

# Thomastown West Primary School NEWSLETTER

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## IMPORTANT DATES:

Fri	27 July	Boys District Soccer Finals
Mon	30 July	SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING 6:30pm
Wed	1 Aug	Winter Wonderland Doughnut Day
Wed	8 Aug	Dental Visits

No. 18 29th June 2018

## From the Principal

Welcome back to a cold and very windy Term 3! Students have quickly settled back into their school routine and are excited about the learning that will happen this term!



### WINDY DAYS @ TWPS

On days where the weather is 'extreme' the Department of Education and Training (DET) notifies schools when it is necessary to keep students inside at playtimes. This

includes hot weather above 35 degrees, excessive rain and significant gusts of wind. If we do not receive advice from DET, Thomastown West like all schools, bases their decision on whether the children should play outside on-current weather conditions and information from the Department of Meteorology. Once the decision is made we continue to monitor the weather and if the conditions change, the decision is always updated.

Did you know that all schools are required to have their trees checked every year by a professional arborist? TWPS has already had their *tree audit* and our arborist has already removed the potentially dangerous branches earlier in the year.

### ARRIVE ON TIME, AT QUARTER TO NINE

**Success!** Thomastown West is now using Compass to advise parents and carers of unexplained absences on the same day.

At 9:15am each day, an SMS message via Compass contacts parents and carers in regards to their child's unexplained absences.

**If your child is not in their classroom at the start of the school day** **and** parents and carers **have not** contacted the school explaining the reason for the absence... You will receive a reminder message from Compass.

**If your child is absent**, please contact the school to explain the absence by:

1. Using the link provided on the Compass message you receive.

**OR**

2. Calling the school: 94654317



### SPECIAL GUEST @ TWPS

On Wednesday morning Andrew Giles, the federal member for Scullin, visited our school. We discussed the impact of TWPS only having a small Multi-Purpose Room and not having a school hall/gym! We also spoke about our school grounds, the rocks and the limited flat space children have to play.

Andrew Giles MP, had a strong connection with Thomastown a few years ago, in particular, the Thomastown Community Hub. We look forward to working with Andrew and would genuinely appreciate any support he can give us.



### PARENT OPINION SURVEY

#### WE WANT OUR PARENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents think of our school. The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

Approximately 30 per cent of parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. **Links to the survey will be emailed this afternoon.** All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year the Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August.**

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **10-15 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chinese (hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Greek, Turkish, Somali & Punjabi.

The survey results will be reported back to the school at the end of September. The survey results will be communicated to parents through the newsletter, School Council and the Annual Report.

Please speak to Mrs Young if you would like more information.

### SCHOOL CAR PARK

Arriving at school and picking up your child is a busy time at schools. You'll need extra caution at these times as children are often excited and may forget all the road rules. All schools have rules around what should happen in and around the school grounds so that their students can be as safe as possible at these busy times.



Just a friendly reminder that the school car park (shared by Thomastown Secondary and TWPS) is for **staff only**. Recently we have noticed students and families walking through the car park. We have also noticed that some cars have entered the car park extremely quickly and staff are arriving to find no available parking. **It is a dangerous situation** for any families that have toddlers or young children walking around as well. We encourage everyone to live by our school values and be supportive and respectful of each other. Thank you.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM

**Well done** to everyone who has returned after the holidays wearing the correct school uniform! Please do not allow your children to wear black pants. **Our school colours are red, navy blue and white.**

### THOMASTOWN COMMUNITY HUB

Have you noticed there's building works happening at the Thomastown Community Hub?

Great News! Through the Scullin Stronger Communities Programme, Whittlesea Community Connections (WCC) received grant money to re-develop the shed beside the Community Hub.

These funds will allow WCC to upgrade this community space by putting down a concrete floor, walls, install electricity and outdoor decking. The upgrade will provide additional space to deliver programs and activities for children and families at Thomastown West Primary School including art and



craft, holiday activities and bike repair and storage. The shed will continue to be available to school staff and students to use in addition to the hub.

### NAIDOC WEEK

WOW! What a fabulous NAIDOC week we have had at TWPS! NAIDOC Week celebrations are held around the country each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The week is celebrated not just with the Indigenous communities but also in increasing number of government agencies, community organisations, local councils, workplaces, other schools and sporting groups.

This week our students were very lucky to have the opportunity to listen to one of our school parents, Dianne Lovett as she retold stories from her past that acknowledged and celebrated her Aboriginal culture. Her voice, strength and unwavering passion thoroughly engaged and informed our students. For this reason Dianne was awarded the first ever Thomastown West 2018 Star of NAIDOC Week award.

