



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Tecoma VIC 3160

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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

7th November, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER:

NOVEMBER

Monday 11th
*Prep Incursion
Belgrave Police
11:30 - 1:00*



Wednesday 13th
*Step Into Prep
Japanese/Science
Future Preps (2025)*

*Swimming
Grades 5/6*



Friday 15th
*City Experience
Grades 5/6*

Monday 18th
*Transition
12:15pm - 1:00pm*

Tuesday 19th
PFA 9:00am

*Transition
12:15pm - 1:00pm*

CLASS FORMULATION

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

We will now 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.

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

On Friday, October 25, it was World Teachers Day. We celebrate it slightly differently at Tecoma as internally we celebrate it 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.

I want 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 9-3:30 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS PICNIC:

Just a reminder that we will have our Christmas Carols Night on the oval on Thursday December 5 from 6 pm. This concert each year is always a happy occasion, where we get together as a whole school community to share in the children's success, have a break after a very busy year and hopefully see a friend or two who we haven't caught up with for a while. Parents are invited to bring along picnic rugs, chairs and their picnic tea and drinks for a 5 pm tea.

A reminder that smoking and the consumption of alcohol on the school property is against the law and therefore not permitted.

At 6pm, we will commence our Christmas Carols. This will be a very low key evening where we can all get together, enjoy each others company and sing along to our favourite Christmas Carols. There will be strictly "no choreography," just a nice sing-a-long to celebrate the end of another huge year. We would love to see you all here. Grandparents and extended family are very welcome as always. Let's hope the weather is kind to us again this year!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our staff have been talking to the Grade 5 children about student leadership positions at our school for 2025.

As students move into Year 6, opportunities for each child to partake in a number of formal and informal leadership roles are expanded.

Our formal leadership roles in 2025 are:

- School Captains
- Sports Captains
- Environment/Kitchen Captains
- Visual Art Captains

- Performing Arts Captains
- Digi Tech Captains
- Junior Sport
- Junior School Council
- Student Action Team

Students are nominated by their peers for the role of School Captain. They were required to present a speech to the current Grade 5/6 cohort, teachers, Di Double and myself. Voting took place by ballot at the completion of the speeches.

The Role of School Captain is set out as follows:

Represent Tecoma Primary School and its students with distinction.

Lead and organise weekly assemblies.

Respond to requests from Principal and teachers.

Escort visitors around our school with confidence and good manners.

Use initiative to catch up on lessons missed due to representing our school.

Show responsibility to carry out specific jobs once learnt without having to be reminded

Exhibit the confidence and maturity required to speak in front of a large audience at events. These may include assemblies, impromptu speeches for special visitors and special events.

We will announce the 2025 School Captains in the coming weeks.

TAKE HOME BOOKS:

In talking to our literacy leaders, we are missing a substantial amount of the take home and library books that the children read. Can you please look under the bed, in the car, bedroom, school bags, under the mattress; anywhere that you think might be a likely spot where these books might have disappeared to and send them back to the school so we can continue to re-circulate them.

We do a big buy up of these at the beginning of the year and with budgets tighter next year, we need to maintain the level of resources that we have in the school.

Thanks for your support.

SCHOOL UNIFORM (INCLUDING HAT'S)

There has been a significant increase in students attending school without the correct uniform over recent weeks. It is a requirement for all students to be in the correct school uniform, including the school hat. Our uniform shop has a full range of stock on hand you can purchase. Hopefully we can see a return to full uniform next week.

Finally, currently there is a significant amount of misplaced uniform items in the lost property containers, which are located just outside the staff room in the main building. We ask that all uniform items are named so that if we do pick them up, they can be returned quickly and we encourage families to check the bags and tubs to see if any of their lost items are there.

THUNDERSTORM ASTHMA

During the months of October to December, areas of Victoria are particularly prone to bouts of combined pollen and weather conditions that can result in 'Thunderstorm Asthma' in children and adults. On days of high risk of Thunderstorm Asthma at school, staff carefully consider conditions, and may have some outdoor activities relocated indoors (such as PE) to limit the potential impact of conditions that could result in a student having Thunderstorm Asthma. Families can monitor the potential for Thunderstorm Asthma through various websites and apps, including the following:

<https://www.health.vic.gov.au/environmental-health/epidemic-thunderstorm-asthma-risk-forecast>

<https://www.melbournepollen.com.au/mobile-app/>

<https://support.emergency.vic.gov.au/hc/en-gb/categories/203637608-VicEmergency-app>

For students prone to Asthma, Hayfever, or who take regular preventative medication, families are encouraged to monitor these sites (as does the school) and ensure children have their medication (named) at the school office, in case it is needed.

