



TECOMA TIMES

Tecoma Primary School Newsletter



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Acting Principal : **Brooke Cross**

Assistant Principal: **Di Double**

1st May, 2025

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

DATES TO REMEMBER:

MAY

Friday 2nd

**HMAS Castlemaine
Grade 5**



**HMAS Castlemaine
Service at The Shrine
Grade 6**



**Friday 9th
SEDA Basketball
Clinic Grades 2 - 4
At School**



I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the early days of our vibrant Autumn season. We hope all of our families and staff members enjoyed the unusually mild weather throughout the holiday period. I cannot recall ever having our summer extending so late into the year.

The term has started well for us here at Tecoma Primary with a number of events and activities already having taken place and many more planned for future weeks. We look forward to building on our positive start throughout Term 2.

Anzac Day Commemoration Services

It has been an absolute privilege to have witnessed and been a part of, the school's involvement in a number of services and events to mark ANZAC day this year. I have been extremely proud of the respectful manner in which our students represented our school at the Thousand steps ANZAC service and visit to Upwey RSL. Our choir performed beautifully at the service and were commended for their behavior and presentation. I was then completely blown away by our very own whole school ANZAC ceremony which our junior school council ran last Thursday. This was a very moving and well run event with all students from prep to grade 6 engaged and behaving in a respectful manner. Tomorrow I will be accompanying our grade 6 students to the Shrine of Remembrance for the annual service to commemorate HMAS Castlemaine. The grade 5 students will be heading to Williamstown to visit the Castlemaine itself.

Cross Country

This morning we ran our much anticipated whole school cross country event. A massive thank you to all of the many parent helpers who assisted with the running of this. A big thank you also to Mrs. Cumming who despite being on leave recovering from surgery! organised this event from afar impeccably, with the help of staff here at school. A special mention to Mrs Connell and Mr Darbyshire for stepping in and assisting with this. Again, it was fantastic to see the number of parents and other community members who turned up to support our students to do their personal best today. I am still trying to make my way around and meet as many of you as possible so it was great to see so many of you in the cool chilly air this morning. It was also wonderful to see the students cheering each other on and being so encouraging of one another.

Open Night – Education Week

Education Week is an annual celebration of public education in Victoria.

In 2025, Victoria will celebrate Education Week from Monday 19 May to Friday 23 May. This year's theme "Celebration of Cultures" highlights the diversity of our communities and the importance of every child feeling safe and welcome at school. Here at Tecoma we strongly believe all children deserve a place to learn and thrive in. As such we are going to take this opportunity to open our school to our current community, whilst also inviting prospective families to have a look at the work we do here at Tecoma and the amazing school culture we have. On Wednesday 21st May from 4:30-6pm, we will be hosting an Amazing Race style event that will enable all who attend to visit all areas of our school. Further details will be sent out shortly but please keep this date free in your diaries! Stay tuned as we have some exciting curriculum developments and wellbeing opportunities to share with our community shortly! Have a fabulous week and stay warm on these chilly Hills mornings!

SPORTS PICTURES.





A BIG ARIGATOU TO TECOMA PS COMMUNITY!



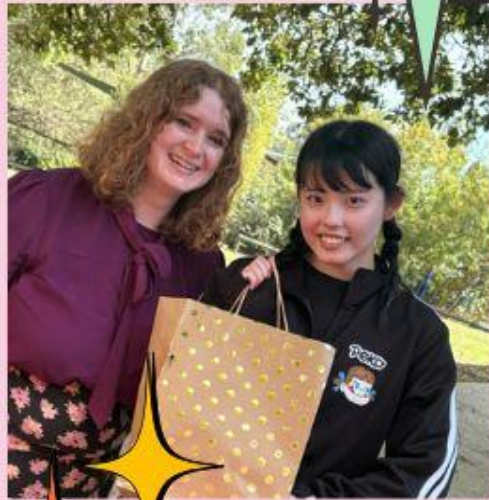
Language Assistant Program

We were fortunate to welcome **Ms Rin Ishikawa**, our Japanese Language Assistant, during Term 1. She played a key role in helping our students strengthen their Japanese language skills through interactive support and cultural exchange.

OUR WONDERFUL HOST FAMILIES

A special thanks to **Trsek family** and **Murphy family** for welcoming Rin-san to their homes and showing her around all over Victoria!





About Rin-san

Rin-san (Ms Rin) is a sophomore student at a university in Tokyo. It was especially exciting for Rin-san to spend time with Tecoma PS students as her major is education and she is planning to be a primary school teacher. Her enthusiasm, friendliness and creativity attracted a lot of students.



ko n ni chi wa
こんにちは。



**Thank you Rin-san and
all the best for the future!**

Rin-san created a
lot of classroom
resources!