Students also participated in a multi-age NAIDOC inspired Activity Day. The entire school was regrouped into small groups made up of children from Prep to Grade 6. Each group changed activities and teacher every hour. Students loved the opportunity to connect with each other while completing a variety of fun learning tasks such as, painting, dancing, creating and building. Enjoy the photos on the following pages.

Our Koorie students invited Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who have played – and continue to play - active and significant roles in their lives to a special afternoon tea before our special NAIDOC Assembly.

There were quite a few highlights from this special assembly:

- ✓ Our young visitors from Bubup Wilam who helped us with the Acknowledgment to Country at the beginning of the assembly. They did a superb job!
- ✓ Donna Wright explaining to the students the difference between Acknowledgment to Country and Welcome to Country.
- ✓ Our Koorie students leading the assembly and explaining why they invited their special guests. *Because of her– we can!* A very touching moment!
- ✓ Grade 1/2 students performed two Aboriginal lullabies.

I would like to thank the Bubup Wilam for Early Learning Aboriginal Child and Family Centre for joining us and helping us celebrate NAIDOC Week. Sustaining our school's connection with Bubup Wilam is very important to us.

Special thanks to Margot Sheean for effectively coordinating the week. As you can imagine there is a lot of time and effort that goes on behind the scenes to ensure our events run like clock work and are so successful. At the assembly, Jack from Room 20 summed it up perfectly: "Because of her... We did!"

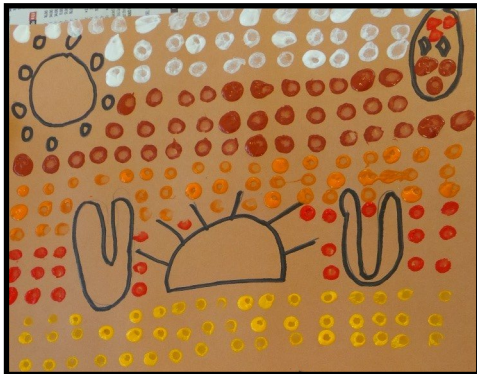
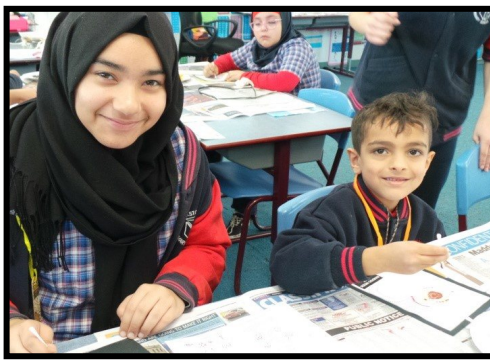
Later in the year we will hold a **Multicultural Day** and we will also be doing something special to acknowledge **R U OK? Day**.

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

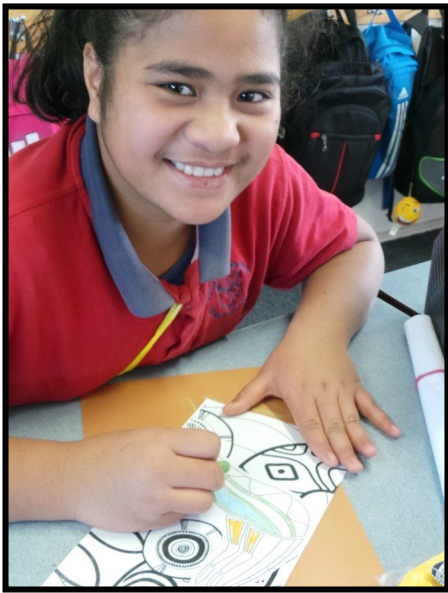
















# Stars of the Week



Room 1 **Ahmad**

Room 10 **Alex**

Room 2 **Aala**

Room 11 **Room 11**

Room 3 **Kabir**

Room 12 **Sireen**

Room 4 **Marcus**

Room 16 **Aiesha**

Room 5 **Mohamad**

Room 17 **Dante**

Room 6 **Husni**

Room 18 **Joella**

Room 8 **Kabir**

Room 19 **Mohammad**

Room 9 **Jonathan**

Room 20 **Jack & Aaren**



## Hi everyone!

I hope you all enjoyed the school holidays and are keeping warm in this very cold weather.

This week I'd like to talk about anger. Occasionally I see students being angry in the playground, for example if they are playing a game of soccer and lose the game.

It's important to understand that there's nothing wrong with feeling angry. What's important is that anger is dealt with in a healthy way. Knowing how to deal with it when you, or someone close to you, is angry can mean the difference between a bad mood and a huge argument.

Anger is a normal emotion experienced by everyone at different times. It's usually a reaction to feeling:

- ◆ Embarrassed
- ◆ Hurt
- ◆ Sad
- ◆ Jealous
- ◆ Stressed
- ◆ Frustrated.

