

# Thomastown West Primary School Newsletter

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## 2023 IMPORTANT DATES:

No.8 24th March 2023

Tues	28 Mar	<b>GRIP Leadership Conference</b> (Leadership students only)
Tues	28 Mar	<b>School Council Meeting</b> <b>Annual Meeting: ALL WELCOME 6:30pm!</b>
Mon	3 Apr	<b>National Day of Action Against Bullying</b> SRC Fundraiser: Students bring gold coin donation and dress up as SUPER HERO!
Wed	5 Apr	<b>Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> <i>Students only attend school at the time of their conference meeting.</i>
Thurs	6 April	<b>Last Day of Term 1</b> <i>Whole school assembly 12pm</i> <i>(Easter hat parade will be held at the assembly)</i>
Mon	24 Apr	<b>Staff Professional Practice Planning Day</b> <i>Students do not attend school</i>
Tues	25 Apr	<b>ANZAC Day PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b> <i>Students do not attend school</i>
Wed	26 Apr	<b>First Day of Term 2: Arrive on time, ready to learn at quarter to nine!</b>
Thu	4 May	<b>SCHOOL PHOTOS</b>
Tue	13 June	<b>Curriculum Day 3</b> <i>Students do not attend school</i>
Thu	14 Sept	<b>Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> <i>Students only attend school at the time of their conference meeting.</i>
Mon	6 Nov	<b>**NEW**</b> In 2023 students attend school the Monday before Melbourne Cup Public Holiday.

## From the Principal

Well, that's the end of week 9 of this term! We have less than 3 weeks left of this term. Time is certainly flying! And we still have so many things on our calendar to do!

### Cultural Diversity Week and Harmony Day celebrations

Cultural Diversity Week is a time to celebrate the power, influence and stories of Victoria's rich multicultural communities. **Harmony Day** also celebrates the country's **cultural diversity** and is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. The continuing message of Harmony Day is 'Everybody Belongs,' which reminds us to celebrate the diversity within our school whilst working to remove barriers that still exist in the wider community. Thank you to everyone who wore a splash of orange or clothes that represented their culture on Tuesday. As a school, we were united and showed our support of all cultures that make up Australia.

### Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

**Have you booked your Parent Student Teacher Conference yet?** Only 35% of our Parents and Carers have locked in their conference meetings with Compass! Please log into Compass and book your appointment as soon as possible or **visit or call the TWPS Office, if you require assistance.**

### Attendance

Did you know that the Department of Education currently has a targeted focus on student attendance?

#### As of Friday last week, we have:

- 28 students who have attended school every day.
- 10.4% students who have missed up to 10 days of school this year.
- 15.6% students who have missed between 10 – 20 days of school this year.
- 25% of students arrive late to school each day.

**Let's work together to turn this around – having your child/ren at school is important to us.**

Daily school attendance is important for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don't fall behind both socially and developmentally. Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.

### TWPS families who have booked their conference:



99

260

Bookings

out of

Students



# Parentingideas

## INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

## It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school



When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it's true. The correlation between school attendance and children's achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it's often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It's hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today's highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

### That's not a reason to be away!

It's now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling's birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a

sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don't really value learning or their children's school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value.

That means turning up to school every day, on time.

### Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

more on page 2 >>

# Parentingideas

## INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

## ... It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school...

### It takes strong parenting ...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as "It's not fair that I have to go school today because Auntie is coming to visit! Nice try. But the answer should be "No!"

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It's reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.

### AS A PARENT:

- ✔ Commit to sending kids to school every day.
- ✔ Make sure kids arrive at school and class on time.
- ✔ Inform the school when they are away, sending medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
- ✔ Consider catching-up on missed work.
- ✔ Make kids who are away stay in their bedroom – that is where ill kids should be.



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW ParentingIdeas Club** today at [parentingideasclub.com.au](http://parentingideasclub.com.au). You'll be so glad you did.



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## School Photos



Next term, week 2, Thursday 4th May is our school photo day. On that day students will need to be in their full school uniform. **More information will be included in next week's newsletter.**

## Drinks at school – Water only

We are seeing some students bringing energy drinks to school particularly one called PRIME. This drink along with most energy drinks are NOT recommended for children under the age of 15. I encourage families to talk with their children about the power of advertising and reading the fine print before consuming beverages such as these. While PRIME produce two versions of the drink Hydration (which contains no caffeine) and Energy (which does contain caffeine and is only available online in Australia) the hydration version is still not suitable to bring to school.

Many of our Grade 3-6 classes watch Behind The News. Did you know there is an episode about the use of energy drinks:

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/btn-classroom-episode-5-2023/102044632>

Please ensure your children are not bringing energy or sports drinks to school. Water is sufficient in the majority of circumstances and is all that is permitted in the classroom. *Thank you*

## NAPLAN

Yesterday our students in Years 3 completed the final National Assessment Program test. All the students in years 3 and 5 showed excellent stamina and persistence while sitting the tests and I would like to congratulate them all on their resilience and aspiration during the testing period.