TOWARDS NO RUBBISH AT TPS



From the beginning of Term 2, TPS will be kicking off our goal to become a “NO RUBBISH” school. This goal is part of our broader sustainability initiatives. As you are aware, we already encourage nude food, however we are still finding huge amounts of rubbish in our yard after snack and lunch. We are therefore going to try a new approach to reducing this rubbish by putting in place 2 designated eating areas for those students who don’t finish eating in the allocated time in class.

The first area will be in the courtyard between the white admin building and the Prep building and the second will be the area behind the 1/2 building. Both spaces have ample seating and shade and will have a set of bins (recycling and rubbish). Outside of these areas there will no longer be rubbish bins around the school as we expect that weekend and holidays users of our grounds will take their rubbish home with them. We will be reminding students of this new process in the first weeks of Term 2 and our yard duty teams will redirect students to the designated areas to finish eating.

Our container deposit scheme (CDS) bins for families to donate their 10c bottles and cans have been updated and will now be located in the amphitheatre along the hall wall. This will allow for easy access, so please don’t forget to bring along your bottles and cans for the school.

We trust that our wonderful Tecoma community will get behind our sustainability initiatives and help make our yard beautiful simply by supporting our rubbish free program.



Library News

By now, all families will have received their Scholastic Book Club catalogues. Just a reminder that all orders are due back to school by Monday 12th May. We cannot extend this date as it is set by Scholastic. Happy shopping!

Can you all please take this chance to have a hunt around your homes for any school library books. I will be sending out overdue reminders later this week, so encourage your children to have a thorough search.

And remember, your children can return books to the library at any time, not just when they have their class library time.

Thank you and happy reading,
Kath Young
Library Co-ordinator



LOST PROPERTY AND SECOND HAND UNIFORM

With term 2 well and truly underway, now may be a good time to do a quick inventory of your child's uniform items. We currently have a lot of uniform items in our lost property area, and I am sure they must be missed at home. If your child is missing any items of clothing, including from camp or swimming, please have a thorough look in our lost property area.

We also have quite a collection of lunch boxes and drink bottles and miscellaneous bits and pieces. Please ensure every item of your child's uniform is labelled so that it can find its way back home. We have a lot of items showing up in lost property that have not been labelled or may still have a past student's name on them instead of the current owner. If an item is not named and it is in good condition, we resell it in our second hand shop.

Which brings me to the second hand uniform shop.

We really appreciate your kind donations, but at the moment we have no room to accept more items.

When we are able to accept donations again, please remember the following:

- ◆ Items must be washed and unstained
- ◆ Items must not be damaged
- ◆ Student's names removed
- ◆ NO grade 6 uniform items unless they have no names or dates printed on them
- ◆ Tecoma Primary School uniform items only (no t-shirts, board shorts, basketball shorts etc.)

Kath Young
Uniforms



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
Prep A	Jaxon C	Jaxon shows great resilience by not letting the little things get to him. He stays positive and just gets on with it. His calm, can-do attitude sets a great example for others! You are a star Jaxon, well done.
Prep A	Winnie H	Winnie shows true leadership by taking pride in keeping our classroom clean and welcoming. He willingly helps with everyone's messes, showing kindness and respect for our shared space. We're so grateful for the way you care for our community, Winnie!
1A	Dante B	Dante, you have blown me away with your reading this week! I am so impressed to see that you are using decoding strategies that help you work out some tricky words. Keep it up!
1B	Phoenix V	Phoenix has returned to school for term 2 ready to learn and has shown all of our school values in class. Keep up the fantastic work Phoenix.
2A	Rica C	Rica always shows respect to both her teachers and classmates. She is always organised and ready to learn! Well done Rica on being such a respectful member of our class. Keep it up!
2B	Isla M	For showing great resilience during our Maths this week. You didn't give up and wanted to continue practising even after our maths lesson had finished! Keep it up Isla!
2C	Ollie C	Ollie is storming ahead with his reading. He is leading our class for home reading nights signed in his diary. It is paying off as he is the first to reach Reading Level 30. Great job Ollie.
3/4B	Edie B	Well done Edie on always demonstrating your personal best, resilience, creativity and respect when completing your work, being a considerate class member and a respectful student. Keep up the amazing work and effort!
5/6A	Olive G	Olive had an amazing time on camp! She was a help to her peers and her teachers. Olive was a friend to everyone. She demonstrated great resilience and determination on every single activity. Congratulations Olive.
5/6B	Eddie H	Eddie has been so focused in class, it is absolutely fantastic. He has returned to school, ready to learn! Well done!
5/6B	Ella B	Ella is an all time star! She has the most amazing work ethic and she is always so helpful to those around her. Keep up the wonderful attitude Ella!
5/6C	Mia H	Even with a fractured wrist Mia has come to school with a smile on her face and a positive attitude continuing to bring joy to our class regardless of her current challenges. You're a ray of sunshine Mia.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



GRADE	NAME	REASON
5/6E	Amber M	For showing maturity and respect in the classroom. You are a kind and caring role model to your buddy as well as trying hard with your own learning. Great job, Amber!
Music	Jack P	For his fabulous musicality shown in Music class this week. Playing the instruments with great rhythm.



