Thomastown West Primary School Newsletter



Email: thomastown.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au Phone: 9465 4317

2024 IMPORTANT DATES:

Mon	25 Mar	Harmony Day		
Tue	26 Mar	School Council onsite TWPS 6:30pm		
Tue	26 Mar	Lalor District Athletics (Selected grade 3-6 students)		
Wed	27 Mar	Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences Students only attend school at the time of their conference.		
Thur	28 Mar	Last day of Term 1		
Mon	15 Apr	First day of Term 2		
Thur	09 May	WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO DAY		
Tues	11 June	Curriculum Day 3 Students do not attend school		
Fri	28 June	Last day of Term 2		
Mon	15 July	First day of Term 3		
Wed	11 Sept	Whole School Professional Practice Day Students do not attend school		
Thur	19 Sept	Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences Students only attend school at the time of their conference.		
Fri	20 Sept	Last day of Term 3		
Mon	07 Oct	First day of Term 4		
Mon	4 Nov	Curriculum Day 4 Students do not attend school		
Fri	20 Dec	Last day of Term 4, 2024		

No.4 Friday 22nd March 2024

From the Principal

Already we have reached the final newsletter for the term. It is difficult to believe that we have only one week remaining in Term 1. Time flies when your having fun!

Did you know that Wednesday 20th March was the 'International Day of Happiness'. The theme this year is 'Happier Together'. Here are three simple steps that you can use anytime to give yourself a boost and show kindness to those around you!

1. Think about three things that make you happy and do one today! Such as, going on a walk outside with an adult, talking to a friend, playing your favourite game, or drawing a picture.

- 2. Show care towards others by living our school values, saying hello, doing something kind or smiling.
- 3. When you wake up, think about what you can say to yourself to help you feel good and get ready for the day.

NAPLAN

Mr Crotti and I have been greatly impressed by the dedication and effort demonstrated by our Year 3 and 5 students during the NAPLAN testing period. They have approached the assessments with a positive attitude, remaining focused and giving their best effort. Please remember, NAPLAN is simply a snapshot of a student in a moment of time, and at TWPS we recognise that there is so much more to each student than a test result.

Thank you to our dedicated teachers and supportive parents for encouraging and guiding our students through this journey.

Parents will receive the results from these assessments later in the year. These results will help our school to reflect and refine our teaching practice to provide the best learning experiences for all students.

School Council Election Update

Nominations have now officially closed and I am delighted to introduced you to the 2024 Thomastown West Primary School Council. I'd like to also wish a warm welcome to the new members who will join our existing School Council team.

Returning Parent Members

Paul Johanson Liz Skitch Zac Evans Caz Dunell

Returning Staff Members

Suzi Ilic Violeta Colakovski James Crotti Sandi Young

New Parent Members

Hasum Assi Emily Calogero

New Community Members

Rebecca Edgell

New Staff Members

Fil Raif

Our School Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 26th March at 6:30pm.** This includes our Annual General Public Meeting 6:30pm at TWPS. **Guests are most welcome!**

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

DO NOT MISS OUT! Only half of our families have booked their Term 1 conference meeting with their child's teacher. Parent/student/teacher conferences are valuable. You can learn about your child's learning and wellbeing growth from the last 8 weeks and how you can help your child in their learning. They can also help the teacher understand more about your child. Please call the Office for help!

Class Dojo

We use the Class Dojo app to communicate with our families. Please download the app (use the free version) so that you do not miss out! The Prep/Ones, 1/2s and Teacher Aides often share photos of your child's learning, engagement and wellbeing achievements.

Room 2: 16 out of 18 families connected Only 2 to go!

Room 3: 17 out of 18 families connected Only 2 to go!

Room 5: 19 out of 21 families connected Only 2 to go!

Room 6: 19 out of 21 families connected Only 2 to go!

Room 15: 18 out of 22 families connected 4 to go!

Room 16: 17 out of 21 families connected 4 to go!

Room 17: 15 out of 22 families connected 7 to go!

Room 9: 12 out of 21 families connected 9 more!

Room 10: All 20 families connected OUTSTANDING!

Room 11: 21 out of 22 families connected Only 1 to go!

