

## Enrolments

1. Our current enrolment is 400 students. This includes 50 Foundation students and 15 new students that commenced with us in years 1-6.

## Strategic Goals and Priorities

Goal 1 – Improving student learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy with a particular focus on high quality instructional practice	
<b>Key Improvement Strategy (KIS)</b>	<i>Increase the rigour of the school's instructional model by focusing on high impact teaching strategies to further embed high quality teaching experiences for all learners.</i>
<b>Actions to support KIS in Jan/Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sample of students in Yr. 1-6 completed a survey on their beliefs and attitudes about challenging tasks (rigor). This will be used as evidence to measure growth throughout the year through comparing results. Jeanette will briefly discuss initial findings on student perceptions.</li> <li>• All staff participated in an afterschool workshop on exploring the concept of "rigor" by measuring teachers' beliefs and knowledge on what rigor means.</li> <li>• Professional reading on cooperative learning</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence</b>	✓ Student and staff survey data results (will form part of methodology for action research).
<b>Key Improvement Strategy (KIS)</b>	<i>Continue to embed the school's guaranteed and viable writing curriculum through the further development of a writing assessment rubric.</i>
<b>Actions to support KIS in Jan/Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff participated in a writing workshop during the pupil-free day to consolidate common understandings of the writing process and common understandings for a writing lesson.</li> <li>• FISO Assessment vertical team reviewed and revised the start-up writing document that was published last year.</li> <li>• Jeanette Breen has modelled writing lessons, whilst Celene Black has modelled spelling lessons to all new teachers as part of their induction.</li> <li>• School's assessment schedule has been modified to ensure regular moderation using drafted writing continuum document for teachers.</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 20 days of writing THPS document</li> <li>✓ Writing assessment continuum document</li> <li>✓ Whole school assessment schedule</li> </ul>
<b>Key Improvement Strategy (KIS)</b>	<i>Establish a mathematics guaranteed and viable curriculum.</i>
<b>Actions to support KIS in Jan/Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff participated in a professional learning workshop with Dr Ryan Dunn to explore the concepts of teacher and student conversations, as a prelude to mathematical reasoning.</li> <li>• Classroom teachers are now exploring some strategies of developing effective classroom conversations, including establishing protocols and sentence strings.</li> <li>• Students in year F-5 completed survey (end of 2018) to measure their attitudes and beliefs around mathematics teaching and learning.</li> <li>• Classroom teachers completed a mathematics teaching efficacy instrument</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence</b>	✓ Results from student survey and teacher efficacy instrument (will form part of methodology for action research).
Goal 2 – To ensure all students are motivated, engaged, resilient and willing to contribute to the wellbeing of themselves and others.	
<b>Key Improvement Strategy (KIS)</b>	Continue to develop a student wellbeing curriculum, in particular the further embedding of character strengths that continues to develop teacher capacity in this area and is linked to the research within the field of positive psychology.

<b>Actions to support KIS in Jan/Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celene Black and Julia Laidlaw have developed a professional learning outline to upskill staff in character strengths, with a focus now on supporting students to grow their character strengths and recognise their shadow strengths.</li> <li>• Restablished FISO Network partnership with Forest Hill College, with a focus on measuring the impact on positive climate for learning with the introduction of wellness and wellbeing strategies.</li> <li>• Continuation of a student wellbeing vertical team, with an outlined action plan for 2019 developed.</li> <li>• Staff participated in a workshop during the pupil-free day where the focus was on gaining an understanding of the 2019 direction for student wellness and wellbeing.</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ THPS Character Strengths resource folder</li> <li>✓ High Flyer awards</li> <li>✓ THPS 2019 Wellbeing action plan document</li> </ul>
<b>Key Improvement Strategy (KIS)</b>	Promote student voice and agency that ensures students at THPS are aware of the opportunities.
<b>Actions to support KIS in Jan/Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ NA</li> </ul>

### Staffing

1. Due to Jayne Setford accepting a teaching position closer to home over the summer break, we have appointed Maria Buttifant as our new Performing Arts teacher. Maria is a very experienced teacher, having taught for over 20 years in both primary and secondary government, independent and catholic schools. She has been placed as a short term vacancy and we will advertise the 12 month position in the coming weeks.
2. Our other staff; Julia Rossi (1/2), Marie Petzierides, Alex Bruinewoud (3/4), Sylvia Petrovska and returning (from family leave) Angela Makris (1/2B and 3/4B one day a fortnight) have all settled in to their new schools and roles. They have been well supported by their leaders, as well as an induction program lead by Celene Black and Jeanette Breen in familiarising themselves with the school's curriculum and pedagogy.

### Professional Learning

1. All members of the School Improvement Team (SIT) have been supported in their leadership development with the introduction of professional coaching sessions with Jade Rawlings (Melbourne AFL Assistant coach). So far the impact has been positive, in particular with our SIT members having a greater understanding of themselves as leaders.
2. On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February myself, Andrew Veal, David Barnes and Jeanette Breen participated in the validation day of our 2-day school review. Other panel members; Barry Soraghan (reviewer), Mark Flack (DET Senior Education Improvement Leader), Saraid Doherty (Principal, Yarra Primary) and Craig Crouch (Principal, Warrandyte Primary) were also part of the review panel. The day was positive and a testament to all staff, students, parents/guardians and council for providing the right evidence to ensure we are registered as a school (via the VRQA) and that there was no anomalies with our espoused beliefs about where we are on our journey as a school. As part of our VRQA compliance, we need to provide an updated *Camps & Excursions policy* (ours is from 2010), *critical incident plan* (derived already from our Emergency management Plan) and a statement on our assessment schedule the mentions the process we use to review student data/outcomes.

### Community Life

1. In his first year as a teacher at THPS, Sam Wang authored a piece for the Mathematical Association of Victoria. His published piece can be found attached to the documents of the Council email.

2. Our Foundation students have commenced school on the 6<sup>th</sup> February with many families loitering around the coffee cart during the *Tissues & Tears* event. The parent information evening was well attended, apparently the singing was a success.
3. The Year 1-6 parent/guardian information evening will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in the multi-purpose room.
4. A big thank you to all the families that placed themselves on the chicken and garden roster over the summer break. The chooks are still alive (phew!) and the garden is looking terrific. Thank you also to Jeanette Breen and Laura David for organising a mini-working bee for the garden.
5. School tours have commenced.
6. The Welcome picnic is only a week away as I write. A great opportunity for families and staff to enjoy a relaxed evening.
7. On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Oula, Fiona, Cecile and Sarah hosted their first *Parents & Friends* meeting with class reps. The meeting was a big success, with a great turnout. The '*Fab Four*' as they have named themselves, outlined class rep roles and gained support for term 1 events.
8. Thank you to Kate Stacker and all staff for another hot swimming carnival. The students all dried off on their walk back to school and for the first time in the event's history the teachers were beaten in the relay!
9. All year 6 captains and JSC/Enviro badges were presented at assembly on Friday, with superstar Michelle Timms there to congratulate the students.

## Resources

A lot of exciting things to communicate that will be discussed in Andrew's report.