

# Thomastown West Primary School Newsletter



Email: [thomastown.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:thomastown.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au) Phone: 9465 4317

No.36 24th November 2023

## 2023 IMPORTANT DATES:

Mon	30 Oct 01 Nov 08 Nov 13 Nov	20 Nov 27 Nov 04 Dec 11 Dec	Prep, 1/2, 3/4 Swimming Program
Fri	24 Nov		1/2 Dinner and Sleepover
Mon	27 Nov		Monday Muster: 3pm - 4:35pm CURIOSITY PROJECT CELEBRATION Parents/Carers are encourage to visit their child's classroom to view their child's work.
Tues	28 Nov		TWPS Intra-school Transition session
Thurs	30 Nov		TWPS Intra-school Transition session
Fri	01 Dec		Team School Assembly 2.30pm
Mon	04 Dec		Fire Brigade visit 5/6
Tues	05 Dec		TWPS Intra-school Transition session
Fri	08 Dec		Whole School Assembly 2.30pm
Tue	12 Dec		Year 6 2023: State Wide Transition Day
Tue	12 Dec		School Council
Wed	13 Dec		12pm Music Matinee - Music Groups performing for whole school. (Time to be confirmed, check notice)
Thurs	14 Dec		5/6 Funfields Excursion
Thurs	14 Dec		Prep, 1/2 and 3/4 Class Celebrations
Fri	15 Dec		Team School Assembly 2.30pm
Fri	15 Dec		TWPS Intra-school Transition: Students meet their 2024 Teacher
Fri	15 Dec		Semester 2 Student Reports available to Parents and Carers via COMPASS
Fri	15 Dec		Grade 5/6 Class Celebrations
Mon	18 Dec		Grade 6 Graduation
Tue	19 Dec		CURRICULUM DAY Students do not attend school.
Wed	20 Dec		Last Day of Term 4 Whole School Assembly 12pm Students dismissed 1:15pm

## From the Principal

We are swiftly approaching the end of term four and the conclusion of the 2023 school year. Specifically, there are only 17.5 school days remaining until the summer holidays begin. During the last weeks of term four, schools become particularly focused as extensive planning is necessary to ensure a successful wrap-up of the current year and a smooth transition into the following one.

Even as we prepare for 2024, there are still several significant events, activities, and experiences awaiting our 256 Thomastown West students in 2023. For our Year Six students, these include Orientation Day, where they will visit their future high schools, a day of festivities at Funfields, and notably Graduation, to commemorate the culmination of their time at TWPS!

At the lower end of the school, our incoming 2024 Prep students have now completed a three-day transition program, giving them their first taste of primary school life. Throughout all levels, various events such as assemblies, Curiosity hour celebration, TWPS class parties, and other intra-school transition activities aim to support students in celebrating the successful culmination of the school year and prepare them for the upcoming year of 2024.

During this time, I strongly urge parents and families to actively engage with their children and the TWPS community as much as possible as we navigate these final 17.5 days together. Through our collective involvement, we can ensure a positive, stimulating, and secure conclusion to 2023.

### Join us Monday afternoon from 3pm to celebrate your child's curiosity!

After 7 weeks of hard work, curiosity, and thorough investigation, accompanied by a passion for learning, your children are ready to showcase their CURIOSITY PROJECTS. Scheduled for **this Monday** afternoon, **beginning at 3pm** at TWPS, this event marks the culmination of your child's endeavours. Curiosity Hour during Term 4 has amplified student agency and further developed students' inquiry skills. That is, your child has delved into a topic of personal interest, conducted research, and they are now ready to present their acquired knowledge through a medium of their choice. **DO NOT MISS OUT on celebrating you child's learning this Monday afternoon!**

### Breakfast Club

A friendly reminder if children arrive at our Breakfast Club in the Hub **before 8:15am**, they must be dropped off at the Hub and signed in by their parents or carer.



The Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO) is a not-for-profit professional organisation that offers a range of mathematical programs and competitions aligned with the Australian curriculum. Established in Australia in 1987, over 100,000 students participate in our programs every year.

### At APSMO our aim is to:

- Promote and improve maths problem solving skills amongst all students in primary schools across Australia and New Zealand.
- Support teachers in developing their students to understand a variety of strategies to promote flexibility in their problem solving.
- Encourage creativity and collaboration in problem solving.
- Stimulate enthusiasm and enjoyment of mathematics.

