

Thomastown West Primary School



NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER NO. 8

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Welcome back to term 2.

I hope you all had an enjoyable break, particularly over Easter, which is often a relaxing family time in Australia. I hope you enjoyed spending time with your children. I certainly did!

Thank you for the warm welcome! I have thoroughly enjoyed returning to Thomastown West PS and swinging in the big chair while Mr Bell has been at his conference in America. Mr Bell will be back on Monday. I'm sure we are all looking forward to hearing about his adventures and the new strategies he has learnt to support families and maximise student learning.

Four things I have noticed about TWPS this week:

- The students have already settled into the new term and are engaged in their learning. Well done boys and girls!
- The staff at TWPS are talented dedicated professionals who strive to do their best, ensuring the best learning opportunities for the students.
- The parents and grandparents I have spoken to, are proud to be part of the TWPS learning community.
- I was last here in 2014 supporting Mr Bell and WOW everything has grown! The school grounds are looking great.

FRIDAY 15TH APRIL 2016

A reminder that NAPLAN testing will be carried out in week 5 of this term, commencing Tuesday 10th May and concluding on Thursday 12th May. Teachers use a range of assessments over time to build a picture of your child's strengths and needs. The results of the NAPLAN tests will form a small component of the assessment tools, which teachers as professionals, use to tell how your child is progressing. NAPLAN 2016 will assist teachers in a small way to identify students' strengths and weaknesses in Literacy and Numeracy. By analysing results which show a pattern or which add to information from teacher judgements, teachers can adjust teaching strategies to provide appropriate support.

The teachers will be commencing their work on the children's half year reports in the coming weeks. I encourage you to spend time with your child discussing their learning with them, before the reports are distributed and then again after the reports, at the end of term. This will continue to give your child the positive message that **learning is important.**

Friendly reminder: School Council is this Monday 18th April with the AGM at 6:30 – 7pm and then School Council will begin at 7pm.

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

Keep up that lifelong learning!

Sandi Young
Acting Principal



Acting Assistant Principal Update....

Welcome back to all our TWPS families! I hope you are all excited to be back at school and ready to learn. I can't begin to tell you how excited I have been to start this term with you. I'm beginning to get to know parents and students and I want to thank you all for making me feel part of the community.

I've been in and out of lots of classrooms this week and I've seen students working tremendously hard and striving to do their best.

Our Musical Futures Program got off to a flying start this week when Mr Rosa took delivery of a range of instruments to support his new program. It was fabulous to see students learning to play ukuleles today. What a fantastic opportunity for the TWPS students!

On the 25th of April every year, we honour all Australians and New Zealanders who have served, or are serving in conflicts, wars, and peacekeeping operations around the world. Over the next week, students will be involved in ANZAC day activities and we will also mark the occasion, so keep a look out for further details of our assembly commemorating ANZAC day.

You and your children might like to find out a bit more about the Spirit of ANZAC through this website: <http://www.anzaccentenary.gov.au>

I'm looking forward to what the rest of this term brings at TWPS!

Pam Wright

Acting Assistant Principal



It is not OK to be away...or to be late to school!

BREAKFAST CLUB



A reminder to everyone that Breakfast Club is continuing to run in 2016. Breakfast Club runs between 8am-8.30am in the Multi-purpose room where students are able to receive a FREE breakfast. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so make sure your children have always had breakfast before they come to school or send them to breakfast club!

Hi Everyone, 

I hope you all enjoyed some special activities over the school holidays. I look forward to working with you and your children this term. I hope to use the newsletter to encourage you as a family to reinforce our school values, which are great values for families to adopt – EMPATHY, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY & RESILIENCE.



Playgroup – FREE TO EVERYONE – Thursdays, 10 am & Fridays at 9 am in the HUB at the school The children enjoy free play, story and music time. PLEASE COME ALONG WITH YOUR BABY OR TODDLER OR PRE-SCHOOL CHILD AND JOIN IN!

NO COST.



“READ WITH ME” – Helping pre-schoolers to read - FREE PROGRAM

I really encourage you to attend this program as children find learning to read easier when their parents/carers take an active role in their learning.

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Thursday 21 April – Thursday 26 May

Thomastown West Community Hub

Thomastown West Primary School, 98-112 Main Street

Read with Me is a **free** six part program for caregivers and their pre-schoolers (3 - 5 years). Find out how you can help your child get ready to read while we share stories, songs, puppets, parachute games and lots more.

To reserve your place email rover@yprl.vic.gov.au or phone 0427 913 100

IMAGES OF EMPATHY



Keep smiling!



If I can help you and your family in anyway, please contact the office.