### NAPLAN

NAPLAN doesn't measure sports,  
NAPLAN doesn't measure art,  
NAPLAN doesn't measure music,  
Or the kindness in your heart.

NAPLAN doesn't see your beauty,  
NAPLAN doesn't know your worth  
NAPLAN doesn't see the reasons,  
You were put upon this earth.

NAPLAN doesn't see your magic,  
How you make others smile,  
NAPLAN doesn't time how quickly,  
You can run a mile.

NAPLAN doesn't hear your laughter,  
Or see you've come this far,  
NAPLAN is just a tiny glance,  
Of who you really are.

So sitting at your table,  
With a pencil and your test,  
Remember NAPLAN isn't who you are,  
Remember you're the best!

## Smart Watches

If students wear smart watches to Thomastown West Primary School, **they should be handed into the Office** by students **as soon as they arrive at school and then collected at the end of the school day.** All smart devices are locked away safely in a cabinet at the Office. Please refer to our school policy that aligns with the Department of Education policy for mobile phones and smart watches on pages 4-7. Due to the delicate nature of watches, students should consider bringing a case or sleeve to protect their smart watch.



## Buddies

This week our students met up with their Buddy Classes to prepare for our Easter Hat parade. Already the buddies have developed trusting relationships with one another which enhance our friendly and supportive school community. Buddy sessions will continue every 3 weeks for the remainder of the year because there are significant benefits for the older buddy in acknowledging their leadership, responsibility and pride in their ability to be helpful.



## EVERYONE BELONGS

*Education is Powerful,  
Student Agency Matters,  
Teachers Make a Difference &  
Every Minute of Learning Counts, so  
arrive on time, ready to learn at  
quarter to nine!*

Sandi Young





## **Thomastown West Mobile Phones Policy 2022 - 2026**

Thomastown West Primary School is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment for all students. We understand that students reach their full potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe, and that a positive school culture helps to engage students and support them in their learning. Our school acknowledges that student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are closely linked.

### **PURPOSE**

To explain to our school community, the Department of Education's and Thomastown West Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones during school hours.

### **SCOPE**

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Thomastown West Primary and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and smart watches (brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime).

### **DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device (e.g. smart watches), that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone (such as communication including messaging and/or photography or video capability), including devices with Wi-Fi, Bluetooth or sim card.

### **POLICY**

Thomastown West Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Thomastown West Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored in the school office during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

#### **Personal mobile phone use**

In accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones Policy issued by the Minister for Education, <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/mobilephones.aspx> personal mobile phones must not be used at Thomastown West Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.





## Thomastown West Mobile Phones Policy 2022 - 2026

### Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Thomastown West Primary school are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Thomastown West Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to the Thomastown West Primary School's Personal Property Policy AND/OR the Department's Personal Goods policy:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/personalgoods.aspx>.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Thomastown West Primary school will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Thomastown West Primary school students are required to store their phones at the front office in a lockable cupboard for the duration of the day. At 3:15pm, students will be able to access their phones from the front office.

### Enforcement

If found to have a mobile phone, Thomastown West Primary School staff will instruct the student to hand over the item(s) and if the student refuses to hand over the items, implement the relevant disciplinary provision within the schools School Wide Positive Behaviour procedures and Student Engagement, Wellbeing and Inclusion Policy.

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Thomastown West Primary school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's Student Wellbeing, Engagement and Inclusion Policy.

At Thomastown West Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours** (including school evening events eg. Kaboom Sports, concerts, camps, excursions and while on school grounds before and after school), unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- to capture video or images at school, such as in the school toilets or during classroom assessments
- to capture video or images at an excursion, for example at swimming pools, gym or change rooms.

Before students bring their personal mobile phone to school, [Thomastown West Primary School requires students to complete the \*Student Personal Mobile Phone at School Agreement\*](#) (refer to APPENDIX) and return the agreement to school, signed by their parents or carers.

### Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
  - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions (such as a student with diabetes may use their mobile phone to monitor their blood sugar); and
  - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).



## Thomastown West Mobile Phones Policy 2022 - 2026

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

### 1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Unit of work, learning sequence
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning Plan, Individual Education Plan

### 2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students who are Young Carers	A localised student record

### 3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students on excursions and camps	Risk assessment planning documentation
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Risk assessment planning documentation

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

### Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Thomastown West Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones. The enforcement of inappropriate access and use of mobile phones on camps, excursions and extracurricular activities is as described in the enforcement section of this policy.

### Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-School-Hours Care (OSHC)
- Travelling to and from school





## Thomastown West Mobile Phones Policy 2022 - 2026

### RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- TWPS Student Wellbeing, Engagement and Inclusion Policy  
<https://www.thomwestps.vic.edu.au/page/101>
- ICT User Agreement:  
<https://www.thomwestps.vic.edu.au/page/101>
- Mobile Phones – DET Policy:  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/mobilephones.aspx>
- Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items:  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/Pages/property.aspx>
- Personal Goods – Department policy:  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/personalgoods.aspx>

### EVALUATION

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the Thomastown West Primary School four year policy review cycle.

<b>Date Implemented</b>	2016; 2020; 2022
<b>Author</b>	Principal Assistant Principal TWPS Leadership Team
<b>Approved By</b>	School Council
<b>Date Reviewed</b>	October 2016; February 2020, July 2022
<b>Responsible for Review</b>	Assistant Principal
<b>Review Date</b>	20/2/2026
<b>References</b>	Victorian Government Schools Policy Advisory Guide

### APPENDIX

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#### Thomastown West Primary School

#### **Student Personal Mobile Phone at School Agreement**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Room: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the Thomastown West Mobile Phones Policy with my parents/carers. I understand and agree to follow the school's Mobile Phones policy requirements and expectations relating to students not using their personal mobile phones during school hours. I understand that if I break these rules, I will not be permitted to bring my personal mobile to school for a period of time, negotiated between your parents/carers and the school.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

# Who has joined Class Dojo 2023?



Are you missing out?



Teachers at TWPS use Class Dojo to communicate with you and can share your child's learning and wellbeing successes with you.

Parents can also use Class Dojo to reward their children with Dojo reward points

**The great thing about Class Dojo is that it offers a two-way message service.**

You can easily send a message or reply back to the teacher with a quick message.

(Compass is only one-way communication. That is, from TWPS to the parents and carers).

Room	CONNECTED TO CLASS DOJO	Not Connected yet 😞	Room	CONNECTED TO CLASS DOJO	Not Connected yet 😞
<b>Room 2</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>4 FAMILIES</b>	<b>Room 11</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>5 FAMILIES</b>
<b>Room 3</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>1 FAMILY</b>	<b>Room 12</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>3 FAMILIES</b>
<b>Room 4</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>2 FAMILIES</b>	<b>Room 15</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>1 FAMILIES</b>
<b>Room 5</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>1 FAMILY</b>	<b>Room 16</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>7 FAMILIES</b>
<b>Room 6</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>1 FAMILY</b>	<b>Room 17</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>7 FAMILIES</b>
<b>Room 9</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>1 FAMILY</b>	<b>Room 18</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>8 FAMILIES</b>
<b>Room 10</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>2 FAMILIES</b>			





## FRIENDLY REMINDER:

# **ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR THEIR SCHOOL HATS WHEN OUTSIDE.**

If your child has lost their hat, they can be purchased at the office for \$14.

Thomastown West Primary School is pleased to announce that we are now a SunSmart School.

The SunSmart program is dedicated to reducing skin cancer incidence, illness and mortality through a targeted prevention and early detection program.

The objectives of the SunSmart Program is:

1. Improve and monitor skin cancer prevention awareness, knowledge, attitudes and behaviour
2. Support priority populations to detect cancers earlier.
3. Advocate for strategies that aim to reduce the health and economic burdens of skin cancer.

Thomastown West Primary School recommends that from September 1<sup>st</sup> to end of April, and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above, students come to school wearing sun-protective clothing such as:

- loose, cool, closely-woven fabric
- shirts with a collar and/or high necklines
- tops with elbow length or long sleeves
- longer style shorts and skirts
- **a wide brim hat/ bucket or legionnaire style hat to be worn in September 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of April.**








For the best protection use all five forms of sun protection-clothing, sunscreen, a broad brim hat, shade and sunglasses-when the UV is 3 and above.

For more information on how to be SunSmart, click on the link below.

<https://www.sunsmart.com.au/>



# Thomastown West Primary School compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

Season		Item Description	Image	Notes
All year round	Polo Shirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long sleeve</li> <li>Short sleeve</li> <li>Red in colour</li> <li>With or without TWPS logo</li> <li>No alternative logos are to be visible</li> </ul>		With or without TWPS logo
All year round	Shorts/Pants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Navy shorts</li> <li>Navy pants</li> <li>No alternative logos are to be visible</li> </ul>		Tights are to only be worn under shorts or dressed, not as pants
Summer	Dresses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Checked dress (as in image only)</li> <li>Tights and skivvies can be worn underneath for modesty purposes. White, blue tights and skivvies are to be worn.</li> </ul>		In winter white, red, navy skivvies can be worn underneath In winter navy tights can be worn under dresses
All year round	Jumper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Red pullover fleece with or without TWPS logo</li> <li>TWPS bomber jacket is navy blue.</li> </ul>		
All year round	Hijab or Turbans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Navy or red material with no decoration or brand name</li> </ul>		
All year round. Compulsory Term 1 and Term 4	Hat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Navy broadbrim without decoration or brand name</li> <li>Navy legionnaires hat without decoration or brand name</li> </ul>		Hats are available for sale at the TWPS front office
All year round	Headwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blue, white, red 'scrunchies' and ribbons are permitted</li> <li>Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour</li> </ul>		



