

Thomastown West Primary School NEWSLETTER



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IMPORTANT DATES:

Wed	5 Sep	LEIGH HOBBS INCURSION Gr1-6
Fri	7 Sep	GR 5/6 GIRLS FUTSAL
Mon	10 Sep	GR 3/4 'MAD ABOUT SCIENCE'
Mon	10 Sep	GR 5/6 WHITTLESEA DIVISION ATHLETICS CARNIVAL -Selected students only
Thu	13 Sep	R U OK? DAY (Gold Coin Donation)
Wed	19 Sep	FOOTY DAY
Fri	21 Sep	LAST DAY OF TERM 3 1.15 finish
Mon	8 Oct	TERM 4 BEGINS

No. 25 31st August 2018

From the Assistant Principal

It's been another action packed week at TWPS. Most of our 5/6 students participated in a swimming carnival, a handful of grade 5's attended a leadership day at Lalor



Secondary College, the Preps had their Circus Day, we celebrated Book Week with a parade (checkout the great photos later on in this edition) , our 3/4 teachers had their professional practice day, which included school visits and term 4 planning, and we celebrated our Dad's and Grandad's with a junior school breakfast and a father's day stall. A big

thankyou to the parents from the fundraising team who organised the stall.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

On this Father's day, it is important to recognise and reward dads for being there, and actively teaching important life skills to children. It is important to their children, and meaningful to dads everywhere when you say "Thank you, job well done." To my Dad Peter, thank you. I look forward to spending time with him, my boys and our family on Sunday. For one day only, my boys have agreed to laugh at my 'Dad' jokes.

STAFF PROFILE—RACHEL BUTLER Room 1

In my last newsletter entry, we talked with room 12 teacher Kylee Townsend. In this week's newsletter, we get to know room 1 and fellow Graduate teacher Rachel Butler.



What is your favourite colour?

My favourite colour is Purple

What is your favourite food?

My favourite food is definitely anything chocolate or avocado!

What is your favourite book?

Girl on the train. At the moment in our room we are obsessed with the 'Pig the Pug' series.

What do you do for fun?

I love going to the gym and catching up with friends and singing loudly in the car to anything and everything.

Tell me how you first got involved in with teaching.

I finished year 12 and went straight into university. I Studied at Victoria University and finished in 2014. I was a CRT (casual relief teacher) for a year and a half and thoroughly enjoyed the classes I worked with. I taught primary school, prep to 6 and all subjects including sport, music and art. I loved being the sport teacher!!

What has surprised you most about working as a teacher? How rewarding it is when a child switches on and understands a concept that I have taught and seeing their achievements.

What might we be surprised to know about you?

I was a dancer for 15 years. I love having a dance whenever there is music on and I incorporate that into my classroom as a brain break.

If you weren't teaching what would you be doing?

I don't know what I would be doing, I have always wanted to be a teacher and haven't really thought about a different career.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN results arrived yesterday and we are now spending time familiarising ourselves with these. This year we are posting the results. These should arrive to your house late next week. If you have any questions or concerns please contact myself or Mrs Young.

EMERGENCY DRILL

Due to poor weather, today's planned termly evacuation drill was cancelled. Schools should regularly rehearse and exercise these procedures, quarterly per annum, completing a partial or full test under a variety of emergency scenarios. When practising we refer to the TWPS Emergency Management Plan. These plans can be found across all areas of the school. We will reschedule today's drill.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP DAY

A select group of students in grade 5 whom didn't attend the swimming carnival attended a leadership day at Lalor Secondary College. 'Kids teaching kids' was the focus of the day with LSC senior Student Representative Council students taking our students, and others from local primary schools, through a range of leadership workshops. Kiana from room 18 reflected on the day below.



On the 28th of August, some grade 5 students went to LSC for a Leadership Opportunity. Kids teaching kids is about how to become an SRC leader of captain at school. These are some of the things that we talked about and answered.

How do you become a leader?

- ✓ *Writing statements about you and how you will make a difference to your school*
- ✓ *You need to have leadership skills or be taught them*
- ✓ *You need to ask yourself many questions about yourself*
- ✓ *Talk in front of your peers, expressing your ideas*

*The seven grade 5's that participated in the day had lots of fun, taking notes and we will bring this information back to our grade 5 students in preparation for leadership selection at TWPS for 2019. **Kiana Room 18***

GETTING READY FOR PREP 2019

Have you enrolled your child to start Prep at TWPS in 2019? If yes, it's not long until our transition program begins. In the meantime, **what can you do to help prepare your child?**



Preparing your child for the start of primary school will help them feel more confident about the changes that are about to happen and what to expect at their new school. The year before your child starts primary school is a good time to begin to focus on different aspects of school life. Having discussions about school and encouraging your child to become more independent can help them better adjust to the new learning environment.