Robyn Mulholland (Student Wellbeing Team)

DIARY DATES



Monday 18th April School Council
AGM 6.30-7.00pm
School Council meeting 7.00pm

Wed 20th April National Gallery of Victoria excursion for selected grade 3-6 students 9.30am-3.00pm

Friday 22nd April Interschool Sport TWPS vs EPPING away game

Monday 25th April ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY


Friday 29th April Interschool Sport TWPS vs St Johns away game

Wed 4th May Mother's Day Stall

TRANSITION NEWS

Towards the end of last term our grade 5/6 students were involved in a Transition Program held at William Ruthven Secondary College. The students had an opportunity to visit WRSC and take part in several activities hosted by the secondary students and their teachers. It was a valuable opportunity for our students to have an idea of how the secondary school works and the kinds of programs they offer.

Below are some of what our students had to say about their experiences....

Term 2

This term the grade 6 students received their Transition Pack -2017. In the pack there is a list of documents:

- Application/Placement form- year 7
- Frequently asked questions
- List of all the Secondary schools.
- Handbook of schools in the Whittlesea Network

Please return the application form to your classroom teacher no later the *Friday 13 May 2016*

If you have any problems or queries about your child's secondary school please see Mrs De Niese.

Thank you
Lenora De Niese
Transition coordinator
5/6 Area



William Ruthven Secondary School.

YES!! We had finally arrived. Last year I never got to go. But now it was my big opportunity... to go to William Ruthven Secondary School. I was so excited and happy that I was jumping out of my pants. Once we had arrived, 2 school leaders lead us into their school and boy was it AMAZING. It was so big that the alfa tower is as huge as that. We met the school Vice-Principal: Mr. Albera.

Our first activity was... Drama!! Our drama teacher was very funny. We had to get in 2 lines. Then 1st had to pretend that they had no time to talk and needed to go. But the other line had to pretend that they had all the time in the world and loved chatting and talking a lot. He chose someone to read a very boring writing that someone had written. Guess who read that note?!! ME. I was very nervous but I was brave at the end. When I had said the first sentence, everyone had to clap. Then the second sentence they gasped. The third sentence they laughed, and the last sentence they cheered. It was very fun. At the end he told us a funny story. And it was interesting.

We had our break and ate fruits and drank cordial. Our second activity was maths. (Ugh) I thought would be boring but it was fun. We learnt how to times fraction together. That session went for 1 hour. Then the second hour was The Amazing Race. We had to read a sheet and go to where it was leading us. at the end we came 2nd last but I was happy because I had achieved something.

It was time for us to go back to school. We thanked the Vice-Principal for welcoming us into his school. And that was the best day EVER!!!

Bye Merisa Ninteramiye!!



William Ruthven



WILLIAM RUTHVEN
SECONDARY COLLEGE

On Monday the 21st of March 2016 the grade fives and sixes went to William Ruthven secondary college.

At William Ruthven we had three activities. The first activity was drama. When we had drama we were doing a lot of acting. Until towards the end of drama class the drama teacher told us a story about his friend, the story was about an old lady who gave him something in a box and hasn't opened it ever. After he told us a story he was about to open it until the bell rang and we never found out.

The next activity that we did was maths. In maths we learnt about percentages. We had to look in a magazine and pick an object and had to take 10% off it. Maths in grade 7 is hard.

Right after maths we went into the middle and got put in one more group. It was inquiry.

We had to get into groups of four and get a person from the school to help us. We were going to play a racing activity. Basically it is a game and we got a piece of paper and had to go around the school and ask a bunch of teachers for the answers. The people in my team were, myself, Mia, Joe and Kerry and the person from the school that was going to help us is a girl named Yasmine.

At the end of the race we all met up at the same place as we started. Group 2 won first place. And we came last.

That was the end of the day. On the bus we were waving at people and a lady waved back.

The day was fun! FROM: Anabella Capaculovski!

WILLIAM RUTHVEN

Finally we had arrived to their school. As soon as I stepped into their school my body was filled with excitement I was so ready to start my day, I couldn't stop my legs from jumping I was too happy.

The first session we had was drama. We did a lot of fun work. The drama teacher taught us how to encourage people even if their story is boring, we did a lot of other things.

After recess we went to maths. We did fractions, they were pretty hard but I never gave up and I learnt a lot more.

Lastly we had the amazing race. The amazing race was like a mission we had to complete, the task we had to do was go to different places and get clues. For example we had to find the canteen and find out how much was the salad cost and we also had to complete other task but the time was running out.

Finally my day had ended and it was time to go back to school but nobody wanted to go but we had to Anyways. That was a fun and awesome day.

That was the best day ever!!!

**From
Mamele**



WILLIAM RUTHVEN
SECONDARY COLLEGE



WILLIAM RUTHVEN SECONDARY COLLEGE

On Monday the 21st of March the 5/6's went to William Ruthven Secondary School. I had a fun day filled with excitement, laughter and friends.