# ASSEMBLIES

2:30pm Fridays

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY BASKET BALL COURT	TEAM ASSEMBLY In your child's building
Friday 17th February <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Friday 10th February <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Friday 3rd March <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Friday 24th February <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Friday 17th March *SRC and Student Voice Badges presented*	Friday 10th March <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Friday 31st March	Friday 24th March
Thursday 6th April at 12pm	

## S.R.C News

On Monday 3rd April we will be having a fundraiser for the ***National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence***. On this day, all students are asked to dress up as your **favourite superhero** and take a stand against bullying. Thomastown West Primary school will give the proceeds to BZ's bullying prevention programs. This will support students in different schools across Victoria to feel safe and comfortable, and ready to learn!

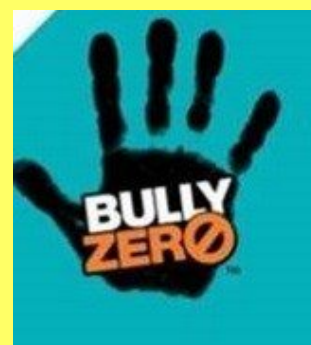
**A dollar on this day, will keep the bullies away.**

- **Date:** Monday 3rd April
- **Cost:** A gold coin donation please
- **Mission:** Dress up as your favourite superhero and

take a stand



against  
bullying.












# EVERY DAY OF LEARNING COUNTS

## Term 1 Week 9 Student Attendance Report

As part of the Department of Education *Every Day Counts* initiative, schools report attendance in percentages. **The Government regard 95% as the minimum satisfactory attendance for a school student.**

The percentages in the table below indicates the average attendance for each class for this week.

The shaded boxes below indicate which classroom has the highest level of attendance for their year level.

Prep	Last Week	This Week	Year 3/4	Last Week	This Week
Room 2	83%	77%	Room 9	87%	86%
Room 3	84%	88%	Room 10	89%	83%
Year 1/2	Last Week	This Week	Room 11	82%	78%
Room 4	70%	79%	Room 12	88%	88%
Room 5	74%	78%	Year 5/6	Last Week	This Week
Room 6	77%	85%	Room 15	95%	 94%
			Room 16	80%	80%
			Room 17	90%	80%
			Room 18	74%	80%

## EVERY DAY OF LEARNING REALLY DOES COUNT!

At TWPS we want every child to achieve their full potential and we know that parents share this goal. There is a clear link between good attendance and educational achievement. If your child is not in school, on time, as often as possible they will be missing out on many important parts of their education.

### Why is regular attendance at school important?

Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day...

No Absence	10 days absence	12 days absence	19 days absence	29 days absence	38 days absence
190 days of education	180 days of education	178 days of education	171 days of education	161 days of education	152 days of education
100%	95%	94%	90%	85%	80%
Very Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	
Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start!		Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to make progress.		Your child will find it very difficult to make progress.	





# MATHS OLYMPIAD

We are proud to introduce these students who are taking part in the Maths Olympiad program for 2023. These students are: Shorya , Mason ,Salah, Eli, Arrina, Japjyot, Eric, Steve and Pip . This is an annual contest that has been offered by Australasian Problem-Solving Mathematical Olympiads Inc (APSMO) since 1987 and is designed specifically for high achieving students. The Olympiads consist of four separate contests held approximately six weeks apart between May and September. The overall aim of the Olympiads is to encourage students to develop important mathematical problem-solving skills by consistently working on a wide range of problem-solving questions over a period of time. The school organises regular practice sessions during which your child will be taught the skills and techniques required to develop their maths problem solving skills. We are committed to providing your child this opportunity to further develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills.



## TOP DOJO EARNERS

### Term 1 Week 9

Congratulations to **Room 2** with **208 Dojo Points**



Prep	Raika <b>16 Dojo Points</b>
Grade 1/2	Wafa <b>17 Dojo Points</b>
Grade 3/4	Mae <b>11 Dojo Points</b>
Grade 5/6	Ava <b>12 Dojo Points</b>
<b>Most Dojo points Prep - 6</b>	Wafa <b>17 Dojo Points</b>

**Hello everyone!**

## **FRIED RICE LETTUCE CUPS**

### **FEEDS: 4-6.**

Looking for a new way to serve up your food? Try a lettuce cup! Children will love filling a crisp lettuce leaf with delicious fried rice and eating straight from their hands. This is a great way to empty your fridge and use up any leftover rice and vegetables.

