekend we had some landscaping done, where we had some large rocks moved to create some garden beds, which will now be planted out. However we have bigger news regarding our environment and sustainability projects around the school.

### WE HAVE BEEN NAMED AS A FINALIST IN THE RESOURCESMART SCHOOLS AWARDS!

The ResourceSmart Schools Awards celebrate the legendary efforts and impacts made by schools in sustainability. Our school and sustainability team under the leadership of Mrs. Langford and Miss Lansdell has been recognised as a finalist for the Community Leadership School of the Year. This category recognises schools that best demonstrate a commitment to community leadership through the encouragement of innovative sustainability practices and action on climate change.

We are one of 3 schools in the finals and the information we have received as to why we have received this recognition is as follows:

***"This Sustainability Action Team partners with community to enhance biodiversity.***

***Working with local groups, like Treasure our Trees, students improve and maintain gardens, including an indigenous garden with Australian Native Food plants and a yarnning circle. Working with Clean Up Australia Day volunteers, the group cleaned up the rail trail from Tecoma to Belgrave. While at school students educate their peers on waste management, manage worm farms and chickens, and sell eggs to fundraise for future garden projects."***

Well done our wonderful sustainability team of teachers, children and parents.

We cannot wait until June 4!

### OUR MATHS PUPIL FREE DAY LAST FRIDAY

Our staff engaged in a very productive Curriculum Day on Friday, with Mathematics curriculum a major focus of the day. Maths Consultant, Mick Ymer, took us through numerous activities that covered differentiation of topics within the Maths curriculum along with planning documentation. In 2025, our school will be fully implementing the new Victorian Curriculum for Mathematics. Our work over coming months will include developing a revised and updated Scope and Sequence for the teaching of Mathematics at Tecoma PS, along with deepening the teaching and learning of the 'Big Ideas' in Mathematics, such as understanding place value, counting and multiplicative thinking skills. Parents can access information about the updated Victorian Curriculum here:

<https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/mathematics/mathematics-version-2-0/curriculum/f-10>

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES - SAVE THE DATE:**  
**TUESDAY JUNE 25 (12:00pm to 8:00pm)**

Each year, parents are strongly encouraged to meet with each child's teacher and share the learning progress across the curriculum. This will follow the Student Reports being received by parents on Friday June 21.

Parents have 15 minutes allocated to meet with your child's teacher. I urge parents to 'save the date' and keep an eye out for the upcoming Compass link to book your allocated time with your child's teacher later this term.



**STUDENT ATTITUDES TO SCHOOL SURVEY**

Students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 will be participating in the 2024 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS) this year. We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting this survey to find out what your child thinks of their school.

The AtoSS is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education to assist schools to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

This year, the AtoSS will be conducted at Tecoma Primary School during Term 2.

**What are the benefits?**

Young people enjoy having a say! This survey has been running for nearly 20 years and is invaluable in helping schools understand student views to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience. The survey responses also help the Department of Education understand how student's learning experiences can be improved.

Di Double and I conduct the survey with the children so that we have consistency in how it is delivered across our school. Please contact the school if you have any questions about this survey.

**PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAY: Monday May 20.**

A reminder that was in the last edition of the newsletter. As part of the agreement brokered between the State Government and representative bodies, teachers are allowed one Professional Practice days in 2024. This year, schools are required to provide one day for report writing purposes and this date was approved by School Council at the March meeting, last term.

The date approved was Monday May 20 as a day that teachers as a collective can take their Professional Practice Day. This is also a Pupil Free day. Please mark it in your calendar.

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

A date to mark in your diary, 2024 Grandparents and Special Friends Day on **Friday May 24.**

We have kept the same format that worked so well last year.

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 outlined below. We would love to see as many Grandparents/Special Friends as we can on May 24.

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 SERVICES

On Tuesday, April 23, our School Leaders, together with many schools in the local area, attended a service at the memorial based at the Thousand 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. At the conclusion of the service, we headed back up 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.

The next day, we held our whole school based service in the hall, due to the inclement weather. This was run by our student leaders, under the tuition of Miss Ward. They, along with our wonderful choir, held quite a moving service. Well done to our children who showed the utmost respect at both services, acknowledging and understanding the importance of remembering all who have served before us.



## PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2025 ARE NOW BEING TAKEN ONLINE

We have been pleased to see the number of families who have already been online and indicated their intention to enrol their child at TPS in 2025.

Enrolments can now be entered on the VicStudents portal: <https://students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/>

See you around the school.  
Rohan Thompson  
Principal.



# Tecoma PS Sports Update

Last Wednesday, Tecoma PS proudly sent four of its students to represent the school at the SSV Divisional Tennis tournament. Noah T, Isaac W, Jeremy D and James D showcased not only their individual talents but also the spirit of Tecoma. The tournament was fiercely contested, with the top 16 players from the Sherbrooke District vying for a chance to advance to the SSV Regional Tournament. Despite the tough competition, all four boys displayed great sportsmanship and respect towards their opponents. James emerged as the standout performer, winning all his games and clinching the title of Divisional Champion. He will now progress to compete in the SSV Regional Championships at the end of the month. Congratulations to all four boys, and best of luck to James in the upcoming tournament.

