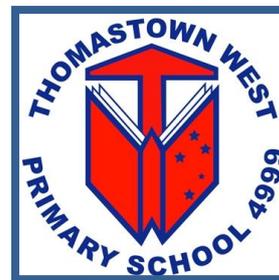


Thomastown West Primary School



NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER NO. 34

FRIDAY 9TH OF DECEMBER 2016

FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL:

Hi everyone,

The 2016 school year is rapidly disappearing! It is certainly an exciting and busy conclusion to the year with many events and programs still scheduled in the final days of term.

2017 Grade 6 Leaders

The grade 5 short-listed leadership students were interviewed by Mrs Wright and myself on Monday. **These 16 students are to be congratulated on their thoughtful, mature and inspiring answers.** We are confident that TWPS will be in good hands with these future leaders. They have a clear understanding of our School Values and are keen to give all students a voice in 2017!

I am pleased to announce the successful applicants who make up the 2017 Student Leadership team, are as follows:

- School Captain: **Josh**
- Vice-Captain: **Carli**

	House Captain	House Vice-Captain
O'NEIL	Vange	Stephanie F
THORPE	Emily	Owen
FREEMAN	Yazimine	Noah
FREEMAN	Yazan	Mia

Student Reports

Friendly reminder: Reports will be sent home **Thursday the 15th of December.** Please take the time to read these with your child, celebrate their achievements and talk with them about their future learning goals.

2017 Staffing Profile

Last week I included a staffing profile for next year and please remember I said **this may change!** Our enrolment numbers are **still** continually changing and with additional enrolments we **hope** to make another grade to reduce class sizes further. Already there have been some alterations made. I will update you in the final newsletter next Friday.

Good bye & Good luck!

Change comes to all places and people and TWPS is no different. It is with great sadness that we farewell Mr Tim Brown and Rafah Malaeb.

Rafah joined TWPS in 2015 and quickly became a valued member of the Grade 3/4 team. In 2017, Rafah has chosen to move back to Dandenong South to be closer to her family. I genuinely commend Rafah for **striving to be** her personal **best** and making such a tough decision to achieve a more satisfying work-life balance! Rafah will be sorely missed! It will not surprise me if she is quickly 'snapped up' and employed by a school in the Dandenong South area.

It is with mixed feelings we farewell Tim Brown. While Tim absolutely deserves his appointment of a Student Wellbeing leadership position at Dallas Brooks PS, Tim will be sorely missed. Tim has worked at TWPS for the last six years. His commitment and contribution to student, staff and family wellbeing at Thomastown West is second to none. Tim has had a significant impact in the lives of so many TWPS families. The walls of TWPS will feel hollow, the corridors and the playground will feel empty and our school will feel very quiet without the laughter and upbeat presence of such a caring and dedicated professional such as Tim. Tim, you will always have a place in our hearts and community!

We wish both Tim and Rafah well in their future endeavours. They will be missed by students, staff and families!

Gratitude means to recognize the good in your life, be thankful for whatever you have, some people may not even have one of those things you consider precious to you (love, family, friends etc).

Pablo

Whittlesea Student Recognition Program

Every year, the City of Whittlesea invites each school in the municipality to nominate a student for the Student Recognition Program. This program has been created to celebrate students who contribute positively to the community. Nominated students are individuals who consistently demonstrate the school values. This year's nominee from Thomastown West Primary School was Mariam from Room

Mariam and her family were invited to attend a ceremony at City of Whittlesea offices to be recognized for her positive contribution to our school community.

Congratulations, Mariam!



School Fees & Book Packs

The office will be opened from Friday the 27th, Monday the 30th and Tuesday the 31st of January. Payments could be made then. A school Book Pack will only be received by the students upon payment or an arrangement made for a payment plan. Payment plans are available and can be organised through myself.

Celebrating our Successful Year

Class parties will be held next week! Teachers will send a note informing students about the details of their class parties.

To acknowledge and reward the student's hard work, children may come to school **OUT OF UNIFORM** in casual clothes (with appropriate shoes).

Grade 3/4 Zoo Camp

What an amazing opportunity our grade 3/4 students had on Wednesday night- a ROAR & SNORE camp sleep over at Melbourne ZOO!