STUDENT WELLBEING

With the warmer weather arriving earlier this year with El Nino on our doorstep, (33 degrees yesterday!), now is a good time to remind students and parents about drink bottles. In order for our brains to function at their best, hydration is essential.

At TPS, we encourage students to have a drink bottle on their table and of course, we have fountains to drink from when outside. We all know that dehydration leads to fatigue, headaches and other physically draining symptoms that interfere with learning. In order for each child to give themselves the best chance at a productive day, drinking plenty of water is the healthy and sensible solution.

I've also spoken to all the children about the use of the breaks before school, recess and lunch time for going to the toilet. Habits crept in during remote learning and there has been a continual procession of children going to the toilet 5 minutes into learning time.

I've used the analogy of what mum and dad would say as you're about to head off on your family road trip for a holiday. The last thing they would say before hopping into the care is "have you gone to the toilet?" as they don't want to be stopping every 10 minutes on their road trip. School is the same. No teacher is going to stop the children from going to the toilet but we're trying to get them to go during the breaks instead to maximise the most of their learning time.



REMEMBRANCE DAY:

On Friday, 11th November students and staff will commemorate Remembrance Day which is a significant day in Australia. Remembrance Day commemorates the noble sacrifices of armed forces and civilians during times of war. At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, one minute silence is observed across the country to mark the end of hostilities on the Western front during WW1 after four years of warfare.

Poppies are available from the office with all proceeds going to the RSL.

See you around the school everyone.

Rohan Thompson
Principal:

Parent Contributions 2025.

Will be posted out on Compass.

School Council has met and confirmed the requested amount for each year level for 2025 as per the Parent Payment Policy set out by the Department of Education.

We are so pleased that we have kept these at such a low amount but keeping the quality of the curriculum materials of a high standard.

Parents from Grade 3 to 6 will have the option to pay a deposit for camps for 2025.

Headphones have been ordered for all 2025 students, which are a part of the Parent Contributions.

Grade 3 to 6 students are all required to have a sports top.

If you have any questions regarding the Parent Contributions, Payment Plans etc. please do not hesitate to speak to the office team.

Please note: We are not allowed to use the 'School Saving Bonus' for Parent Contributions.

It is only for uniform, camps, excursions and activities for next year.

More detailed information will go out separately via compass.



Sports News

What an absolutely bustling few weeks of sports it's been! Following our successful inter-school sports event, we're thrilled to share a proud moment: we received a message from a neighbouring school commending our boys' basketball team for their incredible sportsmanship. Several of our teams have also progressed to divisional rounds!

Our girls' basketball team, led by Coach Kate Vernon, played exceptionally well at the SSV divisional championships, winning every match except the one against the team that went on to the next round. Their dedication and teamwork shone throughout the day. Awesome work girls!

Our volleyball team also competed in the SSV divisional round, showing remarkable improvement as the competition progressed. They displayed outstanding sportsmanship, continuously supporting and encouraging one another—a fantastic show of team spirit!

We're excited to announce that our boys' cricket team emerged as SSV divisional champions, going undefeated all day. They'll now compete in the SSV Regional Championship on Friday, 8th November. Good luck to the boys!

Additionally, good luck to our two boys' netball teams, who will compete at the SSV event at the Knox Regional Netball Centre on Thursday, 7th November. The boys have been enthusiastically learning the game's skills at lunchtime and are eagerly awaiting the tournament, which will feature an amazing 72 teams in this year's second-ever gala event. Go, boys!

A special congratulations goes to Jono Grantham, who claimed first place in the SSV Divisional High Jump last week. Jono's incredible jump earned him the gold medal and a spot in the state championships. However, due to a post-event injury, Jono is unsure if he will be well enough to compete. Whether he competes or not, we're immensely proud of his achievement in reaching the state level—a fantastic accomplishment! Many of you may have seen a proud post on our Facebook page, highlighting Jono's act of sportsmanship. After a fellow competitor injured his foot and struggled to reach the podium, Jono stepped up, assisting him all the way to the medal stand to receive his award. His actions were a true example of sportsmanship at its finest.

Lastly, congratulations to all 19 members of our school's regional athletics team. We had the highest number of competitors among all Dandenong Ranges schools—a remarkable accomplishment! Every one of our athletes competed to a high standard and should feel incredibly proud of reaching this level. Their dedication to training during recess and lunchtimes reflects their determination to achieve their personal best.