Things that you can do to help your child prepare include:

- asking your child what they think about starting school
- encouraging your child to ask questions about going to school
- helping your child stay healthy, making sure they have regular health and dental checks and keeping immunisations up-to-date
- encouraging your child to try to do things on their own such as dressing, going to the toilet, washing their hands, unwrapping their food and opening and closing their drink bottle
- talking to friends and other families about what school is like
- attending transition-to-school programs and activities at your child's early years service and school
- talking to your child's early childhood educator about things you can do at home to help your child's learning and development
- talking to the school about how you can engage in your child's learning and development at school
- asking the school what time your child starts on the first day and where to take them.

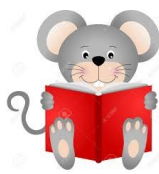
**Education is Powerful, Student Voice Matters,
Teachers Make a Difference & Every Day Counts!**

Michael Downing
Acting Assistant Principal

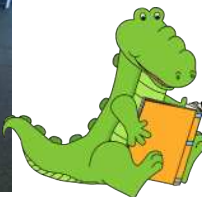
Preps

C I R C U S D A Y





TWPS Book Week 2018!



Our 2018 Book Parade!



Stars of the Week

Term 3 - Week 7

Room 1	Mia	Room 10	Daniel & Michael
Room 2	Raha	Room 11	May
Room 3	Dion	Room 12	Lucas
Room 4	Rajay	Room 16	Abdul
Room 5	Christopher	Room 17	Whole Class
Room 6	Eliza	Room 18	Eisa
Room 8	Ian	Room 19	Simon
Room 9	Dean	Room 20	Chen Chen



WE LOVE CHESS CLUB



I like Chess Club because...

- ✓ It's a fun game to play. Especially getting taught some tactics to win the game. **Rehan Room 9**
- ✓ It teaches me to be a better player! **Epati Room 9**
- ✓ It inspires me to be a good players and to teach other people how to play. **Melak Room 12**



RU OK? DAY

WEAR YELLOW TO
SCHOOL ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER
13TH 2018



TMPS - SRC

**GOLD COIN
DONATION**

Cup of Life

Well done to all the boys and girls who are coming to school every day.

Congratulations

The room in Week 7 Term 3 that had the BEST ATTENDANCE is

ROOM 2

Hi everyone,

Mrs Young, Mr Downing and I have noticed that there are many students and some parents who do not have a clear understanding of what bullying is and what bullying isn't.

The DET resource, **Building Respectful and Safe Schools: is a resource for school communities** supports schools to prevent and respond to bullying and all forms of unacceptable behaviour including harassment. This publication defines bullying as the following:

Bullying is when someone, or a group of people, deliberately upset or hurt another person or damage their property, reputation or social acceptance on more than one occasion. There is an imbalance of power in incidents of bullying with the bully or bullies having more power at the time due to age, size, status or other reasons.

There are four types of bullying:

- Direct Physical Bullying
- Direct Verbal Bullying
- Indirect Bullying
- Cyberbullying

At school, we believe it is important to provide a safe and friendly environment for students and staff and to encourage care, courtesy and respect for others. All persons have a legal right to protection from harassment under the Commonwealth Sex Discrimination Act and the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act.

The effects of harassment or bullying include:

- poor health – anxiety, depression
- lower self esteem
- reduced study performance
- missed classes, social withdrawal
- reduced career prospects

If a student sees another person being harassed or bullied they should tell a teacher or parent that they witnessed the incident and advise them to report it to an appropriate adult. However, if your friend is harassing another person, let them know that their behaviour is unacceptable.

Bystanders who do nothing to stop bullying may be contributing to the problem by providing an audience for the bully.

Harassment is any verbal, physical or sexual conduct (including gestures) which is uninvited, unwelcome or offensive to a person. Harassment is usually directed at a person because of their gender, race, creed or abilities. It can be subtle or explicit.

Subtle Bullying: (The most common)

They include:

- offensive staring and leering
- unwanted comments about physical appearance and sexual preference
- racist or smutty comments or jokes
- questions about another's sexual activity
- persistent comments about a person's private life or family
- physical contact e.g. purposely brushing up against another's body
- offensive name calling

Explicit Bullying: (obvious)

They include:

- grabbing, aggressive staring, hitting, pinching kicking, pushing and shoving, etc.
- unwelcome patting, touching, embracing
- repeated requests for dates, especially after refusal
- offensive gestures, jokes, comments, letters, phone calls or e-mail

Bullying can also involve such things as

- grabbing, aggressive staring, hitting, pinching kicking, pushing and shoving, etc.
- publicly excluding a person from your group
- taking or breaking a person's property
- knocking a person's books or belongings out of their hands or off their desk
- teasing a person because of their looks

Cyberbullying is a form of bullying which is carried out through an internet service such as email, chat room, discussion group, online social networking, instant messaging or web pages. It can also include bullying through mobile phone technologies such as SMS. It may involve text or images (photos, drawings)

Examples of cyberbullying behaviour are:

- teasing and being made fun of
- spreading of rumours online
- sending unwanted messages
- defamation

Cyberbullying can happen to anyone and the bully can act anonymously if they want. People can also be bullied online by groups of people such as class groups or collective members of an online community.