### **EQUIPMENT:**

- Measuring cup and spoons
- Chopping board
- Cook's knife
- Small bowl
- Whisk or fork
- Wok

### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 6 eggs
- 3 tsp salt-reduced soy sauce
- 2 cm knob of ginger peeled and finely chopped
- 2 tsp sunflower oil
- 4 cups cooked rice
- 1 bunch spring onions, finely chopped
- 2 silverbeet leaves, finely chopped
- 1 small red onion, peeled and finely chopped
- 1 small carrot, finely chopped or grated
- 30 small whole lettuce leaves



### **WHAT TO DO:**

1. Beat the eggs in the small bowl with the ginger.
2. Heat the wok with 1 tsp sunflower oil.
3. Pour in the egg mixture and leave to cook for 20 seconds, before folding onto itself and cooking through.
4. Remove the egg from the wok and allow it to cool on the chopping board, then slice it thinly.
5. Heat the remaining sunflower oil in the wok.
6. Add the onion, ginger, carrot and spring onions and cook for 2 minutes, then add the rice and soy sauce.



**NEXT WEEK IS THE LAST WEEK OF HUB PROGRAMS FOR TERM 1**

# THOMASTOWN WEST COMMUNITY HUB

98 MAIN STREET, THOMASTOWN | TERM 1, 2023

**NEXT WEEK IS THE LAST WEEK OF HUB PROGRAMS FOR TERM 1**

## Monday

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm  
YOUNG VOICES IN  
MEDIA



3:15 pm – 4:30 pm  
HOMEWORK CLUB



## Wednesday

9:30 am – 2:00 pm  
LEARN ENGLISH  
(bookings essential)  
Call PRACE 9462 6077



## Tuesday

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm  
STEAM



3:15 pm – 4:30 pm  
PIXELS AND PAINT ART CLUB



## Thursday

10:50 am – 11:20 am  
FUN READING CLUB

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm  
STRATEGIC BOARD GAMES



WCC is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. We recognise the importance and responsibility for ensuring a safe and supportive environment that respects the rights of young people, enabling them to thrive.

For further information, please contact Ruvee:  
P: (03) 9401 6666 | E:twch@whittleseacc.org.au



**NEXT WEEK IS THE LAST WEEK OF HUB PROGRAMS FOR TERM 1**



# TWPS Fundraising

Our annual Easter fundraiser has kicked off!

For every 6 pack of Hot Cross Buns you order,

**Bakers Delight Rivergum** will give **\$2** to our school.

The more buns you purchase the more profit TWPS makes.

**Please fill out your order form and bring it**

**back to the office by Thursday 30th March.**

Orders will be ready to collect from TWPS on

Tuesday 4th April 2023.

*Bakers Delight*  
We're for real.



## Thomastown West Primary Easter Raffle

To assist our school with the 2023 Easter Raffle...

We ask parents and carers to bring an Easter egg or chocolate by 3 April. Prize hampers will be made from the donations for each grade.

Parents and carers are asked to purchase a Raffle ticket.

**Hampers will be made for each classroom**

The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 6th April





# THOMASTOWN ON-CAMPUS STORE

## BELEZA TRADING HOURS



# OPEN!

**2023**

TERM 1				
<b>JANUARY</b>	Tues 24th 10am - 3pm	Wed 25th 10am - 3pm	Fri 27th 10am - 3pm	Mon 30th 10am - 3pm
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	Tues 7th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 14th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 21st 1pm - 4pm	Tues 28th 1pm - 4pm
<b>MARCH</b>	Tues 7th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 14th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 21st 1pm - 4pm	Tues 28th 1pm - 4pm
<b>APRIL</b>	Tues 4th 1pm - 4pm			
TERM 2				
<b>MAY</b>	Tues 2nd 1pm - 4pm	Tues 16th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 30th 1pm - 4pm	
<b>JUNE</b>	Tues 13th 1pm - 4pm			



# THOMASTOWN WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL CANTEEN MENU 2023



Online Orders:

**NEW  
MENU**

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

New to My School Connect SIMPLY REGISTER AT:

[www.myschoolconnect.com.au](http://www.myschoolconnect.com.au)

## Hot Food

Beef burger with cheese and tomato sauce (Ha)	\$5.00
Large Beef Pie (Halal)	\$4.30
Hot Dog Beef (Halal)	\$4.20
Large Sausage Roll (Halal)	\$4.00
Twin Party Pies 2 pieces (Halal)	\$3.00
Chicken Nuggets 6 pieces (Halal)	\$5.00
Pizza – Margarita (Halal)	\$3.50
Pizza – Sujuk Beef	\$4.00
Pizza Zaatar (oregano & herb)	
Chicken Tenderloins Wrap with cheese, Tomato, mayo & sweet chilli sauce	\$6.50
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

