



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Tecoma VIC 3160

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Principal : **Rohan Thompson**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

19th December, 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER:

JANUARY

Monday 27th
Australia Day Public
Holiday

Tuesday 28th
Staff Begin
Curriculum Day
Student Free Day

Working Bee
4:30pm – 7:00pm
BYO Garden tools



Wednesday 29th
Term 1 begins!
Grades 1 - 6
9:00am

ASSEMBLY 9:10am

Thursday 30th
Preps start school!
9:30am - 1:00pm

Friday 31st
Preps first full day
9:00am - 3:30pm

FINAL NEWSLETTER FOR 2024!

Well, we are done for another year!

What an enormous school year we have had in 2024. There's never any shortage of activities around TPS and this year has been no exception. To all the families who have volunteered, supported and participated throughout 2024, we thank you for your support. I know I say this often, but the TPS team are privileged to be a part of the broader Tecoma community. Having seen many schools in my time in education, it's easy to recognise that the grass is not always greener! Throughout the year we have had camps, excursions, incursions, the floral carpet, 100 years of Tecoma, opening the indigenous garden and yarning circle, State School Spectacular, athletics, swimming, cross-country, tennis clinics and so much more. As this year draws to a close, we undoubtedly have much to celebrate and of course, we look forward to doing more in 2025.

Over the past month, Di and I have had a chance to read every one of our student reports for Semester 2 and highlight some achievements in these reports. I thank our students for their commitment to their learning throughout this semester and in 2024, they represent our school proudly and I am very proud of their achievements. I also extend a sincere thanks to our TPS families and broader school community. The voluntary efforts made throughout the year to help out in our classrooms, at excursions, to support our teaching staff and the extensive support offered by our School Council and Parent Network, are another example of our school community coming together.

Finally, I extend my sincere thanks to our staff. You only need to pick up a newspaper or watch the news throughout periods of this year to recognise that teaching and education support is a job that is highly rewarding, but also can be a challenging role. There is a great challenge in the teaching profession at the moment and it is sometimes a reflection of the work, expectations and demands of the position. Our staff, each of them, work incredibly hard, they advocate for our students and try to ensure that they are always delivering opportunities and learning experiences that are reflective of their needs. They have worked tremendously hard this year, have shared in some fantastic achievements and should be acknowledged by each of us for the work they do to make our school so special – thank you!

The holiday period is a special time for our students, and it also comes at a time where there is volatility in the world at present; it is an opportunity to reflect on how lucky we are and to celebrate with family, friends and loved ones. To that end, I extend my best wishes to all our families over the coming weeks. Please travel safely, enjoy some well-deserved downtime and ensure you are looking after yourselves. I thank each of you for your wonderful support this year and look forward to the school kicking ahead under the new leadership of Ms. Cross.

Have the best holiday you can possibly have. Relax, enjoy what you do as a family over the festive season and the holiday break.

NEW PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT

As you will be aware from correspondence out last week, Ms. Brooke Cross has been appointed for the 12-month position as Principal here at Tecoma Primary School. Brooke comes to us from Bayswater Primary School where she has been the Principal for the last seven years along with short stints as a Senior Education Improvement Leader with Northeast Victoria Region. Brooke met with staff last Thursday and then was introduced to the children at assembly on Friday afternoon.

She has already expressed her excitement at taking on the role and the good feeling that she got as I walked her around the school. I'm sure that she will do a fantastic job, and I look forward to hearing how much she has accomplished with you all at the end of next year.

On a personal note, I want to thank everyone who's come up to wish me well for the next 12 months. It's a strange feeling to be making plans and setting up the following year, knowing that I won't be here after 17 straight years of doing this role. Both personally and professionally, it's a good time to take a break while also attending to things that have to be attended to.



LAST DAY OF TERM, THURSDAY DECEMBER 19, 2024

As you will be aware, today is the last day of the school year for the children of Tecoma Primary School.

There will be a final assembly on the top basketball court, commencing at 2:45pm and the children will be dismissed at 3:30pm this afternoon.

SCHOOL REPORTS

School Reports were delivered via email on Friday 13th December. These are a significant reflection of the learning and growth that has occurred in Semester 2. Well done to all our students on their achievements during this period. I have enjoyed reading these reports and the progress and development that can be celebrated for every student.

GRADE 6 GRADUATION

Last night, we had our formal Grade 6 Graduation at Burrinja, followed by a meal at the Upwey/Belgrave RSL. The graduation allowed the children to demonstrate their enormous skills in public speaking, as well as their thoughtful reflections on their primary school journey and the opportunities that lie ahead.

Awards were given out on the evening to students selected as best exemplifying our school's "School Values." The Simon Zachariah Award is a perpetual award given out each year to the best 'all round' student. This includes personal qualities as well as academic, artistic and sporting abilities.

This year, the award went to Ava Trsek. Congratulations Ava on achieving this great honour. Ava now has her name engraved onto the Simon Zachariah Shield which stays in our school for years to come, and Ava also receives her own award to keep as a memento of this occasion. A special addition this year is that we had last year's recipient, Allora Cumming, present to hand over the shield to Ava.