Being involved in online spaces – either at home or at school, **requires students to behave responsibly.**

This includes:

- the language you use and the things you say
- how you treat others
- respecting people's property (e.g. copyright) visiting appropriate places.

Behaving safely online means:

- protecting your own privacy and personal information (we used to call it 'stranger danger')
- selecting appropriate spaces to work and contribute
- protecting the privacy of others (this can be sharing personal information or images)
- being proactive in letting someone know if there is something is 'not quite right'. At home this would be a parent or carer, at school a teacher.

What bullying is not:

Many distressing behaviours are not examples of bullying even though they are unpleasant and often require teacher intervention and management.

Mutual Conflict: involves an argument or disagreement between people but not an imbalance of power. Both parties are upset and usually both want a resolution. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.

Social rejection or dislike: is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

Single-episode acts: of nastiness or physical aggression are not the same as bullying. If someone is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion they are not being bullied. Nastiness or physical aggression that is directed towards many different people is not the same as bullying. However, this does not mean that single episodes of nastiness or physical aggression should be ignored or condoned as these are unacceptable behaviours.

*Taken from the 2010 DEECD resource, **Building Respectful and Safe Schools: A resource for school communities**

Next week I will be writing about the variety of strategies Thomastown West PS utilises to ensure a positive climate for learning.

At Thomastown West PS:

Everyone has the right to feel comfortable and safe.

and

Everyone has the right to work and learn.

Mike Palfrey
Student Wellbeing Officer

WE WOULD LIKE THOMASTOWN WEST TO BE A



ALWAYS REMEMBER
YOU ARE **BRAVER**
THAN YOU BELIEVE
STRONGER
THAN YOU SEEM
SMARTER
THAN YOU THINK
& **TWICE AS**
BEAUTIFUL
AS YOU'D EVER
IMAGINED

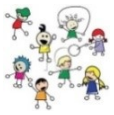


Happy Father's Day!

The Preps and Grade 1/2s enjoyed their Father's Day Breakfast!







Hi Everyone!

Fatherhood is life-changing. It's a very personal journey that a man experiences when he takes on the responsibility of parenting his kids. It's also a vital role, and it's all too easy to neglect the positive impact a father can have on his children's lives.



Every father's parenting journey will be different, and there is no one-size-fits-all answer to its challenges. Father's Day is a great time for some tried and trusted parenting tips to help you be the best dad you can be - *from Educational Psychologist, Michael Grose:*

1. **Play to your strengths** Fathers often parent in a more active or action-oriented way than mums; games, play time and physical activity become important parts of a man's parenting repertoire. Be yourself!
2. **Lighten up – don't take yourself too seriously.** It's easy to take yourself and your work too seriously. For many men a bad day at work translates into poor or, at best, distracted experiences when they're with their families. Consider putting a strategy in place, such as exercise, to help you leave work, and the bad moods it may engender, behind. Be present in mind as well as in body when you're with your kids.
3. **Find something in common with your child.** It would be wonderful to say that you can always connect with your kids, but family life is never that straightforward. There'll always be a child who we struggle to connect with, or a developmental stage during which the child feels alien to you. In these times it helps if you share a common interest (such as a love of sport or music) with them, so that you always have something that will bring you together, even though you may not always see eye to eye.
4. **Go easy on your son sometimes.** Many dads are tough on their boys and have expectations that go way beyond their son's interest and abilities. Remember, it takes boys a little longer to mature. Resist the temptation to turn every game and every father-son activity into a lesson and avoid giving advice when your all your son wants is to be understood.
5. **Enjoy the outdoors with your daughter.** The biological nature of fatherhood causes most men to be very protective of their daughters. But that doesn't mean you should put your daughter on a pedestal and treat her like a little princess. Play with her, and get her outdoors as it will do wonders for her confidence and independences.

6. **Be ready for kids to knock you off your pedestal.** Most children in the preschool and middle-to-late-primary school years look up to their dads - "My dad is bigger and better than your dad!" Make the most of this admiration as the Superman Syndrome won't last. Young children soon turn into adolescents, who generally go to great lengths to prove that you're just Clarke Kent after all. Expect them to stop laughing at your jokes, roll their eyes at your well-intentioned advice and even give you the cold shoulder in public. Ouch! It can be hurtful to a man who just wants to be the best dad he can be. Give them room to be grumpy

sometimes.

