



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

16th May, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER:

MAY

Friday 17th
CERES Excursion
Grades 1 & 2

Monday 20th
Report Writing Day
PUPIL FREE DAY

Wednesday 22nd
NEVR Concert
Rehearsal
Select Students

Swimming
Grades 3 & 4



Thursday 23rd
Morning Munchies
Order through Qkr
before Wednesday!!

Friday 24th
Grandparents Day
Preps - Grade 2

District Cross
Country
Select Students.

FORTNIGHTLY UPDATE

We have enjoyed a really busy fortnight around the school with incursions, excursions, Smile Squad dental service, Grade 3/4 classes starting their swimming program, Mother's Day stall as well as teaching and learning in the classroom.

As we move into Winter next month, please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the colder days. Wherever possible, we try to give students time outside at recess and lunch. This might mean they need those additional layers of clothing (school uniform) to keep warm. Please make sure these are clearly labelled to make our daily sweep of the yard looking for lost property slightly easier!

SENSIBLE BEHAVIOUR IN WET CONDITIONS

We have noticed that many of our younger students have been enjoying the mud of recent times. Whilst we are constantly asking them to stay away from puddles and mud, they don't always listen. If we could ask parents to help us out by reminding students to stay dry, we would appreciate it. Further, for younger students, it is always wise to have a spare set of pants, polos, and underwear just in case.

NORTH EAST VICTORIA REGION "SONIC CANVAS" CONCERT

On May 29, we have 20 children participating in the North East Victoria Region concert at the Hamer Hall in the city.

The concert showcases the many talents that are nurtured in government schools. 'Sonic Canvas' features massed concert bands, orchestras and choirs including the renowned massed primary choir of over 200 students.

Thanks to Mrs. Connell who has worked hard with the children to give these children another wonderful experience.

REPORTS

Term 2 provides a timely opportunity to engage with families more formally as we report on Semester 1 achievements that our students have focused on. Reports undertaken as teacher judgements are a considerable piece of work for all teaching staff to moderate, evaluate, award scores and then summarise achievement through written comment. From beginning to end, this would nearly take 2 hours per student. Noting that this work is always undertaken in addition to a full teaching load which is somewhat alleviated through the Professional Practice Day next week. We do take report writing on achievement with a view to ensure that we can engage with our families as the primary purpose for these documents. This half-year report will be distributed on the 21st of June, with the opportunity to meet with our teaching staff on Tuesday 25th June for Parent -Teacher Interviews. 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.



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, Professional Practice days have been reduced to one each year. 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 remember, there is no school next Monday!**

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

With Mother's Day last Sunday, we are grateful for the amazing volunteers and the Parents Network who dedicated their time and effort to make our Mother's Day stall a resounding success on Friday! Your generosity and enthusiasm contributed to the stall being a memorable event for our students. Whether it was a gift for your mum, grandma, aunt, or any special person, this was a perfect opportunity for our students to show how much their person means to them. We hope all the mums and special people had a day filled with love and laughter on Sunday.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is celebrated across Australia each year between 27th May and 3rd June. The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey - the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision.

National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to the national reconciliation effort.

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 below; we would love to see as many Grandparents and 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. | |