By entering teams in the different programs, you will develop a problem solving pathway of achievement in your school and provide both mainstream and high achieving students with the opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge. We recommend that students spend at least one hour per week developing their maths problem solving skills.

#### What is the best program for your students?



#### MATHS OLYMPIAD

##### Objectives and benefits

- Teaches major problem solving strategies and strengthens students' mathematical intuition before starting high school
- Allows students to challenge themselves and 'test their talent'
- Develops a high level of creativity and flexibility in problem solving

##### Skill level and age group

High-achieving Year 5 and 6 students

##### When are the programs held?

Four papers held approximately 6 weeks apart, starting in early Term 2 and finishing at the end of Term 3

##### What resources are available to assist teachers in preparing students?

- Special Preparation Pack provided in Term 1 to help teams prepare
- Video examples of contest solutions
- Follow-Up questions to reinforce learning
- Past papers
- APSMO resource books also available

##### Program teams

- Minimum of 10, maximum of 30 students per team
- Teams compete against other schools and students across Australia and New Zealand

### Maths Olympiad

Congratulations to our Maths Olympiad students who received their certificates at assembly today. We value this enrichment program TWPS offers and are incredibly proud of you!!



Special thanks to Mrs DeNiese and Mr Nick who have superbly facilitated the Maths Olympiad sessions this year!

### Working Bee

At this afternoon's assembly, we also acknowledged the efforts of the wonderful families who **braved the extreme heat to support our school** by presenting certificates of appreciation! After a great team effort at the working bee, our school looks fabulous with vibrant colours and a fresh vibe! Big shoutout to the awesome volunteers from CityLife for handling the BBQ, and bringing drinks & icy poles - we loved it!

### Icy Poles on sale next Thursday & Friday for \$1.00

Thank you to the lovely parents and carers who have offered to sell icy poles next week. If you would like to help out, please **comment** on the CLASS DOJO School Story message shared on Thursday afternoon.

*The truth is that teamwork is at the heart of great achievement.*

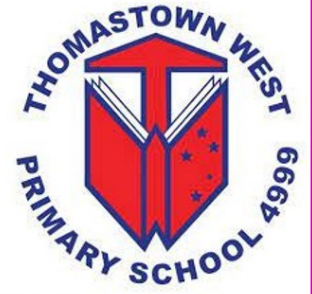
*-John Maxwell*

### Student Support Group Meetings (SSGs)

SSGs are incredibly important as they celebrate students' achievements in both their academic progress and wellbeing goals. SSGs provide a vital opportunity to acknowledge and commend students for their accomplishments and motivate further success. The TWPS staff, in collaboration with parents and carers, play an equally essential role during these meetings, guiding and supporting students on their educational path. Gratitude goes out to Mrs. Colakovski, our classroom teachers and education support team for their hard work leading up the SSGs, as well as their efforts and encouragement during the SSG meeting, **ensuring every achievement, no matter the size, has been recognised and celebrated!**

Sandi Young  
Principal





# CURIOSITY SHOWCASE

**DEAR PARENTS,**

**TWPS WILL BE SHOWCASING OUR  
CURIOUS KIDS' PROJECTS**

**ON MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER  
AT 3PM.**

**EACH CHILD WILL BE SHOWCASING  
THEIR INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP  
PROJECTS IN THEIR CLASSROOMS.  
WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO COME  
AND JOIN US TO CELEBRATE OUR  
LEARNING.**





# TWPS VOLLEYBALL

## SUCCESS

Congratulations to these amazing girls who not only won the regional finals several weeks ago but in doing so qualified to play in the **Primary School Volleyball State Finals** last Friday. To make it this far is a fantastic achievement but to make it to the State Final Grand final was a **dream come true!** Unfortunately Southern Cross Grammar was too good on the day and we were runners up in a very close game but Mrs Selma Raif (and the TWPS Team) are so proud of what this group of girls have achieved. Our journey started in April and they remained undefeated till the State Championships on Friday. Great effort girls you all lived the school values and showed determination to get so far. Well done !!!







**TheirCare**  
Where Kids love to be!

**@ TWPS**

**Where kids love to be!**



**TheirCare**  
Where Kids love to be!

## **BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

**Bookings for Term 4 at Thomastown West Primary School TheirCare are now open for families to access.**

**Registration and bookings are completed online at [www.theircare.com.au](http://www.theircare.com.au) and usually takes approx. 15 to 20 minutes to complete.**

**Want to know more  
about TheirCare?  
Scan the code on your  
mobile to watch  
our introduction video!**



**FAQs can be located on our website:  
<https://theircare.com.au/how-to-register/>**

# From Term 4: Free Breakfast Club at the Hub from 7:45am



## What about Before School care?

From Term 4, there will no longer be Before School Care at the Multi-Purpose Room.

