



# TECOMA TIMES



## Tecoma Primary School Newsletter

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Acting Principal : **Brooke Cross**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

20th February, 2025

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

#### **FEBRUARY**

**Monday 24th**  
*Getting to know your child – Parent/Teacher meetings*  
1:00pm-6:00pm

**Wednesday 26th**  
*Swimming - Grades 1/2*  
*Aquatic Achievers*



**Thursday 27th**  
*Clean Up*  
*Tecoma Day Working Bee*  
(2:00pm-3:00pm)



**Friday 28th**  
*DISTRICT SWIMMING*  
10:00am – 2:00pm  
(Belgrave Pool)

Our term is off to a great start with students busy and settled in their 2025 classrooms and the school is a hive of activity and engaged learning.

#### **Welcome / New Families Picnic**

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend Prep / Grade 5 Buddies / New families' picnic. It was a lovely way to start the year, and it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying spending time together. It was a fantastic way to connect and welcome our new families. I have already spoken to several staff and the Parent Network about the possibility of organising



more of these important informal events across the year. As I mentioned in my last newsletter report, I have been blown away by the strong community connections at our school and I believe this is important to continue to foster.

#### **Getting to know your child interviews**

We will be holding our get to know you interviews next Monday the 24th of February afternoon from 1:00 pm. This is a great chance to share information about your child and for you and your child's teacher to get to know each other. Bookings can be made through Compass. I will also be available during most of this time, if you would like to pop in for a chat!

#### **School Council and Parent Network Elections**

We are currently running nomination and election processes for both our School Council and Parent Networks. Both groups make significant contributions to our school and community. The work of our School Council and in turn Parent Network, enables us to fulfil our obligations to the Department of Education in terms of governance and procedures as well as enriching and contributing to a variety of areas of school operations. At our most recent Parent Network meeting, we explored the Parent Network constitution and outlined the processes we will follow this year. I am looking forward to our first School Council meeting in the next few weeks and meeting with our newly elected council members. More information about the nomination and election processes of both Parent Network and School Council can be found on COMPASS or by contacting the office.

## Coming Up

- Getting to Know You interviews on Monday February 24
- District Swimming at Belgrave Pool on Friday February 28
- Athletics Day Years 3 – 6 at Kings Park on March 11. (Parent helpers needed!)
- NAPLAN starts on Wednesday March 12 for students in years 3 and 5
- School Photos on Friday March 14.

Further information on all these events will be available via COMPASS.

## Meet our Staff!

Each newsletter we will be introducing you to some of our TPS staff members. This week we will be showcasing the Principal team!

Hello! My name is Di Double and this is my 18th year of being the Assistant Principal at Tecoma Primary School. I started my teaching career 43 years ago and still love what I do! As a teacher I have taught every year level, in every subject area, in several schools throughout Victoria. The smallest school I have taught in was in the Western District, where there were only 7 students, and the largest school was in Mildura with over 900 students. Tecoma Primary School is such a special place to work. I love the community feel of our school – our staff work together as one, our parents are such active members of our school and our kids...what can I say...each and every one of our students are such amazing and caring young people, who look out for each other and strive to do their personal best. They really are very special, and I love watching them learn new things and sharing their successes with them! When I am not at school, I am very involved in Rotary and we do many amazing things, both here in Australia and overseas. I also love sailing on the Gippsland Lakes, exploring new places with our caravan, cooking, reading, sewing, watching movies, listening to music and spending time with my husband and our son.



Brooke Cross - Acting Principal

Di Double - Assistant Principal

Greetings! My name is Brooke Cross and this is my 32nd year in Education. I was the very proud Principal of Bayswater Primary School for 7 years before joining the amazing Tecoma team at the start of this year. I have had the privilege of working in 11 different educational settings so far and have done everything from working as an integration aide, OSHC coordinator, classroom teacher, Leading teacher, Wellbeing leader, regional consultant, Assistant Principal, Principal and Acting Senior Improvement Leader. My passion is improving outcomes for all students, and I am incredibly excited by the work we are planning for this year around Literacy approaches, Mathematics 2.0 and SWPBS to name just a few areas of priority. I am really excited to be working with such a capable and experienced staff at Tecoma. I can't wait to see what we can achieve working together!

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family, (Children, Ruby 25, Toby 23 and Heidi 19) and partner Simon, who is a Secondary English teacher. We enjoy fine dining, local and overseas travel, reading, bush walks and watching movies together. My happy place is my parent's beach house down at Apollo Bay where I go to unwind and reset surrounded by the ocean and the breathtaking Otway ranges. We also have a very affectionate cat at home called Max, who spends his time sleeping on beds and couches. At some stage soon, I will introduce you all to Zeus, my 13-year-old poodle, who has been coming to my schools with me since he was a small pup, performing his duties as Wellbeing support admirably during that time. He is starting to slow down a little with age but is very keen to meet new students and to work his magic!