Room 12: 16 out of 21 families connected Only 2 to go!

Easter Raffle



Thanks to those that have already purchased raffle tickets and donated to our Easter raffle, we greatly appreciate your support. Donations of Easter eggs can be dropped off at your child's classroom. The raffle will be drawn at next Thursday morning's our final assembly for Term One

with tickets and donations to be returned by Monday 25th March please. Thank you in advance to the our *Fundraising Parent Team* that have volunteered to put the prizes together.

Every day of Learning Counts!

Attendance will continue to be a priority for TWPS during Term 2 and the remainder of this year! Young people who regularly attend school have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives. Regular attendance at school enables children to build social relationships and helps them have a sense of belonging. If you need our support to help your child attend school regularly, please contact me. We are here to help!

Thank you

Mr.Crotti and I want to convey our heartfelt appreciation to our exceptional team of teachers, education support staff, and office staff. Their unwavering dedication and hard work are the backbone of TWPS, creating a supportive and thriving learning environment where our students can flourish. Additionally, we extend our congratulations to our hardworking students who have lived our school values throughout these past eight weeks, especially resilience during our new 'Struggle *Time*' in Maths lessons. We also express our gratitude to our invaluable parent helpers, whose unwavering support greatly enriches our school community. Thank you for your commitment and for playing integral roles in our school/home partnership!

REMINDER

The students will be dismissed at the earlier time of 1.15pm on the last day of Term 1 Thursday 28th March. The office will be closed from 1.30pm. **TheirCare after school care will be operating from 1.15pm.**

Mrs Young's Games Corner

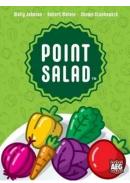


"Cascadia" a game for 1-4 players aged 10+. But for our gaming families... 8+ with parent support. It is like building your own wilderness wonderland! You get to fill your board with all sorts of cool animals and landscapes from Canada...

like bears, salmon, and forests. (Hope they create an African expansion!) Each turn, you pick tiles to add to your board, trying to match habitats and animals to score points. It's a fun puzzle game where you create your own wild world right at the table!

Rules:https://youtu.be/ZYgX9dB0Zm4?si=KhpiI-PEekNeF354





Or if you are looking for something a little easier and less pricey... POINT SALAD is a fun 2-6 player game that I believe suits ages 7+. You may have to help with the scoring. "Point Salad" is a super fun card game where you're trying to collect different veggies to score points. The twist? Each veggie card can score points in different ways, so you've got to be strategic about which ones you pick! Maybe you'll go for a bunch of lettuce cards because they score points for each one you have, or maybe you'll aim for tomatoes because they score points based on how many different types of veggies you collect. With every turn, you're faced with fun choices, trying to build the best salad to rack up those points and win the game!

Term 2 begins on Monday 15th April at 8:45am. Mr Crotti will be Acting Principal for this first week of Term 2 while I am spending time with my family in Sydney and utilising the holidays and bonus week of long service leave to rest, recharge and <u>finally</u> get over my laryngitis.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy end of Term 1 break. Try to find some time to play your favourite game or do something with your family that you will all enjoy together.

Sandi Young Principal

Thomastown West PS HARMONY

DAY

Celebrating Australia's Cultural Diversity

Harmony Day is a celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds.

To celebrate HARMONY DAY at TWPS, we ask all students to come dressed in:

- Cultural Dress OR
- wear something ORANGE

WHEN: MONDAY 25th MARCH



Celebrating Student Leadership at TWPS

Congratulations to the Grade 2-6 students who received their leadership badges at assembly today!

Grade 5/6 Class Captains



2024 Student Voice Team



2024 Student Representative Council



Parent Student Teacher Conferences will be ONSITE at TWPS in Term 1: Wednesday 27th March 2024

This year, we will use COMPASS again for booking our Parent Student Teacher Conference meetings.

From this Wednesday morning 9:00am YOU can book your child(ren) conference ONLINE using COMPASS! (We will not activate the button until Wednesday 9:00am. Do not panic if you can't find where to click, as it will not work until 10:00am Wednesday 6th March 2024).