**Instead, TWPS will offer a FREE Breakfast Club at our Community Hub from 7:45am.**

Thomastown West Primary School will return to our traditional TWPS Breakfast Club but with a few necessary changes!

- Breakfast Club will open at 7:45am.
- Breakfast Club is FREE.
- Breakfast Club will operate from our Thomastown West Community Hub.
- Students will enter Breakfast Club via the single Hub gate on Main Street.
- **From 7:45am - 8:15am parents or carers must drop their child at Breakfast Club and sign them in.**
- From 8:15am students may arrive at Breakfast Club in the Hub and sign in without their parents or carers.
- Students are encouraged to bring a small toy or game to play. There are plenty of books to read at the Hub.
- The Breakfast Club will close at 8:30am and the single Hub gate on Main Street will be closed.
- At 8:30am the double gates at the front entrance of our school will be opened for students to enter.





Thomastown West  
Primary School

# **TWPS BREAKFAST CLUB**

**Parents must sign their  
children in before 8:15am**



Thomastown West  
Primary School

**TWPS students  
please go to  
Breakfast Club  
in the Hub if  
you arrive to  
school before  
8:30am**

If children arrive after 8:15am  
they may sign themselves in to  
Breakfast Club without parents.

# Starting primary school?

Starting school is an exciting time for children, parents and carers.

The first year of primary school is called Foundation or Prep.

Below are some simple steps you should follow to enrol your child in a Victorian government primary school.

## Before filling out an application

Read about when and how to enrol on our website



Make sure your child is the right age to start school



Find your local school and other nearby government schools at **[findmyschool.vic.gov.au](https://findmyschool.vic.gov.au)**



Contact primary schools to book a tour, visit or for further information



## Applying for Foundation enrolment

Get an application or enrolment form from the primary school



Gather the required documents



Submit everything to the primary school by the due date in the timeline



Wait for the school to contact you



**You can find out more at:**

Enrolling in  
Foundation (Prep) |  
Victorian Government



Department  
of Education





# ENROL FOR PREP 2024

## BOOK A TOUR

TOGETHER WORKING ON PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Thomastown West Primary School provides comprehensive, child centred, educational programs in all of the key learning areas:

- Exemplary Literacy Program
- Oral Language Program
- Engaging/Challenging Numeracy Program
- Digital Technologies
- Outstanding Visual Arts Program
- Music and Instrumental Tuition
- An Investigative Science Program (STEM)
- Encouraging Physical Education Program

### Support Programs:

- Perceptual Motor Program
- Student Welfare and Support
- Literacy Intervention
- Koorie Literacy and Numeracy Program
- Choir and School Band
- Whole School Buddies Program
- Before and After School Care
- School Wide Positive Behaviour Program

### FOR MORE INFO



9465 4317



thomastown.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au



98-112 Main St, Thomastown, 3074



RESILIENCE RESPONSIBILITY RESPECT EMPATHY  
STRIVE TO BE OUR BEST

# Thomastown West Community Hub

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### MONDAYS

WITH HAYLEY

Recess  
FUN MATHS CLUB

Lunch  
YOUNG VOICES  
IN MEDIA

After School  
FUN LEARNING  
CLUB  
finishes at  
4:30pm

### TUESDAYS

WITH HAYLEY

Recess  
FUN READING  
CLUB

Lunch  
STEAMING

After School  
PLANT TO PLATE  
GARDENING CLUB  
finishes at  
4:30pm

### WEDNESDAYS

WITH PRACE

9:30am-2pm  
LEARN ENGLISH  
(bookings  
Essential)  
Call 9462 6077

### THURSDAYS

WITH GRANT

Lunch  
CHESS CLUB  
Has finished for the  
year. Medals will  
be awarded at  
the end of year  
Assembly.