### Know the warning signs

Managing anger means recognising the warning signs. If you're able to notice when you're starting to get angry, you'll be better prepared to stop yourself from getting really worked up or lashing out, or being around when someone else does.

- ◆ Some warning signs are:
- ◆ Pounding heart

- ◆ Gritting your teeth
- ◆ Your face feels hot
- ◆ Sweating
- ◆ Tight chest
- ◆ Shouting
- ◆ Arguing

If you feel any of these warning signs coming on, try using some of the following techniques to help you to calm down:

- ⇒ **Count to 100**
- ⇒ **Go for a walk**
- ⇒ **Talk to someone**
- ⇒ **Breathe !**

*Just ask Mr P to show you some great breathing techniques to relax!*

**Mike Palfrey**

**Student Well-Being Officer**

## CUP OF LIFE

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

### CONGRATULATIONS

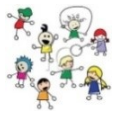
The room in Week 1Term 3 that had the BEST ATTENDANCE is....

**Room 12**



KidStock via Getty Images





# Hi Everyone!

Do you know that nine types of intelligence have been identified?

Sometimes as parents we focus on our children's numeracy and literacy abilities, while putting lesser emphasis on other areas of the curriculum.

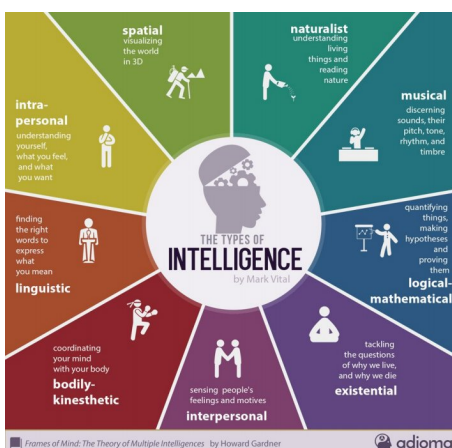
I have seen how stressed some students can become if they are finding maths or reading and writing difficult despite doing their best. But many of these students have special abilities in music or art/craft or sport activities or in people skills which need nurturing and encouragement.

My son had a natural ability for mathematics and science, especially physics, from an early age. My daughter was more insightful when it came to people, showing social awareness and empathy from an early age. Each year, during her primary school years, her teachers would tell us how well she relates to the special needs students in her class, showing empathy and respect.



So when it came to further studies we were not surprised when our son studied aerospace engineering and now works for BOEING, and our daughter studied disability and teaching, and is now a caring, empathetic teacher who shows special care all her students, especially those needing extra understanding.

**Howard Gardner**, a professor at Harvard University, likes to think about how people think. He's been studying how people think and learn for over fifty years. As a result of his research, Gardner believes that there are nine different types of intelligence, which he calls **multiple intelligences**.



**Naturalist** (nature smart eg. zoo keepers, gardeners, rangers, geologists)

**Musical** (sound smart) **Think Mr. Oscar Rosa**

**Logical-mathematical** (number/reasoning smart eg engineers, musicians designers)

**Existential** (life smart – spiritual leaders)

**Interpersonal** (people smart – eg social workers, pastoral care workers, teachers)

**Bodily-kinesthetic** (body smart – eg athletes, dancers) **Think Cyril Rioli, Hawthorn Champion – thanks for the memories!**

**Linguistic** (word smart- eg authors, interpreters)

**Intra-personal** (self smart- understanding of self – eg psychologists)

**Spatial** (picture smart – architects, artists, designers) **Think Ms Margot Sheean**

We usually have some intelligence in all these areas to varying degrees, but dominate in one or two. One may love nature, but also are insightful when it comes to people. One may love music, but enjoy solving mathematical problems. I have also found that many doctors are also skilled musicians!

So what special intelligences does your child have? Encourage them and allow them to shine as they discover their unique skills and interests.

Our world needs diverse people with diverse skills and intelligences.

Celebrate your unique child.



**Do not underestimate yourself by comparing yourself with others. It's our differences that make us unique and beautiful.**



**Robyn Mulholland (Student Well-being)**



Welcome to Term 3.

This Term will be packed with many active activities to warm little bodies and also warm and delicious snacks to fill hungry bellies.

Art and craft is a big aspect of our program and once again the children will have many opportunities to experiment with various drawing, construction, imaginary play, games, painting and much more...

We have vacancies available so don't hesitate to enrol and book online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au)

## Program Theme: Naidoc Celebrations

This week the children have been enjoying all the wonders of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. We extended their class learning of these wonderful cultures by experiencing such activities as dot painting, flag decorating, the baking of damper and some unique Aboriginal games.