Mrs Raif has yet again organised a fantastic camp experience! Mrs Raif, Mr Brown, Mrs Harding, myself and 24 children stayed in our own tents for the night. We toured the Zoo in the twilight and had our own very special animal encounters with a tortoise, a large stick insect and an elephant!

Mrs Santiglia and Adele joined us in the morning for a fun day of exploring the Zoo.

Thank you to the wonderful teachers who gave up their personal time to ensure the camp's success! The children had such an exciting time and will remember this experience for years to come. Especially, feeding the elephant and later when the possum jumped out of the tree, scared the giraffes and then they started to running!



Grade 6 Transition

Most of our Grade 6 students have now completed some (if not all of their) high school transition. They have had an opportunity to experience the types of subjects that they will get to do next year. Students participated in activities such as Maths, food technology and Art to name a few. Some students were also able to meet their home group teacher. There was a lot of positive comments on their return and, no doubt, the opportunity will set them up for a solid start to their secondary school journey.

WOW! That is very generous!

The thoughtful, generous and community spirited team at Schweitzer Engineering Laboratory (SEL) visited our school assembly on Tuesday. Eric spoke about how each year SEL raises funds for their staff's children schools. There are a group of staff who do not have children but wanted to make a difference to schools by inspiring young minds to value the importance and excitement of Science, Technology and Maths. The lovely people at The Smith Family let Eric know that TWPS would absolutely make use of the much needed funds.

Chido, one of SEL's many talented engineers gave an inspiring talk about working hard and persisting to achieve personal goals so that we can all strive to be our best.

Sincere thanks to SEL for donating **\$2,860**. The kind and generous donation will be utilised with STEM at TWPS in 2017. **STEM** or **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and **M**athematics, covers a wide range of knowledge and skills, which are increasingly in demand in a knowledge-based economy and a rapidly changing world.

Development of STEM skills at all stages of life will also inspire curiosity and creativity and drive innovation and growth throughout our economy. Through an exciting and engaging STEM education, learners of all ages can acquire skills that will give them an edge – so they can be smarter and more innovative, and use new and emerging technologies to solve problems and extend their knowledge and understanding.



Thank you to Eric, Chido, Rachel and the team at Schweitzer Engineering Laboratory (SEL). Your generous donation will be spent on a Little Bits Workshop which is a classroom electronics kit.



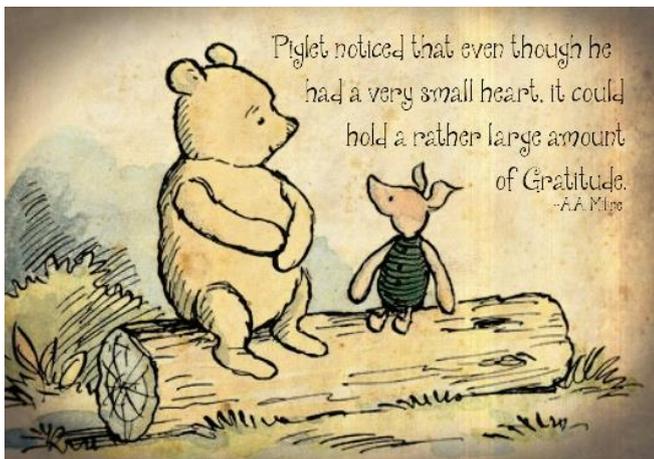
We look forward to developing our partnership by keeping you up-to-date with our students creations in STEM next year and your return visit to our school to meet with our future 'TWengineers'.

*Gratitude helps you to grow and expand;
gratitude brings joy and laughter into your life
and into the lives of all those around you.*