For further enquiries please contact:

Dean Marando: [dmarando@whittleseacc.org.au](mailto:dmarando@whittleseacc.org.au) Ph: 9464 7950 M: 0448 560 176

A PARTNERSHIP OF:



Whittlesea  
Community  
Connections  
Making a positive difference everyday

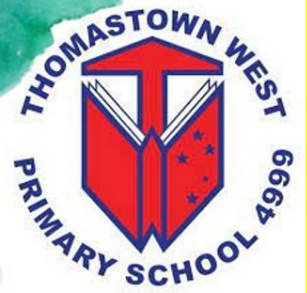


YARRA PLENTY  
REGIONAL LIBRARY

Shop 111, Pacific Epping  
571-583 High St, Epping VIC 3076  
(03) 9401 6666

Permission notices for 'The Hub' activities were sent home  
today. Please check your child's school bag.





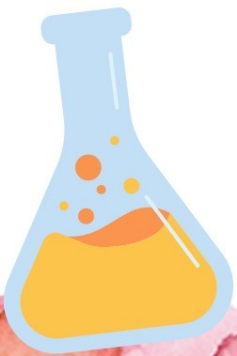
# CURIOSITY SHOWCASE

**MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER**

**3.00-4.35PM**

**IN CLASSROOMS**

COME ALONG AND BE  
CURIOUS!



# THOMASTOWN WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL CANTEEN MENU 2023



Online Orders:

**NEW  
MENU**

Welcome to My School Connect  
ORDER YOUR CHILD'S MEALS ONLINE

My School Connect SIMPLY REGISTER AT:  
[myschoolconnect.com.au](https://www.myschoolconnect.com.au)

**The last day you can order lunches from the canteen will be Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November.**

## Freshly Made Sandwiches(h)

On white bread. Gluten free bread also available upon request

Cheese	\$3.00
Cheese and Ham	\$3.50
Cheese, Ham, and Tomato	\$4.00
Salad (lettuce, tomato, and carrot)	\$4.50
Chicken and Cheese	\$3.00
Large Salad	\$0.50

Large Salad	
Twin Party Pasta	
Chicken Nuggets 6 pieces	
Pizza – Margarita (Halal)	
Pizza – Sujuk Beef	
Pizza Zaatar (oregano & herb)	
Chicken Tenderloins Wrap with cheese, Tomato, mayo & sweet chilli sauce	
Ricotta Mini Pastry	\$1.60
Ricotta & Spinach Rolls	\$4.00
Extra Tomato sauce	\$0.20

## Freshly Made Hot Food

Pasta- Penne Bolognese Sauce	\$6.50
Pasta- Penne Napoli Sauce	\$6.00

## Drinks

Lipton Iced tea (peach or lemon)	\$4.00
Fruit Juice Box (apple or orange)	\$2.50
Chocolate and Strawberry Milk	\$3.00
Water (600ml)	\$2.50

## Snacks

Banana Bread	\$2.00
Fruit Salad (seasonal fruit mix)	\$3.50
Freshly baked muffin	\$2.50

v)= vegetarian (ve)= vegan (Ha)= Halal  
(h) = prepared on site by canteen staff

Note: Prices may be subject to change due to seasonal fluctuations and wholesaler price increases.

- Every Wednesday and Friday your child can order a lunch order.
- Lunch orders can only be ordered via the School Connect App.
- Cut off time is 8.30 am



# Parent Code of Conduct at Thomastown West PS

A code of conduct for parents, carers and visitors, ensures that communications with our staff or anyone who visits our school site (including an online environment, such as Zoom, Class Dojo, our School Facebook page and emails) is able to do so in a safe and harmonious manner. This ensures that students, staff, parents and other visitors are not subjected to inappropriate, aggressive, hostile or violent behaviours.

**At Thomastown West Primary School we believe the following:**

- ✓ We all have the right to do as much work and learning as possible.
- ✓ We all have the right to feel comfortable and safe.



**We have 5 key school VALUES which we encourage everyone to *live* by our school values:**

**Respect**      **Responsibility**      **Resilience**      **Empathy** and **Strive to be our best**

**We teach the children that:**

- ✓ *Values guide the way we think, speak and behave.*
- ✓ *Values help us to decide what is right and what is wrong.*

**At Thomastown West Primary School, Parents and visitors are expected to:**

- ✓ Treat all persons associated with the school with respect and courtesy.
- ✓ Ensure their child/children are punctual to class.
- ✓ Make appointments in advance of expecting to obtain an interview.
- ✓ Allow staff to supervise, investigate and manage students without interference.
- ✓ Discuss issues or concerns about the school, staff or students through the correct procedures.
- ✓ Follow school procedures governing entry and behaviour on school grounds, including any restrictions that may be imposed.