We couldn't be prouder of all our athletes for their achievements and their support of each other!

Mrs. Cumming

2024 REMAINING DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday	6 November	9-10am	Step into prep
Wednesday	6 November		Grade 5/6 swimming
Thursday	7 November		SSV Boys netball
Monday	11 November		Remembrance Day
Monday	11 November		Region summer softball
Wednesday	13 November	9-10am	Step into prep
Wednesday	13 November		Grade 5/6 swimming
Friday	15 November		Grade 5/6 city experience
Tuesday	19 November	9:00am	Parent Network meeting
Wednesday	20 November	9-10am	Step into prep
Wednesday	20 November		Grade 5/6 swimming
Friday	22 November		Morning Munchies
Tuesday	26 October		School Council
Wednesday	27 November	9-10am	Step into prep
Wednesday	27 November		Grade 5/6 swimming
Sunday	1 December		100 years of Tecoma Township celebrations
Monday	2 December		Grade 1/2 puffing billy
Tuesday	3 December		Prep Information Night
Wednesday	4 December		Grade 5/6 swimming
Thursday	5 December		Christmas Carols night
Monday	9 December		Thank you, morning tea,
Tuesday	10 December		<u>Orientation day for grade 6 to high school, buddies picnic new classes announced</u>
Tuesday	10 December		School Council
Friday	13 December		Prep Graduation
Friday	13 December		Reports home
Wednesday	18 December		Grade 6 graduation
Thursday	19 December	2:45 – 3:30pm	Assembly (last day of 2024)
Friday	20 December		<u>Pupil free day</u>

The EACH Smile Squad team are heading back to our school to complete six-monthly fluoride varnish applications for those students who have provided consent. Fluoride varnish applications help make sure students have the best chance of preventing tooth decay, so we're excited Smile Squad are coming back.

Consent for this fluoride varnish application was provided when students' initial consent forms were returned. However, if anyone has changed their mind and do not wish to receive a fluoride varnish application, they can contact EACH directly to let them know. Please contact the Smile Squad team via:

9757 6209

Smile.squad@each.com.au

The Smile Squad team look forward to visiting our school on **Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th November 2024.**



Join Woolworths Cricket Blast
Designed for kids to learn skills, exercise, and make friends.

Starts Friday 15 November @ 5:30pm - 6.30pm
Followed by a free sausage sizzle for the kids
Upwey Tecoma Cricket Club, Chosen Ave, Upwey

Any queries contact Bec Jewell on 0402 120 891 or
by email rebeccajewell01@outlook.com



SIGN UP TODAY!

Play Cricket

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY





JOIN US FOR

RANGERS DAY 2024

2025 REGISTRATION & FAMILY DAY



**SAT
9TH NOV
10AM - 2PM**

Sign up for Season 2025!
Bring the family for a day of
Football Games & Activities,
Jumping Castle, Garage
Sale and plenty more fun!

Monbulk Rangers Soccer Club | 121 Old Emerald Rd Monbulk | monbulkrangers.org.au

BELCOMA NETBALL CLUB

Est. 1929

**END OF SEASON BBQ &
JUNIOR TEAM SELECTIONS**

TUESDAY 3RD DECEMBER

U11* & U13 : 4:30PM - 5:30PM

U15 & U18 5:30PM - 6:30PM

BELGRAVE SOUTH REC RESERVE

*NO SELECTIONS FOR MODIFIED U11, HOWEVER ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE FUN

BRING A PLATE & COME DOWN FOR AN AFTERNOON OF
FUN, GAMES AND A BBQ WITH SOME NETBALL ON THE SIDE.

See you there!

BELCOMA NETBALL CLUB

**NEW PLAYERS
WELCOME IN 2025.**

- ⚽ Fun and fitness.
- ⚽ Juniors from age 7+ of all skill levels (boys up to age 14).
- ⚽ Open-age (18+) ladies teams of all levels.
- ⚽ NetSetGo Development Centre for kids aged 5-7.
- ⚽ Supportive, inclusive, family-friendly club.

Interested or want to know more?

Send us a message via our website

(simply scan the QR code) or socials.



Belcoma Netball Club



@belcomanetballclub



SPRING COMP

**KICKS OFF
14TH NOV**



THURSDAYS 5:30 - 7PM

From 14 November - 19 December

For Boys and Girls aged Under 7s to Under 15s
(Born 2009 to 2017 inclusive).

All experience levels welcome. Cost \$50 per child
Monbulk Rangers Soccer Club

REGISTER NOW!