GREAT NEWS! When you use COMPASS to book a conference meeting with your teacher, it will be a time that you choose, which suits YOUR FAMILY! It is really easy to let us know (on Compass) if you require an interpreter!

For parents and carers that do not have access to the internet at home, at work, Thomastown Library, or at a friend's house, support will be available at the office from 3:15pm Wednesday 6th March 2024 onwards, so that parents and carers can still make bookings online. Each Parent Student Teacher Conference is strictly 15 minutes and spaces are limited. However, more time may be allocated to your conference if your child has their Student Support Group (SSG) meeting scheduled.

Parents can change their bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by revisiting COMPASS, and following the instructions. Remember to use the same COMPASS login you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their meeting times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: **9465 4317**.

Students only attend school on 27/3/24 with their parents or carers at the time of their conference.

It's EASY to BOOK your 2024 Parent Student Teacher Conference

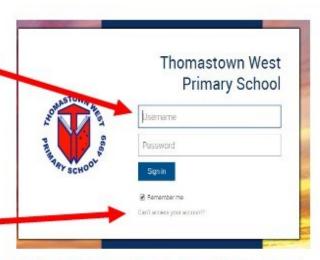
To book a time for your Parent Student Teacher Conference for Wednesday 27th March:

1. Login to Compass: _

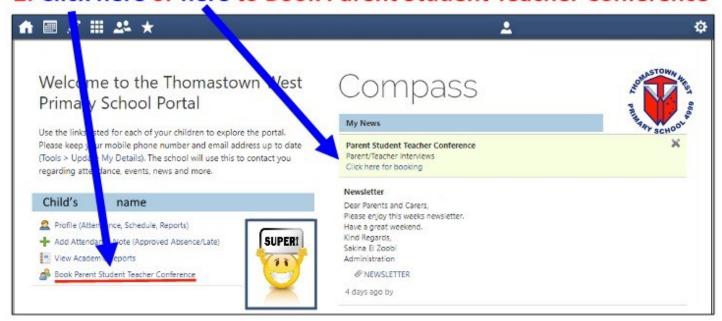
Use your parent login details.

- Please do not give these to your child.
- Your login details are unique to you and provide you with ongoing parent access to Compass and information about your child(ren).
- If you have problems... click on the:

'Can't access your account?'



2. Click here or here to Book Parent Student Teacher Conference



3. Click My Bookings

Conferences



4. Click START BOOKING NOW *



*Click 'Start Booking Now' and continue with the instructions listed below and on the next page.

OR

*If you click the SHOW ME HOW, just follow the instructions on your device

5. Click the time that suits you then click on the teacher's name

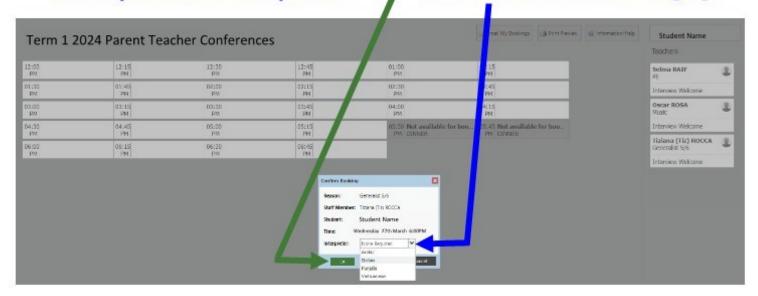


6. CHECK the time is correct then click

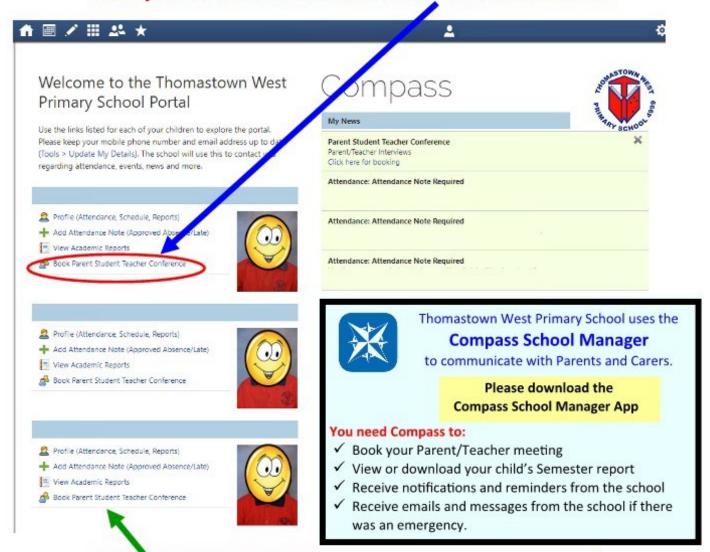
unless...