## Freshly Made Sandwiches<sup>(h)</sup>

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) (v)	\$4.50
Vegemite and Cheese	\$3.00
<b>Add to your order</b>	
Mayo	Add \$0.50

## Snacks

Banana Bread	\$3.00
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





## OUR SCHOOL TUCKSHOP IS NOW ONLINE!

Download the free app or access [www.myschoolconnect.com.au](http://www.myschoolconnect.com.au)

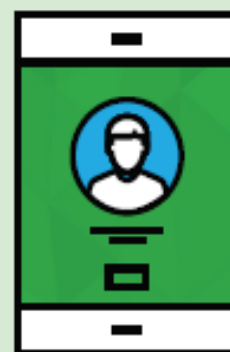


### 1. REGISTER YOUR ACCOUNT

Register on any device, simply login to [www.myschoolconnect.com.au](http://www.myschoolconnect.com.au) and click on "Create Account", follow the prompts to add your email and password.

### 2. ADD YOUR STUDENT

And make sure that you select your school and classroom details.



### 3. SELECT "TOP UP"

To add money to your account via Credit Card or Paypal, you can choose Direct Deposit but allow 3-5 working days to process prior to ordering. You can also pay as you go, simply skip the pop up screen for adding funds and start ordering.

(Please note Merchant Fees applies to Credit Card or Paypal Transactions)

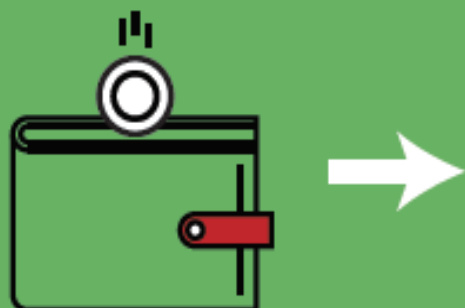


## 4. ORDER

To start ordering lunches simply select your Student and click "Buy Now", and you can order for the day, week. It's that simple!

## 5. CHECKOUT

Once you have completed your order, view your order summary in the "cart" and proceed to "checkout". Select your preferred form of payment and submit, all orders are confirmed via email.



## NOTE ON PAID ORDERS

Note that only paid orders will be sent to your canteen, not those still sitting in your cart. To start ordering lunches simply select your Student and click "Buy Now", and you can order for the day, week. It's that simple!



[www.myschoolconnect.com.au](http://www.myschoolconnect.com.au)



My School Connect has a 7 day a week Support Line, contact 1300 030 915





# Wrapping up another AWESOME week at KidsCo!

## Star highlights from the last few weeks program

This week at KidsCo we have been continuing our trip around the world! So far this week we have travelled to China and Japan, and have also been learning about Australia's First Nations Peoples cultures. We have been getting our KidsCo passports stamped along the way too!

Next week is all about slime and sensory play! We will be exploring different types of slime and sensory activities. Be sure to book!



## School Holidays are coming up quickly! Here is a sneak peak of what is to come:

The FUN never stops! School holiday bookings are now open. Easily book now through your Xplor app.