First we went on the bus it took about 10 minutes. When we arrived we were greeted by the year 7 leaders followed by Andrew, one of the Assistant Principals. He informed the groups of their first session. My room, room 11 had science first. Kaled and Yasmine led us to the science room which looked very exciting. We put on our lab coats which made me feel like a professional scientist. Mrs Zammers explained our task for the hour and we got started straight away. We got to make invisible ink using vinegar. Afterwards we made glue using baking soda, vinegar and milk and let me just say it smelt GROSS! My experiment turned out well and we got to take the glue home, I used a bit at home and it worked.

Next it was, I sat with my friends and we got some cordial and fruit. After that we found out that we had inquiry with Andrew. We got to do 'The Amazing Race' which I enjoyed the most. We divided ourselves into groups and got a guide. My group got a year 9 student called Steph. The teacher explained that we had to go around the school and collect information instead of the teacher talking for 60 minutes and the class losing interest. We went around the school and answered the questions. After running around the school for 45 minutes we made our way back to the classroom and ended up arriving 2nd in the class.

Sadly it was time for our last session, English. We had English with Mrs Thompson and talked about public speaking. We got into groups of 4 and had to wait for the picture on the TV and quickly write about the picture in 2 minutes before reading it aloud. As the time went by it was almost time to go back to school. But wait there was more. Andrew announced that the winning groups from 'The Amazing Race' could stand up and get a prize. I was surprised to find out that my group scored a total of 315. My group grabbed a prize and sat back down.

As everyone departed the school we said our goodbyes and headed to the bus. I enjoyed my day and so did the rest of the 5/6's.

By Zahraa Salman
Room 11



School Banking is improving your kid's 'Common Cents.'



It's been a great start to the school year, and every week we see the students putting in a fantastic savings effort. That might be because of this year's Grand Prize: a VIP tour of Australia Zoo to meet Robert and Bindi Irwin! Many of our true blue Outback Savers are well on their way to reaching their 15 deposits by the end of Term 3, which will give them an automatic entry into the Grand Prize competition.

Aside from the Grand Prize, two new reward items are available this term. After making 10 School Banking deposits, students can redeem the Mud Splat Handbell or the Outback Pat Bag Tag!

Learning about your child's 'Common Cents'

Earlier this year, CommBank released a report exploring just how clued-up about money Australian children are. They were asked to complete the 'Common Cents' Quiz, which looked at five key areas of financial literacy: spending, saving, earning, budgeting and investing.

The research revealed our nation's kids are – on average – educated earners and spenders, and children whose parents have smarter money habits recorded higher 'Common Cents' scores. Here are some of the statistics we've uncovered:

- 68% of Aussie kids like saving their money more than spending it.
- 77% of them understand they can earn extra money by doing chores around the house.
- Only 50% know what a budget is, with one in five thinking it's a sheet of paper with numbers on it.
- Over 50% of children surveyed would take \$5 now, over larger monetary sums if they have to wait.

The report also shows that 69% of primary school children in Australia receive pocket money, and 82% of those are expected to complete tasks to earn it. Pocket money is a great way for parents to teach kids the value of money and the earning process.

If you're curious about your child's 'Common Cents', we encourage you to take them through the simple Quiz that's available at commbank.com.au/commoncentsquiz

For more tips, videos and activities to stimulate your child's interest in money skills, head to The Bearstark at commbank.com.au/youthsaver



Mud Splat Handbell



Outback Pat Bag Tag



Things you should know: Conditions apply. See commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. Promotion starts 8:00am AEST 25/7/16 and ends 11:59pm AEST 30/9/16. Entry open to all YouthSaver account holders aged 5-15 years who participate in CommBank's School Banking program, have parent/guardian consent to enter, and make at least 15 separate deposits into their YouthSaver account through the School Banking program during the promotion period. One of 1 entry per year. The draw will take place at 12:00pm AEST on 10/10/16 at the Promoter's office. The first valid entry drawn will win a family trip for up to 3 adults and 3 children (17 years or under) to the Sunshine Coast, Queensland with return economy flights (depending on winner's place of residence), 4 nights accommodation, 5 days car hire, \$1,000 spending money and a 1 day VIP family Platinum Log Adventure tour of Australia Zoo, valued at up to \$12,500. The winner's name will be published in the public notice section of The Australian 18/10/16. Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 124 123 124, 3111 Harcourt Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Call 13 2221, NSW Postcode No 1195/15/03/18/16/16/16, Fax No 1195/03/16/16/16, SA Permit No 115/1810. **About the research:** Independent research carried out on behalf of Commonwealth Bank of Australia, by ACA Research. A total of 8,700 surveys completed among parents and their child aged 5-12 years. A qualitative voice research methodology was used, with 6 15-minute discussions for parents, and 5 minutes for children. National sample throughout Australia. The research was conducted between 14 and 18 December 2015.