VICTORIAN PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

This year we are once again registered for the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge.

Participation is voluntary, and open to all students.

This year's challenge closes on Friday 5th September.

Children are required to read the following amounts of books:

Prep – 2 30 (with 20 from the Challenge List)

3-6 15 (with 10 from the Challenge List)

Of course, children are encouraged to read as many books as they can!

The reading lists are available at:

<https://vprc.eduweb.vic.gov.au/books/search-books>

The Reading Challenge is a great opportunity for all children to explore their love of reading and to discover some new, favourite books.

If you would like your child to participate please contact me via email and I will send you their login details.

Happy reading!

Kath Young

kathleen.young@education.vic.gov.au





ANYBUDDY CAN PLAY

PLAY.AFL/SUPERKICK

Tecoma PS Superkick

Tecoma Primary School

Mondays 3:40 - 4:40pm, Starting May 26



Scan the QR code to register!

AFL PLAY

COMPASS UPDATE

Compass has released an app update for Android phones.

If you are experiencing technical difficulties, please be aware you may need to uninstall and then re-install the app for it to function properly.

Kindergarten Readiness

When is the right time to start Kindergarten?

This evidence based session provides invaluable information to support you in knowing when your child is ready to commence kindergarten and help you in making an informed decision.

Presented by Early Life Foundation.

Date: Thursday 22 May 2025

Time: 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Where: Online

Book: trybooking.com/DARMP



For information about kindergartens in your area visit [Starting Blocks](#)

For enquiries or support with booking please contact:

Michelle Lehmann - Yarra Ranges Council Family & Children's Services

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

In partnership with Knox,
Maroondah, Whitehorse
and Yarra Ranges Councils



Parenting Anxious Children

A 6-week program for parents of 4 to 12 year olds

- Learn parenting strategies to help your child deal with uncomfortable emotions such as fear and anger
- Support your child to cope with life's challenges both at school and at home
- Set boundaries and find solutions for challenging behaviours
- Teach your child the skills of resilience to bounce back from adversity

When: Thursday mornings (6 sessions)

Dates: May 8th to June 12th 2025

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where: Online via Zoom

Cost: Free to attend

Enquiries: sharon.muir@anglicarevic.org.au

Registration: [Click here](#) or scan QR code

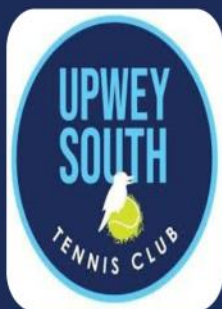


PARENTZONE



Please Note: Parenting Anxious Children is a six-week interactive program. To participate, you'll need a device with video and audio capabilities.

BETTER
TOMORROWS



Is turning...50!!! All welcome to
come join the **FREE** activities

Sunday May 4th, 11am - 4pm

@ Upwey South Tennis Club

RSVP VIA
QR CODE



- Membership Discounts & Raffles
- Exhibition Matches & Social Tennis & Hot Shots
- Activities and Fun for all ages
- Club History Display
- Speed Radar & Ball Machine

* BBQ * DRINKS * GUEST SPEAKERS * GREAT PRIZES *



Tweens, Teens and Screens

Parenting in the Digital Age

A 6-week program for parents of 8 to 14 year olds

This program is for parents who wish to:

- Explore how excessive screen use may negatively impact emotional, social and physical well-being.
- Learn how to discuss harmful online content with your child such as violence, cyberbullying, online influencers, sexual content, privacy and misinformation
- Learn strategies to set boundaries and manage conflict in the family that often arises from excessive screen use.
- Deal with anxiety and anger - both yours and theirs while improving family relationships

When: Mondays (6 evening sessions)

Dates: May 12th June 23rd 2025

No session on 9th June - King's Birthday

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Where: Online via Zoom

Cost: Free to attend (bookings essential)

Registrations: [Click Here](#) or scan QR code

Enquiries: sharon.muir@anglicarevic.org.au



PARENTZONE

BETTER
TOMORROWS

Teamwork
Community
Commitment
Responsibility
Respect
Confidence

Junior Volunteer Development Program

The Junior development program is for boys and girls aged 11 up to 15 years and offers a variety of activities teaching life skills and fire understanding/safety.

The development program helps children get a better understanding of the CFA while developing personal skills and community awareness through social, recreational and educational activities.

Activities can include

- practical firefighting drills
- first aid training
- communication skills
- leadership development
- team work
- fire safety awareness
- Fire brigade competitions and championships

There is no cost to join!

For more information contact your local CFA

Sassafras Ferny Creek: sfcfbsecretary@outlook.com

Upwey: upwey_juniors@upweycfa.org.au

For more information visit:

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa/junior-volunteers>

| Fun | Friendship | Firefighting skills |

The junior program is supervised by Junior Leaders who are volunteer members of the brigade (all leaders hold a Working with Children Check)

