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13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

9850 1796

News from Templestowe Heights Primary School

Newsletter Term 3 Week 5

## Templestowe Heights Primary School Values

Persistence

Respect Courage "inspiring learners for life"

Responsibility

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

## Settling into a rhythm

With our fourth week into our second stretch of online/remote learning, I hope by now that families have settled into a rhythm that best suits their household. What we do know is that our online/remote learning will be for the remainder of term 3, so it is important that the expectations parents and carers set at home can be maintained.



*It's ok to have a bad day:* I know how challenging the demands of stage 4 restrictions are, coupled with the task of supporting our children with their learning tasks. Throughout this period, we are all

going to have good days, some not so good days and realistically, even some bad days. I've often reflected that under this current situation about how grateful I am of being able to spend time with my own children that with "normal" circumstances I wouldn't be able to do. However, being around each other's' company 24 hours a day (with one hour for daily exercise, often also with the family) this can naturally cause stress and heightened emotions.

Andrew Fuller (renown clinical psychologist) has written a short piece about this very notion that we may have a bad day. He talks about accepting that you are having a bad day and not to try and make things better. He details some excellent strategies for us all to use (such as talking to your pet, listening to music or *take a check-up from your neck up*) but to always remember tomorrow is a new day. To read this short piece, you can find it on our online/remote learning portal, at the bottom of our home page under the Wellbeing section:

## https://sites.google.com/education.vic.gov.au/thpsonlineremotelearning/home

## **Annual General Meeting**

Next Wednesday at 6:30pm (19<sup>th</sup> August), we will be hosting our Annual General Meeting (AGM) via webex. The purpose of our AGM is to reflect on 2019 with the publishing of our Annual Report to the Community document. We will outline our achievements as compared to our 2019 Strategic Plan and provide information about how School Council operates. Those interested are also able to stay on for our August Council meeting as visitors.

If you would like to attend our AGM then simply:

- Log onto Webex 571 909 455 at 6:30pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August

## North East Victoria Region Forum

As mentioned previously, Templestowe Heights Primary was recognised by the Department of Education as implementing a highly successful online/remote learning program. Yesterday we had the honour of presenting to the North East Victorian Region Forum, a professional learning seminar attended by staff from over 300 schools. During presentation we shared the features of our online/remote learning our platform (https://sites.google.com/education.vic.gov.au/thpsonlineremotelearning/home), which is our one stop shop for parents, carers, students and staff to connect and access resources and information. We also detailed what we adapted based on the feedback we received from the surveys we sent out to our community (parents/carers, students and staff). The main question we received following the presentation was around how do we as schools continue to promote engagement and connections during these challenging times. As an example we heard from another school that only scheduled two video conference sessions per week for students, everything else was offline learning. As a

staff we are extremely proud of the approach and the continual modifications we have made in designing our online/remote learning model with the aim of trying to best support our students (and parents/carers). Once again can I say how grateful I am to be part of a school community that is so supportive and willing to give things a go.

#### Seeing the world through a window

Have you ever wanted to wake up and be in another, distant city somewhere else in the world, only to look out the window? For some downtime and fun, the link below shares the window of someone else's house, somewhere else in the world. I have just been looking out the window in Rome, Honolulu and Lisbon. It is a fascinating insight into what other far-away places look like....and quite addictive.

https://www.window-swap.com/window

## **Rhys Coulson**

## Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020	
Term 3	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Term 3 Ends
TERM DATES 2020	
Term 4	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December

## FROM THE OFFICE

#### 2021 Foundation Enrolments

We are currently taking enrolments for 2021. If you know of any families who have children to enrol for 2021 or you have younger siblings that you have not yet enrolled please obtain an enrolment form by contacting the office on 9850 1796 or email <u>templestowe.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au</u>.



## Term 3 P&F email to the community

This week we sent out our regular email to families, via our Class Reps, with information and updates on term events. Please check your inbox.

## **Parent Social Night - TBA**

We are currently looking into some form of online virtual social event for parents to participate in later in the term. We will keep you posted.

## Keeping our kids connected

It is important for our children to stay connected with their friends and classmates during this time at home. Organise a 'virtual playdate' for your child with a friend, a group of friends, their basketball team or a new classmate. Maintaining social connections is difficult for children to do without parental assistance, and it is important for their socialisation and mental health to remain connected with their peers. There are many ways to connect online - via Whatsapp or Facetime chat, or set up a 'meeting' on Zoom, Kahoot! or Houseparty. Some apps, like Houseparty, have games you can play within the chat to keep the kids engaged with each other if they find it hard to have a conversation of any length. They could parallel play on Facetime - showing each other their Lego creations or favourite toys/pets. Don't forget your Class Buzz List is a great place to find contact numbers and email addresses for classmates.

## **THPS Parents & Friends Community Facebook page**

Our Facebook page is undergoing a facelift - with a new name and clear guidelines. The purpose of the page is to keep our community connected with events and activities run by the school or by Parents & Friends, to

supplement the information on Compass and in the school newsletter. It is a closed page for members only; a question must be answered correctly to join.

Join the THPS closed facebook group by searching for THPS Parents & Friends Community and answering the question

https://www.facebook.com/groups/758762184247385 P&F Team - Cecile, Fiona, Oula & