Principal's Report 21st August 2019

Enrolments



- 1. Our current enrolment is 410 students.
- 2. 71 Foundation students have enrolled for 2020.
- 3. 69 Year 6 students graduate at the end of 2019.

Strategic Goals and Priorities

Goal 1 – Improving student learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy with a particular focus on high quality instructional practice

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Key	Increase the rigour of the school's instructional model by focusing on high impact teaching
Improvement	strategies to further embed high quality teaching experiences for all learners.
Strategy (KIS)	
Actions to	 Jeanette Breen continued to coach the 5/6 team in developing further understandings
support KIS in	of reading and writing instruction. She is now coaching the Foundation team in an
Jun/Jul/Aug	inquiry cycle of deepening understandings of writing instruction.
, , ,	All staff have participated in the school's peer observation program in week 4. In week
	6 staff will participate in a workshop with the focus of reflecting on the evidence
	collected to evaluate how their team-instructional goals are tracking.
Evidence	✓ Staff performance and development goals
LVIGCIICC	✓ Rigour staff document
	✓ SOLO Taxonomy teacher resource document
	✓ Proficiency scales (reading and writing)
	✓ Collegiate visit purpose and schedule document
	✓ Collegiate visit notes from staff
Key	Continue to embed the school's quaranteed and viable writing curriculum through the further
Improvement	development of a writing assessment rubric.
Strategy (KIS)	development of a writing assessment rubite.
Actions to	All year level teams continue to participate in two half day workshops with
support KIS in	instructional literacy coaches Chris Egan or Mary McQuilten to further develop the
Jun/Jul/Aug	school's writing GVC.
Juli, Juli, Aug	Staff continue to participate in weekly writing moderation sessions at the
	commencement of their administration meetings.
	SIT participated in a workshop day to plan the school's strategic focus for 2020 and
	2021. The goal is building the next stage of a high reliability school with the proposal
	of self-reporting grades.
Evidence	✓ 20 days of writing THPS document
LVIGETICE	✓ Writing assessment continuum document
	✓ Whole school assessment schedule
	✓ Vertical team minutes
	✓ SIT day out plan/schedule
Goal 2 - To o	nsure all students are motivated, engaged, resilient and willing to contribute to the
	themselves and others.
Key	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
Improvement	research within the field of positive psychology.
Strategy (KIS) Actions to	
	Julia Laidlaw and Celene Black are now running fortnightly Autism Awareness Group initiative. The sessions have been well received and are open to anyone wanting to
support KIS in	initiative. The sessions have been well received and are open to anyone wanting to
May/June	come along and share resources and talk.
	The Wellbeing Team continue to publish a fortnightly Wellbeing newsletter. This
	informs the community of what the students are learning about in classes and also
	supporting resources for families. Another positive initiative.
	Wellbeing vertical team hosted two one-hour information sessions with a focus on
	building knowledge of what wellbeing and mental health is and what the vision for
	wellbeing is at THPS. The sessions had 60 attendees.

Evidence	√ THPS Character Strengths resource folder
	√ High Flyer awards
	✓ Wellbeing newsletter
	✓ THPS 2019 Wellbeing action plan document and Workbook documents
	✓ Lunch time activity schedule
	✓ Assemblies
	✓ THPS staff Character Strengths display (near office)
	✓ Wellbeing workbook
	✓ Wellbeing newsletter
Key	Promote student voice and agency that ensures students at THPS are aware of the
Improvement	opportunities.
Strategy (KIS)	
Actions to	• 2019 Attitudes to School results have been released. Rhys to share at August Council
support KIS in	meeting.
Jun/Jul/Aug	Year 6 students were surveyed for the Manningham Network inquiry into year 6/7
	transition.
Evidence	✓ Student Learning Goals
	✓ Assemblies
	√ 2019 Attitudes to School survey results
	✓ Student focus group reflection strips
	√ House chants
	✓ FISO vertical team minutes

Staffing

- 1. Jacqui Nicolazzo got engaged (when she arrived home after the school disco!) to partner James. Very exciting news for Jacqui and James.
- 2. Welcome to David Davies who is our visiting artist. David will be undertaking art lessons with all students over the four weeks and creating a sculpture from a 1.1 tonne kg stone that will sit on top of the concrete base next to the staff car park as a celebration for the art show.
- 3. Clare Harding covered Tania Martini for the first two weeks of term 3 while she was on long service leave.
- 4. Liz James returned to 3/4J in week 2 of term 3 after having 10 weeks leave to recover from a medical procedure.

Professional Learning

- 1. The School Improvement Team held an offsite professional learning day at DET regional offices to strategically plan the next stage of the school's curriculum road map for 2020-21.
- 2. Linda Spencer and Julia Laidlaw attended a one-day workshop on dyslexia. They have shared their learning with year level teams.
- 3. Anna has attended a PD session on administrative functions with Compass.
- 4. Margaret attended a Business Manager's Network meeting with a PD focus on DET's procurement policy.
- 5. I attended the Manningham/Monash Network meeting where the focus was on the Principal Health Strategy and Year 6/7 Transition.
- 6. Andrew Veal and Celene Black visiting Bacchus Marsh Primary to view their new adopted positive education curriculum.
- 7. Eva McMaster (Principal of Doncaster SC and acting DETV Senior Education Improvement Leader) visited our school to conduct a learning walk and evaluate the school's mid-cycle AIP).
- 8. I was fortunate enough to be part of the Principal selection panel for Solway Primary. A rich PD opportunity that also helped me gain an understanding and an appreciation of the thorough, exhausting process of selecting a Principal!