Eileen Caddy

Parent helpers' morning tea

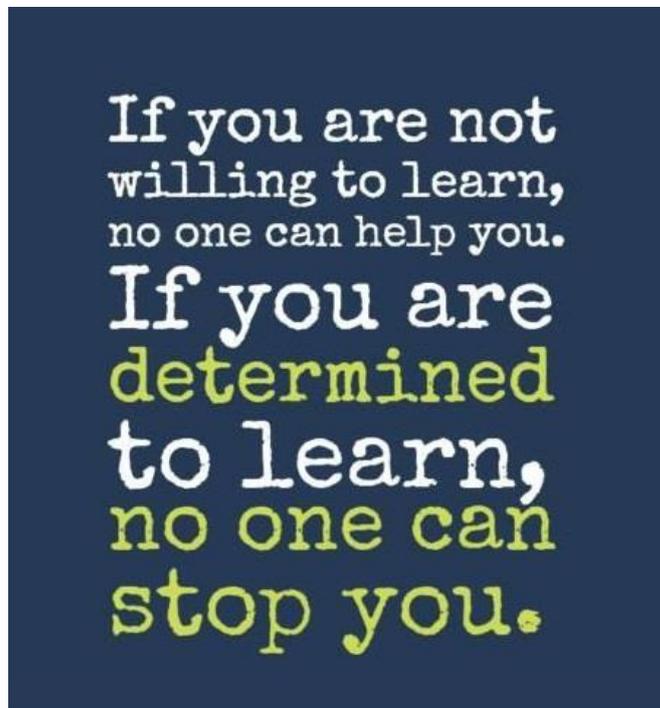
Today we had a lovely morning tea with our parent volunteers who have been generous with their time and energy throughout 2016. I would like to sincerely thank everyone in the TWPS Community who have assisted us in any way throughout the year. We really do appreciate your support and could not possibly run all of the great activities that we do, without your support. We look forward to working together again next year as we strive to continually improve and be the best school that we can be.



Education Matters, Teachers Make a Difference & Every Day Counts!

Sandi Young

Acting Principal



2017 TERM DATES

Term 1: Monday 30th January - Friday 31st March.

Week 1	Monday 30 th January <u>and</u> Tuesday 31 st January	Teachers commence (Student free days)
Week 1	Wednesday 1 st February	Grades 1 – 6 Students commence
Week 2	Monday 6 th February	Prep students commence on at 8.45am and finish at 12.15pm this week
Week 3 and 4	Monday 13 th February- Friday 24 th February	Prep students finish at 1.15pm
Week 5	Monday 27 th February	Prep students now attend full time 8.45am – 3.15pm

Term 2: Tuesday 18 April – Friday 30 June

Term 3: Monday 17 July – Friday 22 September

Term 4: Monday 9 October – Friday 22 December

2017 Parent/Teacher Sessions

- Term 1: Tuesday 21st February 2017 **Parent Information Session**
- Term 2: Tuesday 27th June 2017 **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

Curriculum Day dates for 2017 (Ratified by School Council):

- Monday 30th January and Tuesday 31st January (Term 1)
- Monday 24th April 2017 (Term 2)
- Friday 3rd November 2017 (Term 4)

Grade 3/4

Zoo Camp



The animal encounters were fantastic!



Finally we found the tiger!



We were all a bit tired at breakfast!

STAR OF THE WEEK

Prep	Room 2	Charles	Grade 3/4	Room 16	Tiarna
Prep	Room3	Alexander	Grade 3/4	Room 17	Nabaa
Grade 1	Room 4	Hudson	Grade 3/4	Room 18	Ahmed
			Grade 3/4	Room 20	Aden,Zayn & Amanni
Grade 2	Room 5	Dong & Hala			
Music		May			
			Grade 5/6	Room 12	Annabella



BREAKFAST CLUB

CHILDREN ARRIVING AT SCHOOL BEFORE 8:30am

We have noticed that a number of children are arriving at school before 8:30am.

Unless attending Breakfast Club children **cannot** be outside school until there is teacher supervision which is **8:30am**. This is due to safety reasons. Thank you for your cooperation

Cup of Life

This week's winner of Cup of Life is Room 18! Well done to Room 18 students who have done a great job of coming to school every day during 2017!

Term 4 winner of Cup of Life is.....

ROOM 17 congratulations to Room 17.

Remember every day counts...

Breakfast Club (Café 4999)

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Come in any and every day to enjoy some great summer selections including cereals, toast, yogurt, scrambled eggs, pancakes, milo, and juice just to name some!

Please note that Café 4999 (Breakfast Club) will close for the year on Friday December 18th.