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](http://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.*



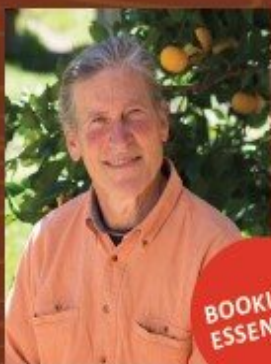
## Naidoc Week Photo Gallery





**STALL HOLDERS WELCOME 8376 6939**

**FREE**  
**TASTINGS**



**BOOKINGS  
ESSENTIAL**

## What if our suburbs were reimagined to be sustainable, productive and vibrant?

**whittlesea.vic.gov.au/events or 9217 2377**



**City of  
Whittlesea**



ThomastownNH

thomastownnh





# Harvest Home Primary School invites the Epping North Community to a Community Event with speaker Jason McCartney

Where: **Community Hub**

365 Harvest Home Road, Epping

When: **31<sup>st</sup> July 6:30pm – 7:30pm**

Doors will open at 6:00pm

JASON MCCARTNEY BECAME A NATIONAL HERO IN THE WAKE OF THE BALI BOMBINGS IN 2002 AND EPITOMISES THE AUSTRALIAN FIGHTING SPIRIT. HIS STORY IS ONE OF HUMANITY OVERCOMING ADVERSITY. JASON, A YOUNG AUSTRALIAN WITH AN EXCEPTIONAL TALENT TO PLAY AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL, WAS THRUST INTO THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF ALL AUSTRALIANS THROUGH HIS COURAGEOUS FIGHT-BACK FROM HORRIBLE BURNS HE SUFFERED IN BALI.

FEW WILL FORGET HIS TRIUMPHANT RETURN TO AFL FOOTBALL ON THE EVENING OF JUNE 6, 2003. HE HELPED IN SCORING THE WINNING GOAL, BUT HIS ULTIMATE GLORY WAS A VICTORY OVER TERRORISM AND A "WIN" FOR ALL THOSE WHO SURVIVED BALI. JASON WAS AWARDED AN OAM IN OCTOBER 2003.

JASON STARTED HIS CAREER WHEN THE COLLINGWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB DRAFTED HIM AT PICK NUMBER 4 IN THE 1990 NATIONAL DRAFT. FOLLOWING 4 SEASONS WITH THE PIES, JASON CROSSED OVER TO THE ADELAIDE CROWS WHERE HE SPENT ANOTHER 3 SEASONS. IN 1998, JASON RETURNED TO VICTORIA, PLAYING THE NEXT 6 SEASONS FOR HIS BELOVED KANGAROOS. IN 2002 HE WAS INDUCTED INTO THE AFL 200 GAMES CLUB.

JASON IS A REMARKABLE GUEST SPEAKER WITH AN AMAZING ABILITY TO INSPIRE AUDIENCES WITH ACCOUNTS OF HOW HE OVERCAME ADVERSITY THROUGH AMAZING SUPPORT FROM FAMILY, FRIENDS AND TEAMMATES. JASON IS ALSO INVOLVED WITH MANY CHARITIES, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR ROLES FOR THE PETER HUGHES BURN FOUNDATION AND THE K.I.D.S FOUNDATION.

JASON HAS REMAINED ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE AFL SINCE HIS RETIREMENT AS A COACH AND ADMINISTRATOR. IN 2016 AFTER 5 YEARS IN THE ROLE AS LIST MANAGER AT THE WESTERN BULLDOGS FOOTBALL CLUB, JASON PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE WHICH SAW THE CLUB WIN ITS SECOND EVER AFL PREMIERSHIP AND ITS FIRST FOR 62 YEARS.

JASON IS CURRENTLY THE LIST MANAGER AT THE GWS GIANTS FOOTBALL CLUB.

Tickets can be reserved at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/harvest-home-primary-school-community-event-with-speaker-jason-mccartney-tickets-47536538065>

Tickets MUST be printed out and presented upon arrival.

**This is strictly an ADULTS only event**



WHITTLESEA



OUR FUTURE

Submit your entries by  
14 August 2018!



# Time Capsule

**Be part of history!**

We're creating a time capsule to capture your messages and vision for the future that will be opened in 2040. We're seeking your submissions that will be placed in a unique box, along with a collection of special items to be opened in 2040.

What do you love about your local area? What are your hopes for the future? We would love your submissions to explore these questions in a creative way.

## Submissions could be:

Letters  
Poems  
Drawings  
Paintings  
Illustrations  
Artistic pieces

Everyone who submits an item for the time capsule will be invited to our Launch Event in October 2018.

**Get in touch with the Whittlesea 2040 team to learn more about how your group, club or school can be part of the Whittlesea 2040 Time Capsule:**

- Email [W2040@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:W2040@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)
- Phone 9217 2587



**City of  
Whittlesea**

To learn more about Whittlesea 2040  
visit [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/whittlesea2040](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au/whittlesea2040)