The School Values Awards went to:

Personal Best – Oscar Geelen

Resilience – Brodie Lyne

Respect – Emily Jewell

Creativity – Arianne Ballarta

The Tecoma GEM award (based on The Resilience Projects Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness) was awarded to Lexi Burfurd.



The Rotary Club of Belgrave Scholarship award was given to Liam Whitaker.

I would like to thank our fantastic staff who put the night together with special mention to our grade 6 staff, Mrs. Griffiths, Mrs. Faul, Miss Ward, Mr. McKinlay and Ms. Lansdell and our support staff who organised another memorable farewell for our graduating grade 6 class. It went beautifully....thank you!

I wish all the year 6 children a very positive transition into their secondary education. You will all be sorely missed and of course we look forward to you all visiting in future years to hear of your new ventures.

Good Bye!

FAMILIES and STAFF LEAVING TECOMA

A special mention to those families leaving Tecoma this year, often after a long association with the school. Thank you to the following families for their friendship and valued contributions over the years:

Ballarta (Ariane), Barnes (Samuel), Brown (Dane), Buenen (Maeve), Caldwell (Tane), Cooper-Davies (Bessie), Dunn (Blake), Elvey (Saxon), Emery (Theo and Florence), Geelen (Oscar), Green (Jack), Hasell (Hunter), Howard (Lorelei), Jansen (Henry), Korcak (Saskia), Le Gall (Elodie), Linden-Koska (James), Lyne (Brodie), Malpass (Ava), McManamon (Finn), Morgan (Eli & Scarlett), Page (Carter), Pope (Nicholas), Reid (Aiden), Schaap (Robbie), Schroeder (Jepi), Scott (Ollie), Taylor (Evey), Taylor (Finley), Thorpe (Aiden), Vine (Logan), Wentworth (Harper), White (Indie), White (Jacob).

We say goodbye at our final assembly to the following staff members:

Polly Swan
Kathy Perushyn (12 months leave)
Renaë Lansdell
David McKinlay
Kayla Pratt

We hope all that are leaving take many happy memories with you of your times at Tecoma.

TWILIGHT WORKING BEE

You will receive a COMPASS notice regarding the twilight 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: Tuesday January 28, 2025

Time: 4.30pm to 7pm.

Many hands make light work! Please BYO tools/equipment to assist.

LIBRARY BOOK and TAKE-HOME BOOKS PLEASE RETURN!

Please keep looking 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, under the bed, you will probably also find those missing socks that matches up the lonely socks in the washing basket!

READING

With the school holidays looming, I thought now was a good time to remind families of the benefits of regular reading habits. Whilst we expect students to read every night as part of their homework routine, we truly want them to want to read every night for enjoyment. We hope this continues over the holidays and that our students can continue to keep up their reading habits. Research shows that the summer break leads to approximately a two-week drop-in literacy skill for some students. For those that read regularly, they go the other way and can gain more than a month in terms of learning growth, simply by enjoying a book here and there and reading before bedtime.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

My best wishes to all our families for the Christmas period. I hope you all have a chance to spend some quality family time together and re-charge the batteries.

If you and your family use our school grounds during the holidays and see any suspicious activity, please call DET Emergency Management (9589 6266) or Belgrave Police (9754 6677).

See you in 2026!

Until then, have a great holiday break, have a great year and stay safe!

Rohan Thompson
Principal

OFFICE NEWS.....



- ♦ **PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2025 ARE ON COMPASS** (Please see one of the office staff if you would like to arrange a payment plan.)
- ♦ **OFFICE OPEN - Friday 24 January & Tuesday 28 January**
9.30am to 3.00pm
- ♦ **School Saver Bonus is available for use on uniform, excursions, sport and camps**

We would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and a very restful holiday period.

We look forward to seeing you again in the New Year!!!

Thank you for your support.

Karin, Anthea & Marnie.



2025 TERMS DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday	28 January	All day	Pupil Free Day
Tuesday	28 January	4:30pm-7:00pm	Working Bee
Wednesday	29 January	9:00am	<u>Term One commences</u> – Grade 1-6 students begin
Thursday	30 January	9:30am-1:00pm	Prep Students begin
Tuesday	11 February	Welcome Picnic	Prep and Grade 5 buddy picnic: 5:30pm-7:30pm
Wednesday	12 February	No School for Prep	' <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ' for Foundation
Wednesday	19 February	No School for Prep	' <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ' for Foundation
Wednesday	26 February	No School for Prep	' <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ' for Foundation
Wednesday	5 March	No School for Prep	' <i>School Entry Assessments</i> ' for Foundation
Monday	10 March	All day	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday	11 March	All day	Preps commence full time schooling
	12-13 March		NAPLAN Grades 3 and 5
Friday	14 March	All day	Whole School Photos
Friday	March 21		Colour Run
Mon-Thu	March 24-27	Grade 5 camp	Lakewood Park Camp
Mon-Thu	March 31-April 3	Grade 6 camp	Coonawarra Farm Resort
Friday	4th April	2:00pm – 2:30pm	Assembly (Term 1 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u>)
Friday	18th April		Good Friday (in school holidays)
Monday	21st April		Easter Monday (in school holidays)
Tuesday	22 April	9:00am	<u>Term Two commences</u>
Friday	25 April		Anzac Day - Public Holiday
Monday	9 June		King's Birthday Holiday
Friday	4 July	2:00pm – 2:30pm	Assembly (Term 2 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u>)
Monday	21 July	9:00am	<u>Term Three commences</u>
Mon-Wed	8-10 September	All day	Grade 3/4 Camp
Mon-Tues	15-16 September		Whole School Production
Friday	19 September	2:00pm – 2:30pm	Assembly (Term 3 concludes - <u>early dismissal</u>)
Monday	6 October	9:00am	<u>Term Four commences</u>
Tuesday	4 November		Melbourne Cup Holiday
Thursday	18 December	2:45pm – 3:30pm	Assembly (last day of 2025 - <u>early dismissal</u>)