In another sporting achievement, Eli played in the golf Masters last week. Eli demonstrated exceptional skill and determination, ultimately claiming the title of State Masters Champion and receiving the prestigious green blazer. What an incredible accomplishment, Eli! We wish you continued success in your future golf tournaments.

Shifting gears to Cross Country, congratulations to all Tecoma students who participated in our whole school cross country event on Friday, 19th April. Despite the threat of rain, the day remained dry, with occasional glimpses of sunshine during the races. Thanks to all parent volunteers who generously assisted as course officials and race runners. Your support is invaluable, and we truly appreciate your dedication. Special recognition goes to those students in grades 3 to 6 who finished in the top 8 places. They will now progress to the District Cross Country event scheduled for Friday, 24th May.

**Go Team Tecoma!**



ResourceSmart  
Schools Awards  
2024



15  
YEARS

LEGENDARY  
LEGACIES  
*What will you leave behind?*

## We have been named as a finalist in the ResourceSmart Schools Awards!

The ResourceSmart Schools Awards celebrate the legendary efforts and impacts made by schools in sustainability. Our school has been chosen as a finalist in the Community Leadership School of the Year (Primary) category for our work on working with the local community on our future Yarning Circle and Indigenous Garden, and Clean Up Australia Day.

We have been invited to attend the awards ceremony at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on 4 June along with the other finalists. The theme this year is “**Legendary legacies – what will you leave behind?**” Speaking of legendary legacies, since 2008, 1,600 ResourceSmart Schools (including us!) have worked together to:

- save more than \$60 million on bills
- plant more than 5.2 million trees
- save more than 74,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e greenhouse gas emissions
- divert 168,000 cubic metres of waste from landfill
- save 1.8 million kilolitres of water.

The ResourceSmart Schools Awards are a joyful and affirming celebration of schools and students and their sustainability triumphs. The awards are the state’s largest sustainability celebration for primary and secondary school students, teachers and school volunteers taking remarkable sustainability action. We are proud to be recognised among the schools doing sustainability work that benefits students, the planet and the wider community alike.





# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
1/2A	Leo S	Well done on settling in to 1/2A, Leo! I am very impressed with the way you have learnt our routines and expectations. We are so lucky to have you in our grade!
1/2D	Harrison F	Welcome to Tecoma Primary School, Harrison. You have settled in so smoothly and happily into our classroom and are already making lots of new friends. We are delighted to have you.
3/4A	Isaac W	Isaac, you have great enthusiasm in every part of your learning. You are always ready to contribute, help others and your love of writing is infectious. Keep up the amazing work!
3/4B	Indi T	Well done, Indi on always putting 100% effort into all of your learning. You consistently show respect to our school by following the expectations in our classroom. When completing your work, you always have a positive attitude, give everything a fair go and never give up. Congratulations!
3/4C	David B	David, I loved the input you had into our spelling focus for this week. Sharing your understanding of how the prefixes 'dis' and 're' work when applied to the base word 'appear' was very helpful to our classes.
3/4C	Zoe F	Zoe, the initiative you show towards your learning is wonderful. Well done on working on your research on your information report, even though you weren't here at school! You have learnt to log on to Google Classroom and access the tasks you needed to work on.
3/4D	Cody K	Cody, congratulations on the way you have settled into life at Tecoma Primary School. You have slotted right into our grade, making new friends and joining in with our craziness. Well done!
3/4D	Jaimee C	Congratulations on being the first person in our grade to achieve their Joining License in Handwriting. You consistently produce stunning handwriting, always demonstrating your Personal Best effort. You should be very proud Jaimee! Well done!
3/4E	Lipney B	Congratulations on a great start to Term 2, Lipney. You are showing some real improvement in all areas of your work and organisation. Keep up the awesome work!
3/4E	Isobel B	Issi, you have made a great start to your Information Report on Echidnas. You have come across some interesting facts in your research, and made an awesome start to your introduction. I look forward to reading the rest!
5/6A	Indie W	Indie displays respect in all that she undertakes. She is polite to her teachers, incredibly helpful with her peers and she always loves helping out in the classroom. We are all very fortunate to have you as part of 5/6A. Keep up the wonderful attitude, Indie.
5/6B	Eli Y	Eli has begun the week focussed and engaged in his learning. I am thrilled to see your interest in our ANZAC unit, Eli and the work you are doing around it. Thank you for demonstrating to me what a terrific learner you are! Keep it up.