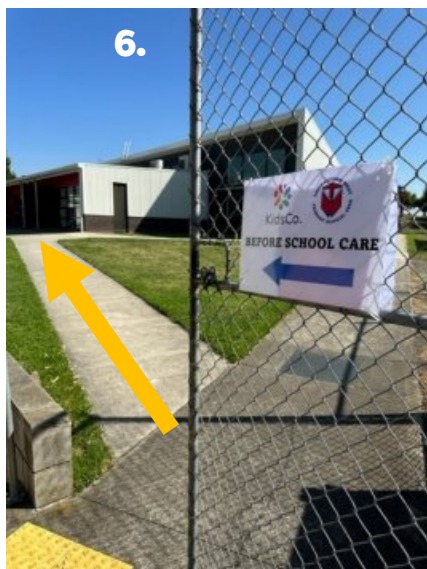
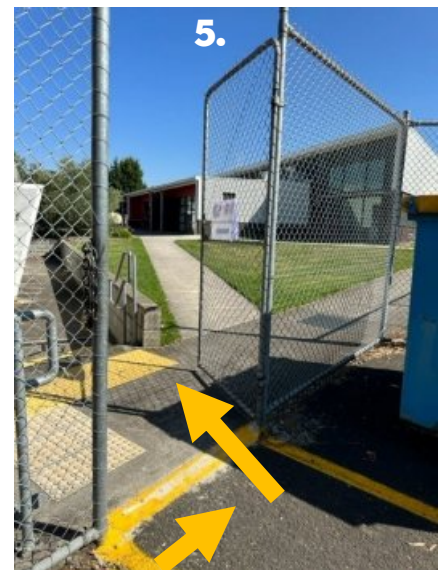
WEEK 1	MON 10/4 PUBLIC HOLIDAY	TUE 11/4 IN CENTRE	WED 12/4 EXCURSION	THU 13/4 EXCURSION	FRI 14/4 IN CENTRE
	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ARE FAMILY DAYS!</b>	<b>EASTER</b> Get EGG-cited tomorrow! Today we'll get a basket of fun as we hunt around an EGG-some special egg hunt, plus some EGG-cellent games, make egg art and create our own Easter bunny. It's a game for a happy good time!	<b>SOVEREIGN HILL</b> We're taking a trip back in time when GOLD was discovered! Learn more about what life was like back in the days with no internet, pen for gold and a yin-yo lasso. You can take your own gold home!	<b>THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE</b> We'll grab the princess and you grab a seat! We're watching Mario on the big screen as he travels through an underground labyrinth with his brother, Luigi, trying to save a captured princess.	<b>THE FAST &amp; THE CURIOUS</b> Make more your fast lanes full of energy - we need your master minds to design the car of the future! We'll be taking the lunch to school before, experimenting with different wheels to power your car before they reach the checkered flag!
		AFTER MAX CCS \$13.13 \$87.50 base fee	AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63 \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63 \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	AFTER MAX CCS \$13.13 \$87.50 base fee
WEEK 2	MON 17/4 EXCURSION	TUE 18/4 IN CENTRE	WED 19/4 EXCURSION	THU 20/4 EXCURSION	FRI 21/4 EXCURSION
	<b>INFLATABLE WORLD</b> Are you ready to bounce, climb & jump? We're off to visit a new adventure at one of Australia's BIGGEST inflatable playgrounds. Challenge yourself & unlock your inner ninja skills!	<b>SURVIVOR</b> You have been chosen! Will you be the survivor? Get ready to test your mind and body over a series of challenges before the tribe has spoken! Make friends, offer and accept favours. Outlast, Outlast and Outlast!	<b>WERRIBEE ZOO</b> Are you ready? ZOO-ing! We'll be learning more about different types of animals at the Werribee Zoo today! If we're lucky we might get to see our favourite furry friends up close on the Safari Tour!	<b>SING</b> There's a superstar in all of us just waiting to shine! Get ready to belt a tune & put on the most rockin' karaoke performance of all time! But hold on! You'll need to make your microphone! It's gonna be a day full of music, dance and FUN!	<b>MASTERCHEF</b> On today's menu - home cooked deliciousness! We'll be cooking up a storm to make some goodies to take home to share but not before we battle it out at the water's edge - will you make it without dropping your tray?
	AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63 \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	AFTER MAX CCS \$13.13 \$87.50 base fee	AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63 \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63 \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63 \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee





# KidsCo.

**BEFORE SCHOOL CARE from 7am**





# April School Holiday Bookings are now OPEN!

From only \$13.13 a day after maximum childcare subsidy!



Here's a sneak peek of what's on!

See the full schedule: [www.kidsco.net.au/oshc-thomastown](http://www.kidsco.net.au/oshc-thomastown)

WEEK 1	MON 10/4	TUE 11/4	WED 12/4	THU 13/4	FRI 14/4
	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	IN CENTRE	EXCURSION	EXCURSION	IN CENTRE
					
	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ARE FAMILY DAYS!</b>	<b>EASTER</b> Get EGG-cited everyone! Today will be a basket of fun as we hop around on an EGG-stra special egg hunt, play some EGG-cellent games, make eggs fly and create our own Easter bunny pet! It's gonna be a hoppin' good time!	<b>SOVEREIGN HILL</b> We're taking a trip back in time when GOLD was discovered! Learn more about what life was like back in the days with no internet, pan for gold and if you're lucky... You can take your winnings home!	<b>THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE</b> We'll grab the popcorn and you grab a seat! We're watching Mario on the big screen as he travels through an underground labyrinth with his brother, Luigi, trying to save a captured princess.	<b>THE FAST &amp; THE CURIOUS</b> Make sure your fuel tanks full (of energy) - we need your master minds to design the car of the future! We'll 'Pit Stop' for lunch to refuel before experimenting with different ways to power your car before they wave the checked flag!
	<b>AFTER MAX CCS \$13.13</b> \$87.50 base fee	<b>AFTER MAX CCS \$13.13</b> \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	<b>AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63</b> \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	<b>AFTER MAX CCS \$17.63</b> \$87.50 base fee + \$30 experience fee	<b>AFTER MAX CCS \$13.13</b> \$87.50 base fee

Program	Session Times	Session Fees	After Max CCS
School Holiday Care	7:30am - 6:00pm	Base fee per child \$87.50 Experience fee per child \$30	Pay as little as <b>\$13.13</b>
Late Collection Fees May Apply \$1 per minute			

Call 1300 976 304 now!