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/>

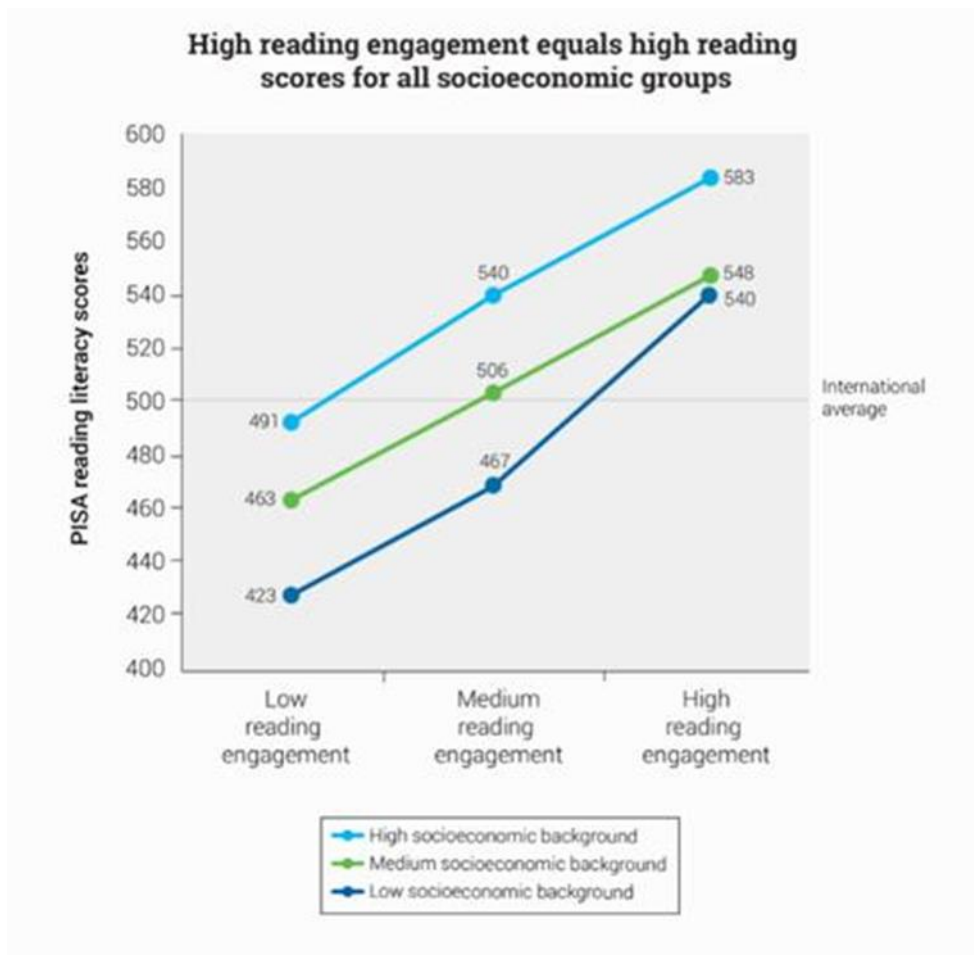
If you encounter any problems with the portal, paper forms are also available from the office, or can be emailed to you to fill in. Please contact the office if you would like it emailed to you on 9754 2354.



READING IS EVERYTHING!

As the colder months descend on us and the days get shorter, there is no better time to grab a book and curl up under the doona or in front of the fire. By any measure, reading for more than 15 minutes per day has enormous benefits for life outcomes. Fifteen plus minutes of active reading helps students achieve higher academic growth than their peers. 30 minutes is even better, and 60 minutes has enormous benefits. Studies show that only 18% of students read for 30 minutes per night and that at 60 minutes, student growth is on average 48% higher than the average, no matter what the child's background. The table also shows the correlation between high reading engagement against international student rankings. Those coming from the lowest socioeconomic backgrounds achieve well above the international average if they read regularly. If we compare a student from a low socioeconomic background who does not read daily, with a student from a high background that does, the difference is massive. That difference is cut dramatically by high reading engagement. The evidence could not be clearer. If you want your child to succeed, read to them and give them plenty of opportunities to read. If you still have pre-schoolers, the research shows how significant being read to is, enabling students to start school with reading skills well above their peers. From my own experience, when my own children wanted to stay up later, our first negotiation led to bedtime being extended by 30 minutes, on the proviso that they read in bed for those 30 minutes. Not only did it help them fall asleep as they disconnected from devices, but it boosted their reading time. Win-win-win! As I have said many, many times, reading is everything and is the key to your child enjoying a successful future.

I have included an article below that further outlines the importance of reading daily.



WHY READING EVERY NIGHT IS SO IMPORTANT:

The following article again illustrates just how important the practice of reading nightly is.

Why Can't I Skip My Twenty Minutes of Reading Tonight?

(Source Unknown)

Let us figure it out – mathematically!

- Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week.
- Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!



Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week.

- Student A reads 20 mins x 5 times a week = 100 mins/week.
- Student B reads 4 mins x 5 times a week = 20 minutes.

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x approximately 4 weeks each month.