Would you like an interpreter?

CLICK HERE and CHOOSE the language



7. If you have more than one child... Click here



Follow the steps on the previous 2 pages...

THEN press the button to return to the main Dashboard Click on the link for the next child.

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 <u>all</u> 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.









Stars of the Week



Term 1- Week 7

Satkirat	2	For striving to be his best in all learning areas and helping his peers.
Ozgun	3	For being resilient and never giving up.
Lara	5	By showing responsibility by reading her reader every night and changing her reader book everyday!
Julian	6	For independently typing his story about Magic Beach and saving his work.
Denison	9	For his attention to detail in his writing. He uses his knowledge of the writer's tools to write some wonderfully descriptive sentences.
Philo	10	For striving to be his best when writing narratives. Well done on completing them in the allocated time.
Diana	11	For exhibiting a consistently responsible approach to all tasks set this term. She is always conscientious and strives to do her best.
Cyrus	12	For demonstrating resilience during Naplan testing and striving to do his best.
Jasmine	15	Outstanding effort in all of the NAPLAN testing, you applied yourself with each test to achieve your best .
Rukaya	16	Rukaya consistently shows respect towards others and approaches every task with a dedicated and diligent attitude.
Jerome	17	By giving everything a go being ready to learn.
Harraz Rm 12		STEM: For sharing very interesting facts about Mars with the class and engaging in all our STEM discussions.







Stars of the Week



Term 1- Week 8

Satkirat	2	For striving to be his best in all learning areas and helping his peers.
Ozgun	3	For being resilient and never giving up.
Lara	5	By showing responsibility by reading her reader every night and changing her reader book everyday!
Julian	6	For independently typing his story about Magic Beach and saving his work.
Sahar	9	Having a great attitude to writing, constructing detailed and descriptive sentences, painting a picture in the reader's mind.
Philo	10	For striving to be his best when writing narratives. Well done on completing them in the allocated time.
Diana	11	For exhibiting a consistently responsible approach to all tasks set this term. She is always conscientious and strives to do her best.
Cassie	12	For demonstrating resilience during Naplan testing and striving to do her best.
Michael	15	For striving to be his best in all classroom tasks.
Abla	16	For striving to do her best during Naplan testing. You persisted and had a red hot go!
Christian	17	By trying his best with his learning.
Harley Rm 2		STEM: For showing great responsibility by helping in the STEM room and completing his work to a great standard!

EVERY DAY OF LEARNING COUNTS

Term 1 Week 7 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 Newsletter	This Weeks newsletter	Year 5/6	Last Newsletter	This Weeks Newsletter
Room 2	88%	90%	Room 9	92%	91%
Room 3	80%	86%	Room 10	94%	90%
Year 1/2	Last Week	This Week	Room 11	94%	91%
Room 5	80%	80%	Room 12	96%	92%
Room 6	77%	85%	Year 3/4	Last Week	This Week
			Room 15	80%	72%
			Room 16	87%	86%
			Room 17	89%	89%

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...

✓ they learn better ✓ they make friends ✓ they are happier ✓ they have a brighter future

If your child is sick, of course it is appropriate to keep your child at home <u>but</u>

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	Wor	rying	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 difficul to make progress.		



Cup of Life

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

Congratulations

The room that had the BEST ATTENDANCE For Term 1 Week 7 is Room 12

TWPS CUP OF LIFE UPDATE

Who will win the free bowling excursion at the end of the year??

Room 2	Term 1 Wk 4	Term 1 Wk 5				
Room 3						
Room 5						
Room 6						
Room 9						
Room 10						
Room 11						
Room 12	Term 1 Wk 6	Term 1 Wk 7	Term 1 Wk 8			
Room 15						
Room 16						
Room 17						



Top Dojo Earners



Congratulations to Room 2 with 201 Dojo Points

You are the class with the highest number of Dojo points this week!