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
5/6C	Ari P	Ari made a very creative 'toastie' image during his maths work on Cartesian Planes this week. He took on feedback to make improvements to his work and plotted his points expertly. Way to make maths fun, Ari!
5/6D	Banjo L	Banjo is so supportive of others around him and always makes sure to congratulate others when they've done something well. Thank you, Banjo. Your classmates really appreciate your positive and encouraging attitude!
5/6D	Harry H	Harry comes into the classroom each day with such a positive attitude and always his uses his personal best effort to complete his work, and when interacting with his classmates. Thank you, Harry. Your class really enjoys working and spending time with you!
Japanese	All of 5/6A!	In Week 3, Grade 5/6A students exemplified all the school values: Respect, Resilience, Creativity, and Personal Best. It was refreshing to witness everyone being respectful, encouraging each other towards excellence to use as much Japanese as possible, and displaying resilience and creativity. A truly fantastic effort!

After months of training, two aerobics teams from Grade 4 and 5 competed in the Regional School Aerobics Competition at Rowville Secondary School on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April. They performed with great enthusiasm and lots of smiles. Whilst they didn't progress to the State level, they certainly had a great time. Thanks to Mrs. Langford for training them, since 2023, and Mrs. Cumming for supporting me and the girls at the competition. We had a fun day. Mrs. Connell.





# UPWEY HIGH SCHOOL

## SCHOOL TOURS 2024 & Art Show

SATURDAY 4 MAY

9AM – 1PM

### TOURS:

9:00am

11:00am

1:00pm

Call the office to book 9754 2838



Tecoma Preschool

# OPEN DAY

Saturday 18 May 2024

9.30 - 11 am

0493 276 718

[tecoma.kin.kindergarten.vic.gov.au](http://tecoma.kin.kindergarten.vic.gov.au)



## HAVE YOU CONSIDERED PLAY THERAPY?

Connected Hearts Play Therapy, a new clinic nestled in the heart of Tecoma, invites you to explore the transformative power of play. Unleash your child's potential and watch as they conquer challenges, build resilience, and grow through our specialized therapeutic sessions.

- ✓ Private, NDIS self managed and plan managed welcome
- ✓ Associate member of Play Therapy Practitioners Association
- ✓ Final Year of Masters of Play Therapy at Deakin
- ✓ Fully Registered and Experienced Teacher
- ✓ Brand New space - IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY!

0418 205 714

[connectedheartstherapy.com.au](http://connectedheartstherapy.com.au)

REGISTER NOW



## Emotion Focused Parenting

A 6-week online program  
for parents of children aged 5 to 12 years

### Do you want to:

- Help your child develop emotion regulation skills?
- Learn how your child can manage their emotions and deal with conflict?
- Build positive relationships within your family?
- Parent anxious children?

**Dates:** Monday 13th May to 24th June 2024  
(no session will run on Kings Birthday holiday)

**Time:** 7:00 to 9:00 pm

**Where:** Online via Zoom.

**Cost:** Free for parents and carers in Melbourne's Eastern Region.

**Click to register:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/VXim3pAAMB>

**Questions:** Deborah on 9896 6363  
deborah.trengove@anglicarevic.org.au

## PARENTZONE

**Please note:** This is an interactive program involving group discussions and activities. You will need a quiet child-free place and device with video and audio, to participate.

[anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)

BETTER  
TOMORROWS





## 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:** Tuesday (6 evening sessions)  
14th May - 18th June 2024

**Time:** 6.00pm to 8.00pm

**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](mailto:julia.russell@anglicarevic.org.au)

PARENTZONE

[anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)



## Raising Resilient Kids

A free program for parents of children aged 3 to 12 years

Do you want to:

- Help your child cope in what feels like a rapidly changing and often chaotic world?
- Improve their confidence?
- Help your child manage their strong emotions?
- Help them to better understand and manage their anxious feelings?
- Work with them to develop strategies to manage anger?
- Communicate better with your child?

**When:** 14th May - 18th June 2024

**Time:** 1.00pm - 3.00pm

**Where:** Online, via Zoom

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

**Questions:** Julia on 9721 3629

or 0400 866 495

PARENTZONE

[anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)

BETTER TOMORROWS

## National Families Week

### Reptiles Up Close

Meet our local reptiles and learn about their habitats and behaviours in this interactive program for the whole family.



**Date:** Saturday 18th May 2024

**Time:** 10.30am-12pm

**Location:** Belgrave Library  
Reynolds Lane, Belgrave

**Book:** <https://www.trybooking.com/CPXQA>



For enquiries contact:

Michelle Lehmann - Early Years Community Support Officer  
0407 319 456 / [m.lehmann@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:m.lehmann@yarraranges.vic.gov.au)



Yarra Ranges Council is a Child Safe organisation.



Scouts AUSTRALIA

1st Belgrave South Scouts

Winter market

10am - 2pm

Sunday 26th May

Belgrave Scout Hall

28 Station St

Belgrave

Kids' activities *sausage sizzle*  
Secondhand goods *cake stalls*  
Handmade goods