7. Give your kids a compass and a map. One day your children will become truly independent individuals. You won't be irrelevant, you'll just be taking the backseat in a more practical and managerial sense. There are two things you can do to help your kids safely navigate the world when you're not around. First, help them develop a set of positive values including integrity, honesty and respect that will act as their moral compass when they have difficult decisions to make. Second, reveal your personal story over time, as this narrative will become ingrained like personal map that will guide them when life gets tough.

It is never too late to be the best Dad you can be for your precious children!

Fathers' Day can also bring sadness to those who no longer have their fathers; to those who never knew their fathers and to those whose memories are difficult ones.

I encourage you to think of a significant 'father' figure in your life, who shares or shared the 'love and guidance' of a LOVING FATHER.

A METAPHORIC POEM FOR DADS

*You are the pun to a Disney character;
You are the direction of my GPS.
You are sun after the stormy weather;
You are the east to my west.*

*You are the Oreo to my milkshake;
The ketchup to my fries.
You are the CPU to a computer;
The happiness to my cries.*

*You are the spring to the autumn;
The summer to the winter.
You are the missing piece in my puzzle.
The best father to your daughter.*

*This metaphorical poem I have for you dad,
Might not be the best gift in town.
But I assure you, it's made with love,
And I hope it is the smile to your frown.*

Happy Fathers' Day to the greatest dad.

To all our Fathers, Step-Fathers, Uncles Grandfathers and Special Father Figures in our lives!



Robyn Mulholland (Student Well-being)

LEIGH HOBBS VISIT

5TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Great to see many students excited about a visit from the famous author & illustrator Leigh Hobbs!

If students wish to purchase or pre order books before Leigh's visit for signing on the day, please contact Deb Force at ***The Sun Bookshop*** and she will email details. They have 10 different books to choose from.

Deb Force deb@sunbooks.com

Leigh will bring ordered books on the day of the visit.

OR

You can purchase books from **QBD** at Epping Plaza who has 6 of Leigh's books in stock. If you would like other copies of 'Old Tom', they can be also be ordered.

Happy Reading

Christine Bridges



Program Information

We had a wonderful week. Writing **letters to the farmers** was definitely the highlight and most rewarding, as the children showed empathy, compassion and respect as we discussed the drought prior to the activity. The children drew and wrote such lovely words to those struggling in these difficult times.

Book Character Day was such a fun filled day. Children came dressed in their amazing outfits showcasing their favourite characters. It's great when a school theme can be continued into after care as it brings many fun moments.

Father's Day activities were also very exciting for the children, none more than the making of the biscuits and chocolates for their amazing Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles or special Big Brothers. We hope this Sunday is a wonderful day for you all.



Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0407 372 056

Coordinator: Desiree Bustos

Assistant: Carmen Bellofiore

OSHClub Customer Service and Billing Team: 1300 395 735

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.

Letters to Farmers by the children at TWPS OSHClub



Father's Day Fun



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THOMASTOWN LALOR

Pick My Project - voting is now open!

Pick My Project is a Victorian-first community grants initiative, with at least \$1 million in funding available in each metro and regional area.

Now it's time to vote! Pick your three favourite project ideas in your local community and help make them a reality.

Voting is quick and simple, and open until 5pm, Monday 17 September:

1. Register for a Pick My Project account. If you already have an account, simply sign in.
2. Select your local community by entering your suburb or address. You can then browse the project ideas in your local community and create a shortlist of your favourites.

Pick your three favourite project ideas from your shortlist and verify your mobile number. You'll then be able to submit your votes.

Head to the [Pick My Project website](#) to start voting



Free [Magic Show](#) this Saturday
with [Luigi Zucchini](#).

Plus Market stalls, BBQ
and Coffee Cart
This Saturday 10am - 1pm
at Thomastown Library
52 Main Street Thomastown



OPPORTUNITY! to steer this innovative and dynamic organisation.

Enquiries email manager@tnh.org.au

Become a Teacher's Aide

Certificate III in Education Support: (Sept. 2018)

THIS QUALIFICATION WILL GIVE YOU THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO TEACHERS AND STUDENTS IN A RANGE OF EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS. THIS INCLUDES PRIMARY, SECONDARY & SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOLS & AREAS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

GRADUATES WORK AS :

EDUCATION ASSISTANTS/TEACHER AIDES

SUPPORT WORKERS (WORKING WITH CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES) **Course Details:**

FRIDAY: 14 SEPT. 2018 — 7 JUNE 2019

24 SESSIONS, 2 WORKSHOPS + 100 HR PLACEMENT

9:15 AM TO 3.15 PM

at **MERRILANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE, RESERVOIR**

Ring **PRACE** on **9462 6077** or visit our web-site: www.prace.vic.edu.au