Enjoy the rest of your week!

# OFFICE NEWS...



CSEF – If you have a current Veterans Affairs Gold Card, a Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC), a Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) or are a foster parent, you are eligible to apply for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund which pays \$154 per year for eligible primary school students. Application forms are available at the office.

## School Photos!!

A reminder to save the date for our SchoolPix School Photo day – **FRIDAY 14TH MARCH.**

Orders are not yet open but we'll let you know as soon as they are.

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

**CERTIFICATES WILL BE HANDED OUT ON MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY.**



GRADE	NAME	REASON
1A	Liv S	For being an enthusiastic and cooperative student. Liv, your effort is excellent and I am very pleased that you are learning so much. Keep up the good work!
1B	Darcy C	Darcy was focused during our new Phonic Plus literacy program and has completed all tasks to her personal best. Well done, Darcy!
2A	Estella S	Estella is a superstar! She is always ready to learn and shows respect to her teachers and classmates. She puts in her best effort and takes her time to ensure her work is completed to a high standard. Well done!
2C	Declan E	Declan enjoyed the Place Value building challenge in Maths. He tried his personal best to design and build an awesome structure using Base 10 blocks. Great work, Deccy!
3/4B	Merry E	You are a super star, Merry! You consistently do your best in all areas of school life. You demonstrate active listening and contribute to class discussions. You try your best in all learning tasks, your work is always set out neatly and with pride, and you are always respectful to those around you. Well done and keep up the terrific effort!



# Tesselaar

## Fund-raising with Bulbs 2025

Dear Families,

We are doing another fund-raiser for our school with Tesselaar bulbs!

Order early to ensure stock availability!!

**Our order conclusion date is Wednesday 8th April.**

Make sure to let your extended families & friends know so you can put in a bulk order 😊

Go ON-LINE to place your order at:

<http://www.bulbfundraiser.com.au/TECOMAPS>





**JOIN WITH FRIENDS  
PLAY TOGETHER**

**TECOMA PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**ALL GIRLS CRICKET BLAST PROGRAM**  
**DATES - TUES 18 FEB, 25 FEB, 4 MAR & 11 MARCH 2025**  
**TIME - 3.45-4.45PM**  
**SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK THIS LINK TO REGISTER!**



**OFFICIAL KIDS  
PROGRAM**



**Play Cricket**

**come find your awesome**

**UPWEY TECOMA AUSKICK CENTRE**

Starting Friday 2nd May 5:15pm  
Talaskia Reserve

Contact: [auskick@utjfc.com](mailto:auskick@utjfc.com) REGISTER

**nab AFL Auskick** [play.afl/auskick](http://play.afl/auskick)

**ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE**

FUNDED BY NEPHU

# FUSSY EATERS

TACKLING SENSORY DIET CHALLENGES

**FREE**

**AGES 8-13**

**WEDNESDAY**

**5TH MARCH**

**4PM - 5.30PM**

ANGELA LEE FROM TLC NUTRITION, IS AN ACCREDITED PRACTISING DIETITIAN WITH EXPERIENCE IN HELPING CLIENTS WITH IBS/IBD/DIABETES AND FOOD INTOLERANCES.

**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS...**

**Mondays: 8:45am—9:15am**

**Thursdays: 8:45am—9:15am & 3.15pm—3.45pm**

Please note stock is low at the moment. We hope to have more in about 2 weeks time.

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!**



**Save the Date**  
**Tecoma Primary School**  
**Colour Run**  
*is returning*



**Friday 21st March**  
**2025**





**A LOVE OF SPEED!!!**

FERNY CREEK PS - 46TH ANNUAL

# BILLY CART DERBY

## 2025

**FRIDAY 28 FEB  
5-7PM**

**WHEELS PARADE  
STARTS 5PM**

Gold Coin Donation to enter  
**PRIZES TO BE WON**  
FOR

- Most Natural / Sustainable
- Best Animal theme
- Most Creative
- Most Colourful
- + Principal's choice

Decorate a bike, scooter, doll's pram or even wear a bright costume with roller skates. Riders will need a helmet

**BILLY CART DERBY  
STARTS 5.30PM**

Students Grade 2 and up

# \$10

PER RIDER

**Race as many times  
as you like!**

Skip the queue and register early!  
Riders will need a helmet, a billy cart  
(which meet the marshal specs)  
and parents permission to compete

**PLUS Delicious Food and Beverage Stalls**

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

**OPTUS**



**Bakers Delight**  
Ferntree Plaza