Community Life

- 1. Our biannual School Ball on the second last night of term 2 was another special event. It was so pleasing to see all the students enjoy the night, watched on by their parents and guardians. While the Collingwood Town Hall venue may have been restricted due to our growing numbers (it had a larger capacity than the Ivanhoe Centre) it was still a great night. There were plenty of late arrivals on Friday morning.
- 2. Art show preparations have ramped up at the start of the term, with Joy Birrell, Ross Toogood, Julia Rossi, Margaret, Louise Wood and Sylvia Petrovska on track with the able support from Cecile and the *Parents & Friends*.
- 3. Parents and guardians had the opportunity to meet with their child's teachers for the second parent-teacher discussions during the first week of term 3.
- 4. As part of the school's emergency management plan, we had a lock down practice drill on the last day of term 2.
- 5. Another successful semester for our 24 basketball teams.
- 6. We had a visit from 20 x 4-year olds from Templestowe World of Learning pre-school for a transition experience during the first Thursday of term 3.
- 7. Students in year 4-6 participated in another round of the Maths Olympiad and Maths Games.
- 8. Story Time had record numbers attend in term 2 and has commenced for term 3 with our three Prep teachers (Cassie, Jacqui and Ashleigh) sharing the weekly sessions.
- 9. 100 Days of School celebrations took place in week 3 with our Foundation student and teachers taking part in a day recognising their first 100 days.
- 10. Our Parents & Friends committee did another outstanding job of organising and running the Christmas in July Trivia event. Money raised will contribute towards the shade sails construction.
- 11. Parents attended a fun information night in week 3 to discuss what our fourteen year 6 students will be competing during the Tournament of the Minds. A big thank you to Silvia Petrovska (5/6 teacher) for leading this initiative for the two year 5/6 teams who will be competing in the Tournament of the Minds in late August.
- 12. Our two 3D print-a-car teams took part in the competition on Monday. The students engineered and designed cars to race along a 20metre track against other cars with the aim of being the fastest. One of our groups have made it through to the state finals.
- 13. Our two Lego Robotics teams represented our school for the first time ever in such an event. They now go onto the State finals on 30th August.
- 14. All classes participated in the election process to elect second semester JSC and Enviro representatives. Adam Gibson (national basketballer, Olympian, NBL player at South East Melbourne Phoenix) presented new JSC/Enviro leaders with badges at assembly on 9th August.
- 15. Year 6 students *Or, Kai, Lachie, Georgia, Alannah* and *Ella* were selected by the Boroondara Art network to display their stitch work at the Hawthorn Town Hall exhibition over the term 2 break.
- 16. Dr Sarah Pell was a very special guest speaker in the first week of term 3 who is an astronaut in training, being selected as an artist-astronaut candidate who will potentially be part of a mission to Mars or the Moon. This special opportunity was possible due to David Barnes and helps to change our student's perceptions of what a scientist looks like.
- 17. Our school football and netball teams made it through to the metropolitan regional championships. An amazing achievement, something the football team have not been able to achieve in over 20 years. Looks like we may need to invest in another trophy cabinet.
- 18. The steering committee for the school's 50 years celebrations had their first meeting to discuss proposals and plan some early next steps. It's going to be big!
- 19. The Wellbeing committee, in combination with the staff wellbeing vertical team planned and hosted two parent/guardian information sessions on wellbeing and mental health. The sessions had a combined 60 attendees, such an amazing turnout and strong commitment from our parents to the wellbeing of their children and themselves. Feedback will steer the next steps for future sessions. Feedback will be shared at August meeting.
- 20. Laura David continues to work with the Enviro leaders in the community garden. We had a large harvest two weeks ago.
- 21. Construction is going ahead through the Community Engagement vertical team to plan a sensory/environmental garden at the continuation of the community garden. The purpose of this new

- garden is to allow students to play/explore in a new space during playtimes and brain-break strategy for students.
- 22. Science Day was a huge success on Friday. The students came dressed as a scientist and participated in fun science activities. Interestingly, Louise Wood undertook some research around perceptions children hold about what a scientist looks like. All children were asked to draw a scientist and not surprisingly the stereotypical lab coat, fuzzy hair, glasses, male, solo with test tubes was the standard response. We have had four scientist guest speakers over the past month talk with the children about their roles are in an effort to break down stereotypes. It will be interesting to see what the students draw when we ask them to repeat the exercise towards the end of the year. We have also had two further visits from scientists to talk with students about their fun and exciting careers.
- 23. The JSC have organised a cupcake day to raise money for abused pets at the RSPCA.

Resources

To be discussed in Andrew Veal's report.