Yarra Ranges Council

School Holiday Activities



Creative Communities



dream room Workshop for Kids

Yarra Ranges Regional Museum
Wed 22 Jan, 2025
Tickets \$15



Movies in Healesville and Warburton

This Summer: The best of cinema, close to home

Featuring quality films, affordable prices & accessible screenings.



NGV Kids on Tour

NGV Kids on Tour is back again in January 2025 with free art-making drop-in activities and games at The Memo Healesville, Arts Centre Warburton and Yarra Ranges Regional Museum!



Kerri Hollingsworth Nature Weaves

The Memo Healesville
17 Jan 2025 - 26 Jan 2025
Free drop-in activity



School Holiday Activities

Early Years



13
JAN

Baby Play

- 10am-11.30am | Lilydale
- For children aged 0-1 years
- No booking required.



14
JAN

Splish Splash Water Play

- 10am-11.30am | Belgrave
- For children aged 1-4 years
- Booking required.



15
JAN

Splish Splash Water Play

- 9.30am - 11.30am | Yarra Junction
- For children aged 1-4 years
- No Booking required.



16
JAN

Dad and Me Build It

- 5.30pm-8pm | Chirnside Park
- Dads and Male carers with children 0-8 years *soon to be dads are also welcome
- Booking required.



18
JAN

Access and Inclusion expo

- 10am-2pm | Kilsyth
- For all ages
- No booking required.



21
JAN

Spy Craft (Quiet session)

- 9.30am-11.00am | Montrose
- For children aged 3-8 years
- Booking required.



22
JAN

Let's Make Playdough

- 10am-11.30am | Monbulk
- For children aged 2-5 years
- Booking required.



Scan to explore more events and book now!

For more information

📞 1300 368 333 🌐 www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/schoolholidays

✉️ earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au



SUMMER **HOLIDAY** SKILLS CLINIC

MON 20 - WED 22 JAN 2025
9AM TO 2PM
AGES 7 TO 13 ONLY

Join us to sharpen your football skills, make new friends, and have a blast on the field this April school holidays!

1 Day \$65 or 3 Days \$175 per Person
Lunch provided
Monbulk Rangers Soccer Club
115 - 121 Old Emerald Road, Monbulk



LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE
REGISTER NOW!



extreme tennis

AUSTRALIAN OPEN JUNIOR TENNIS CLINICS 2025 (Designed for ages 5-13)



CONDUCTED BY CLUB COACHES
Stuart & Diana Sutterby

Tennis Australia Club Professionals, A.T.P.C.A Reg. LV 2, T.C.A.V. Reg. Adv. Coach, Bach of Teaching

DATES & TIME: 9:00 – 1.00pm

Tuesday 14th January 2025 (FERNY CREEK TC)

(Wednesday 15th Jan to be used as spare day in case of inclement weather)

Monday 20th January 2025 (UPWEY SOUTH TC)

(Tues 21st Jan to be used as spare day in case of inclement weather)

FORMAT:

FOCUS: Skill development

Technique – correction and analysis, physical training, sportsmanship, court etiquette, fun, games & prizes.

FOCUS: Tournament/Match play – HOT SHOTS

All Hot Shots pupils rally & score. Hot Shots starter tournaments are a fantastic way for pupils to experience the thrill of match play in a multi-match round robin format. Pupils play in their own colour ball programs/levels with modified courts and balls- red, orange, and green- against players of similar ages under qualified coach supervision.

11+ age group will play round robin using normal yellow balls. Tactical/strategy aspects of the game are also discussed via feedback from coaches.

-Trophies and prizes will be awarded to the best achievers-

"The session includes a sausage sizzle lunch & drinks for all participants"

COST: (GST Incl)

\$65.00

Further enquiries please contact Stuart or Diana Sutterby
0412 106 416 / 0403 525 111

Bookings via <https://forms.gle/rDD6Eegj3XZD4ZQ9>

E: contactus@extremetennis.com.au

W: www.extremetennis.com.au