**Under no circumstance are parents to approach another student or parent regarding any incidents or issues.**

**Your co-operation is sought in maintaining a safe and happy school.**



*This updated Parent Code of Conduct was approved by TWPS School Council in October 2021.*

# Get your Halal Fresh Food Box

Thomastown Neighbourhood House is working with Project Us Foundation to bring their HALAL FRESH FOOD BOX Food Relief Project to Thomastown. Scan the QR code to sign up for a Halal Fresh Food Box comprising of fresh halal poultry and vegetable samples on a fortnightly basis (Wednesdays). The Thomastown pick up point is TRAC outdoor Area, 52 Main St, Thomastown.

## Up and coming distributions to Thomastown will take place on:

- ✓ Wednesday 29th Nov 10.30am- 12pm
- ✓ Wednesday 13th Dec 10.30am- 12pm
- ✓ Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.30am- 12pm
- ✓ Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 10.30am- 12.30pm

## HALAL FRESH FOOD BOX REQUEST FORM

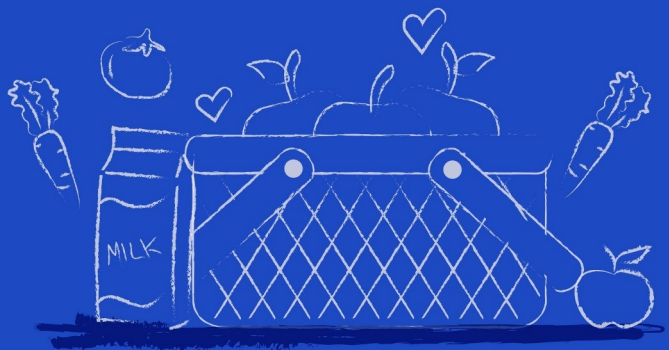
Click on the following link or the QR code below:

[https://  
www.projectusfoundation.org/  
community](https://www.projectusfoundation.org/community)



Project Us  
Foundation

# GET YOUR Halal Fresh Food Box



We know times are hard and the price of everything has risen. For some of us, it's becoming harder to provide fresh, nutritious food for our families. **We're here for you.**

Scan the QR code to sign up Halal Fresh Food Box comprising of fresh halal poultry and vegetable staples on a monthly basis at a centre near you. One of our team members will be in touch with you shortly.



## HOW TO RECEIVE SUPPORT

1. **Contact Us:** Reach out to us at (03) 9917 7521 or email us at support@projectusfoundation.org or visit our website at www.projectusfoundation.org
2. **Assessment:** Our team will conduct a brief assessment to understand your specific needs and preferences.
3. **Matching:** Based on your needs, we'll match you with appropriate services and resources.
4. **Engagement:** Subscribe to our newsletter to engage in our programs, workshops, and services to receive ongoing support.
5. **Feedback:** We value your feedback to continuously improve our services and meet your needs.
6. **Hubs:** Visit our distribution centres to pick up your fresh food box.

## DO YOU NEED HELP?



P: (03) 9917 7521

E: support@projectusfoundation.org

www.projectusfoundation.org

We know how hard times can get, we are here for you!

If you would like to access our programs including the food relief service please call us at (03) 9917 7521 or email us at support@projectusfoundation.org.

*Note: service is only available in Melbourne*

**We have a 100% donation policy**

We distribute 100% your donations to those in need

## PROJECT US FOUNDATION IS ABOUT COMING TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY TO EMPOWER US, PROTECT US, AND HONOUR US.

Project Us Foundation is an Australian Not-For-Profit creating positive economic and social impact in the lives of Muslims in need via community, children and elderly programs in Australia and overseas.

All donations are tax deductible. Our 100% donation policy means all donations are used towards the giving initiatives allowing for maximum outcome.

Beyond the programs we deliver, we want to live by our Islamic values and create positive and long term economic and social change for our community and leave the world in better state than what we found it in.



Lv 11, 2 Queen St, Melb VIC, 3000

(03) 9917 7521

projectusfoundation.org





For ages  
**10-17**  
years

**FREE!**

# Crafternoon

Every Wednesday, 3.45pm-5pm  
from 22 November to 13 December

Thomastown Library  
52 Main Street, Thomastown

**Join us for an afternoon filled  
with artistic fun and crafty adventures.**

Whether you're a seasoned artist or just discovering  
your creative flair, there's something for everyone at our  
Crafternoon activity including heaps of snacks!

**No bookings required**

**Baseline**  
FOR YOUNG  
PEOPLE



**City of  
Whittlesea**