- Student A reads 400 minutes a month.
- Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year.

- Student A reads 3600 mins in a school year.
- Student B reads 720 mins in a school year.

⇒ *Student A practices reading the equivalent of ten whole school days a year.*

⇒ *Student B gets the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice.*

⇒ *By the end of Year 6 if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits, Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.*

⇒ *Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.*

One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance.

How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

Some questions to ponder:

Which student would you expect to be the more proficient reader?

Which student would you expect to know more?

Which student would you expect to write with greater proficiency?

Which student would you expect to have a broader vocabulary?

Which student would you expect to be more successful in school....and in life?

See you around the school.

Rohan Thompson

Principal



AFLW Players Visit

On Friday, May 10th, our school had the pleasure of hosting four talented athletes from the Hawthorn AFLW team. The visit was an exciting opportunity for our students to engage in a Q & A session with these esteemed players, gaining valuable insights into the world of professional Australian Rules Football.

Throughout the session, our students had the chance to ask a variety of intriguing questions, delving into the players' experiences, training routines, and the highs and lows of playing at an elite level. The players graciously shared their personal stories, offering glimpses into the dedication and determination required to succeed in the demanding realm of AFL.

For many of our students, this encounter was not only informative but also inspiring. Hearing firsthand accounts from accomplished athletes served as motivation to pursue their own passions and aspirations, both in sports and beyond.

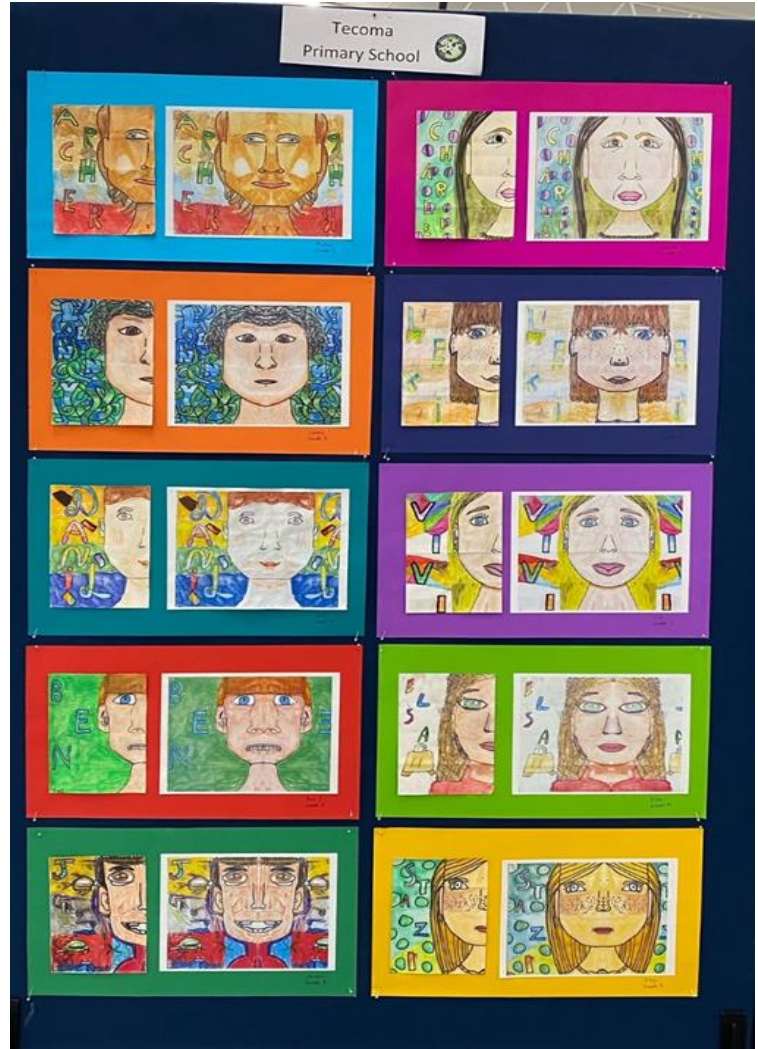
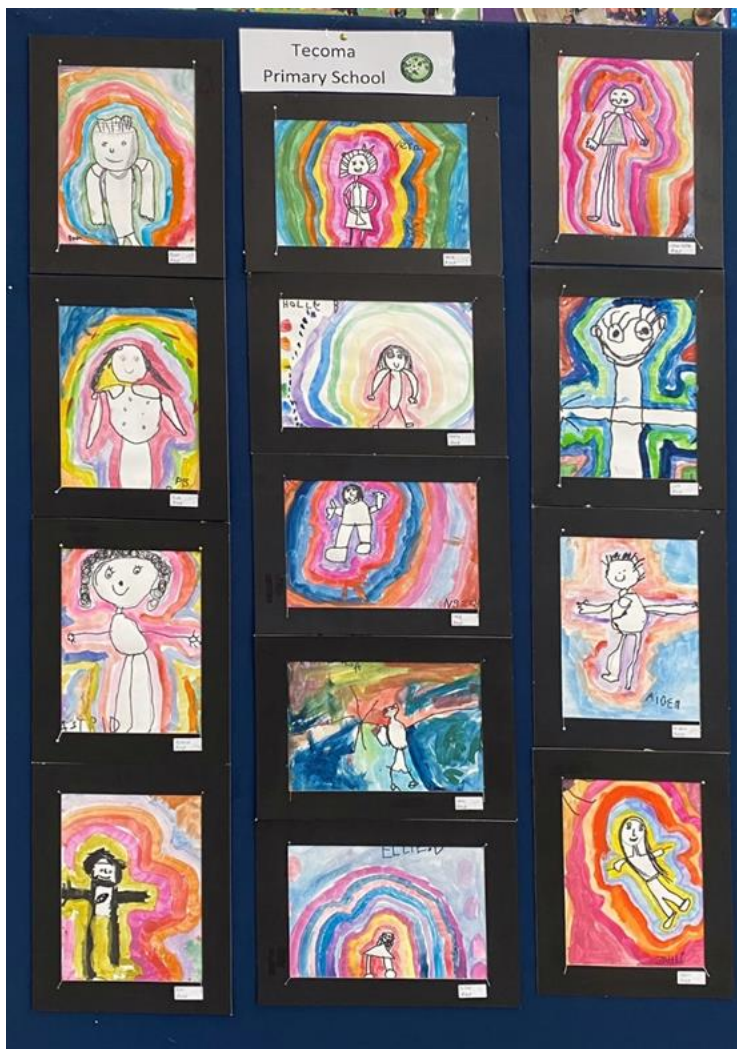