	WEEK 7	WEEK 8	
	Charlotte & Aishe	Murad	
Prep/1	4 Dojo Points	19 Dojo Points	
	Julian	Wafa	
Grade 1/2	13 Dojo Points	11 Dojo Points	
	Mariam	Mustafa	
Grade 3/4	9 Dojo Points	19 Dojo Points	
	Dakota	Cassie	
Grade 5/6	13 Dojo Points	7 Dojo Points	
Most Dojo	Dakota	Murad & Mustafa	
points Prep - 6	13 Dojo Points	19 Dojo Points	
Classroom	D 6	D 2	
With the most	Room 6	Room 2 201 Dojo Points	
Dojo points	238 Dojo Points		



TEAM ASSEMBLY In your child's building	WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY Multipurpose Room/ Basketball court		
Term 1: Week 9 Thursday 9:15am Easter Hat Parade a	nd more! *Students dismissed at 1:15pm (no afternoon assembly)		
Term 2 Week 1 Friday 19th April 2:30pm	Term 2 Week 2 Friday 26th April 2:30pm		
Term 2 Week 3 Friday 3rd May 2:30pm	Term 2 Week 4 Friday 10th May 2:30pm		
Term 2 Week 5 Friday 17th May 2:30pm	Term 2 Week 6 Friday 24th May 2:30pm		
Term 2 Week 7 Friday 31st May 2:30pm	Term 2 Week 8 Friday 8th June 2:30pm		
Term 2 Week 9 Friday 15th June 2:30pm	Term 2 Week 10 Friday 22nd June 2:30pm		
Term 2 Week 11 Friday 28th June Time: TBC			



FRIENDLY REMINDER:

ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR THEIR HATS FROM MONDAY.

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 1st to end of April, and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above, students come to school wearing sunprotective 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 1st 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 ON-CAMPUS STORE

BELEZA TRADING HOURS



OPEN!

		TERM 1 2024		
JANUARY	Tues 23rd 10am - 3pm	Wed 24th 10am - 3pm	Thurs 25th 10am - 3pm	Tues 30th 10am - 3pm
FEBRUARY	Tues 6th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 13th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 20th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 27th 1pm - 4pm
MARCH	Tues 5th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 12th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 19th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 26th 1pm - 4pm
APRIL	Tues 16th 1pm - 4pm			
		TERM 2 2024		
APRIL	Tues 16th 1pm - 4pm			
MAY	Tues 7th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 21st 1pm - 4pm		
JUNE	Tues 4th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 18th 1pm - 4pm		
		TERM 3 2024		
JULY	Tues 16th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 30th 1pm - 4pm	8	
AUGUST	Tues 13th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 27th 1pm - 4pm		
SEPTEMBER	Tues 10th 1pm - 4pm			
		TERM 4 2024		
OCTOBER	Tues 8th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 15th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 22nd 1pm - 4pm	Tues 29th 1pm - 4pm
NOVEMBER	Tues 12th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 19th 1pm - 4pm	Tues 26th 1pm - 4pm	
DECEMBER	Tues 3rd 1pm - 4pm	Tues 10th 10.00am - 4.30pm	Tues 17th 1pm - 4pm	

TWCH 2024





MONDAY

RECESS

FUN MATHS CLUB

LUNCH

YOUNG INFLUENCERS

AFTER SCHOOL

FUN LEARNING CLUB

TUESDAY

RECESS

FUN READING CLUB

LUNCH

STEAMING

AFTER SCHOOL

GARDENING CLUB

THURSDAY

- LUNCH
- CHESS
- CLUB

FRIDAY

- LUNCH
- KOORIE
 - KIDS
- CLUB

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,

Hayley:

0402 623 038

Hthomas@whittleseacc.org.au





Children & Young People Public Position Statement

Whittlesea Community Connections prioritises children's safety and wellbeing with zero tolerance for child abuse. Our mandatory child safe training across the organisation ensures everyone is committed to this mission. We actively listen to and empower children and young people's voices, enabling them to thrive.