## How to Enrol

Simply visit our website to enrol your child and activate your Xplor account!

A member of our team will call you once your enrolment is active and we will help you make bookings and answer any questions you may have!

Already enrolled? Book now on the Xplor Home app!



Thomastown West Primary School,  
98-112 Main St,  
Thomastown VIC 3074



1300 976 304



[kidsco.net.au/oshc-thomastown](http://kidsco.net.au/oshc-thomastown)



# 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.*



# School Crossing Supervisor positions now available.

## Enjoy the benefits of permanent part-time work!

There are so many great reasons to join the City of Whittlesea team as a Crossing Supervisor:

- Starting hourly rate of \$31.96 (work 40 weeks but be paid for 52 weeks a year)
- Work 15 hours per fortnight during school terms (Annualised salary paid 12.6hrs per fortnight)
- Paid public holidays that fall during school terms
- 10.5% superannuation and pro-rata sick leave
- Receive on-the-job training and uniform is provided
- Reduced price memberships available at Mill Park Leisure and Thomastown Recreation & Aquatic Centre
- Join the City of Whittlesea's active social club and attend organised events
- Health & Wellbeing Programs available

**Apply now!**

### TO APPLY

Complete the application form on the reverse side of this flyer or online at [www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/schoolcrossings](http://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/schoolcrossings)

For further information please contact the School Crossing Team on 9217 2508 or email [school.crossing@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:school.crossing@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



**City of  
Whittlesea**

# Apply to become a School Crossing Supervisor

Join the City of Whittlesea and make a difference in our community!

This very rewarding role helps the most vulnerable members of the community, our children. Assist school aged children and other pedestrians to cross the road at designated school crossings.

## ABOUT YOU

To be considered for this job you need to:

- be medically fit
- have your own transport
- be of good character
- relate well to children and be able to talk to children's parents and teachers
- be available to work for 1.5 hours per day, generally between 8am-9am and 3pm-4pm on weekdays during school terms
- be able to obtain and retain a Working with Children Check (WWCC)
- be fully vaccinated against COVID-19

**If this sounds like you, then you should definitely apply! Complete the application form below or online at [www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/schoolcrossings](http://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/schoolcrossings)**



Please send your completed form to: City of Whittlesea, Locked Bag 1, Bundoora MDC VIC 3083

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have any experience working with children?** If yes, please provide details:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Why do you want to work as a school crossing supervisor?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What do you know about being a school crossing supervisor?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Referees:** Please provide the names and phone numbers of two (2) referees (cannot be family or friends). Please state briefly, the relationship with each referee (for example, your last employer, a supervisor, involvement in a community group, voluntary work, etc).

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_


**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any further questions, please contact our School Crossing Team on 9217 2508.



THOMASTOWN WEST 

1st February 2023 

# Learn English at Thomastown West Community Hub

Build your confidence in written and spoken English

*prace*

[www.prace.vic.edu.au](http://www.prace.vic.edu.au)



## Everyday English

# Learn English at Thomastown West Community Hub

Improve your English, make new friends and learn more about your local community.

Join our friendly and supportive program helping local residents build their confidence in written and spoken English.

You will learn the English you need to engage in community activities, pursue further education or undertake volunteer work.

- Friendly and supportive teachers
- Make new friends
- Increase your confidence
- Focus on written and spoken English

## Pathways

This course prepares students for further study (English, vocational studies) and volunteer work.

## Workforce Australia

This course counts towards Workforce Australia mutual obligation requirements.

*Prace encourages individuals with disabilities to participate in our programs and activities. This training is delivered with Victorian and Commonwealth Government funding. Prace TOID 4036*

### Location

Thomastown West  
Community Hub  
Main St, Thomastown  
(Next to Thomastown West  
Primary School)

### Dates and duration

1 Feb - 21 June 2023  
20 Sessions

### Days and hours

Wednesdays  
9.30am - 2.00pm

### Entry requirements

None

### Fees

Concession \$50  
Full \$97  
*Plus \$10 Service & Amenties Fee*

### Enrolment

Call 9462 6077 or visit us  
at Merrilands Community  
Centre. Or ,enquire  
at Thomastown West  
Primary School main  
office on 9465 4317



*This course is endorsed by  
Learn Local.*



Prace Main Office  
Merrilands Community Centre - 35 Sturdee Street, Reservoir  
Phone 9462 6077 | [office@prace.vic.edu.au](mailto:office@prace.vic.edu.au) | [www.prace.vic.edu.au](http://www.prace.vic.edu.au)