STREETON ART COMPETITION

On Saturday 4 May, 87 students from Tecoma Primary School had their artwork on display for the Streeton Art Competition.

We had 2 winners from our school, Charlotte Henderson won 1st prize in the Kinder to Prep Category and Archer Howard won 2nd prize in the Grade 1 - 3 category.

Congratulations to all who had their work displayed. Here are some of the amazing masterpieces!



TECOMA PRIMARY



Tecoma Primary School



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STUDENT OF THE WEEK



| GRADE | NAME | REASON |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| Prep A | Astrid C | For writing a wonderful recount about eating French toast at her Gran's house. Astrid's writing was sitting on the solid line and she tried really hard at spelling the word breakfast. Congratulations, Astrid. |
| Prep B | Wyatt V | Wyatt, you have been working very hard in reading to sound out the letters and decode the words! You are also showing your best listening skills in the classroom. Fantastic, Wyatt. Keep it up! |
| Prep B | All of Prep B! | For representing our school beautifully whilst on our excursion to Myuna Farm. The animals, farmers and public all appreciated how respectful you were, and it was an absolute pleasure taking you to Myuna Farm. Well done! |
| 1/2A | Leo V | Leo has been on fire this week. He has challenged himself each day in Maths by completing all of the 'spicy' work to an excellent standard. It is great to see you applying new subtraction strategies and taking risks with your learning. |
| 1/2B | Josie H | For showing such resilience when working with new subtraction strategies in Maths this week. Well done, Josie. Keep up the great attitude! |
| 1/2C | Archer P | Archer, you have done such a great job this year! You are always so organised and ready to go. You listen carefully to what you need to do and work hard to complete all tasks to a high standard. Well done! |
| 1/2D | Natalie E | For Natalie's amazing creativity, attention to detail and imagination in drawing a portrait of her Mum for Mother's Day last week. The result was simply awesome. Congratulations, Natalie. Great work! |
| 1/2E | Marley W | Marley showed all the values during our lesson about adjectives. He really wanted to do it by himself but someone else wanted help, so Marley was resilient and compromised and they worked on it together. They were respectful to each other and showed creativity in their choice of adjectives to achieve a personal best. Thanks, Marley. |
| 3/4B | Luca M | Luca, over the last few weeks you have really demonstrated respect towards your peers. I was most impressed when you assisted your table partner during literacy activities, as well as completing your own work thoroughly. Well done! Keep up the good work! |
| 5/6A | Harrison P | Harrison is always respectful towards his teachers and friends and this is such a lovely quality to possess. He is kind, thoughtful and is always willing to help out in the classroom. Keep up the wonderful attitude, Harrison! |
| 5/6C | Zara A | No matter what the task, Zara completes all of her work to an incredibly high standard. It is wonderful to see so much effort put in each and every single day. Keep up the amazing work, Zara! |
| 5/6D | Adelaide B | Adelaide, the initial draft of your soldier's letter is outstanding! You've put in so much thought and effort and it is shaping up to be one of your best pieces of writing. I can't wait to read the published letter! |
| Japanese CLIL Science | Pipa P | Thank you for consistently volunteering during recess and lunchtime to assist Masae-sensei with organising the CLIL room and preparing for lessons. You have demonstrated an excellent example of our school value of RESPECT for learning spaces. Arigatou! |

OFFICE NEWS

Adelle Stone | iStockphoto



1. Uniform Shop Helper Needed:

We are in need of a parent volunteer to assist with sales in our uniform shop on a Thursday afternoon for 30mins preferably from 3.15pm to 3.45pm (this is negotiable).

Please contact the office if you can help.

2. Compass Parent Guide.

This guide was originally circulated to families when we first brought Compass into our school. It is also on our website if you need to refer to it again for assistance when using Compass.

3. Compass Calendar.

Please refer to the Compass Calendar for all dates that are school related - Curriculum Days, Holidays, Morning Munchies, Camps, Excursions, Incursions, Special Events etc.

4. 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 with you, before or after school, or they can have a look during recess or lunch time.

5. Appointments/Messages.

Due to the importance of learning, 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 if you need to sign your child out and then collect them from the classroom. Thank you.



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Sign up to NAB AFL Auskick by scanning the QR code below and use the code to receive \$10 off!

Discount code: 8014C8FD

play.afl/auskick



Tecoma Preschool

OPEN DAY

Saturday 18 May 2024
9.30 - 11 am

0493 276 718

tecoma.kinckindergarten.vic.gov.au



JAPAN FESTIVAL
THIS SUNDAY!

Box Hill Town Hall
19th May
JAPAN FESTIVAL 2024

<https://www.jcv-au.org/japanfestival/japan-festival-en>



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

CALLING ALL BOYS AGED 11-14!

MOUNTAIN DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEW BOYS COMPETITION!

It's time to break the mould and dive into boys netball! Sharpen your reflexes and agility as you navigate the fast paced action of netball



Boy's netball is breaking boundaries and proving anyone can dominate the court. Experience the fun competition in a supporting and inclusive environment. MDNA are looking for boys wanting to stay active, fit and healthy whilst having a blast on the court.

Matches are held at Knox Regional Netball Centre on a Friday afternoon from 4.30pm commencing on April 19, 2024. Term 2 is FREE, excluding VNA (insurance)

TERM 2 FREE!



WHETHER YOU ARE A SEASONED PLAYER, OR JUST GETTING STARTED, WE WANT YOU! IF YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL, HAVE A FEW MATES OR A WHOLE TEAM, CONTACT US TODAY!

INFO AND ENQUIRIES: INDOORCOMPS@MDNANETBALL.COM.AU

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:

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0407 319 456 / m.lehmann@yarraranges.vic.gov.au