Activities during the holidays

With the holidays fast approaching its important to consider what are your kids going to do during this time? If left to their own devices they will most likely end up watching HUGE amounts of TV and spent HUGE amounts of time on technology such as computer, PlayStation, Xbox, iPod etc.

There are lots of things kids can do over the school holidays that will be both enjoyable, relaxing and increase their health and wellbeing. Simple things like going to the park, catching up with family, attending Thomastown Recreation and Aquatic Centre (TRAC). Other activities can be spending time with family and friends, Going to the library and reading some great books visiting a museum and/or exhibition of their interest. Teach your kids how to cook. Actually plan some family time where **EVERYONE** is there and complete games and activities together. Visit a Zoo or nature park or go to the city or visit the beach. You don't need to spend lots of money in order to have lots of fun.

The following are some local suggestions of things to do...

GYM Sports Epping- is an artistic Gymnastics and Gym sports program for kids. There are great holidays programs to explore. For more info visit www.gymacademy.com.au.

YMCA- The YMCA provide holiday programs for kids. For more info visit www.victoria.ymca.org.au

For more ideas visit www.kidspot.com.au/thingstodo/vic-melbourne/school-holidays

On Behalf of the wellbeing team we wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday

Take Care,
Tim Brown

community once again this year, and allowing me to work with you and your children.

CHRISTMAS - Whether your family celebrate Christmas or not, I hope your family experiences some of the love, joy and peace that Christmas symbolises as you spend special times with family and friends.



Have a safe and enjoyable holiday time!!

Hi Everyone



Robyn Mulholland

Student Well-being



I'd like to express my sincere thanks to you for allowing me to be part of this special Thomastown West Primary



AFTER CARE NEWS

Program Information

This past fortnight we have been enjoying a diverse array of activities at Aftercare. Backwards charades, designing board games, bobbing for apples and making random acts of kindness cards, just to name a few.



Empanadillas...yum yum!



Bobbing for apples



Sweet potato dessert



Backwards charades



They have enjoyed the warmer weather while participating in many outdoor activities, such as Irish soccer, water relay, sandpit play, sand castle competitions, an outdoor picnic and we even took the

The children also explored recipes from different cultures, beginning with Tacos from Mexico, Empanadillas from Spain, Sweet Potato with crushed ice and milk from the Philippines. ...

indoor science lab under the trees.



Picnic under the trees



Outdoor science lab..



Sand castle competition



Water relay

As Saturday 3rd December is International Disability Day, we have brainstormed with the children about disability awareness.

‘TREAT OTHERS AS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED. BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER.’





There are only 15 days till Christmas and the children and staff at Aftercare are very excited.

We have all been in the Christmas spirit by actively participating in the many Christmas art and craft activities on offer.

The children have been happily making Santa's, Christmas trees, snowmen, snowflakes, Christmas lanterns and Christmas cards.



The Oshclub staff wishes you all a very safe and Happy Christmas and a wonderful entry to the New Year!!



Term Dates

The last day of term 4 is Tuesday, 20th September. Students will be dismissed from school at 1.15 and the Aftercare program will run from 1.15 – 6.15pm. Children wishing to attend Aftercare must book online.

School will commence Wednesday 1st February 2017.



OSH CLUB VALUES: Safety, Fun, Integrity, Caring, Education and Accountability

Payment and Bookings

Oshclubs's preferred method of payment, bookings and cancellations is online and all queries can be made at www.oshclub.com.au

Last minute bookings can be made by leaving a voice message or text on the programs mobile, 0407 372 056. This however incurs a late booking fee.

Cancellations

OSHclub online requires 24hrs' notice for cancellations of a booking or a medical certificate in the case of illness. If you provide either of these, you will receive a credit on any out of pocket expense. Credits will equal the full fee less your CCB.

In the case,

- you fail to cancel online
- your child is absent from school or picked up early

and booked into an After Care session. You must still either text or call to cancel the book. If you fail to do this we will contact you on your mobile, home number or work number to confirm the absence of your child.

Should you have any concerns please feel free to speak to Desiree, Carmen or contact Head Office.

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0407 372 056
Coordinator: Desiree Bustos
Assistant: Carmen Bellofiore
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account.

For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

Regards,

TWPS OSHClub Staff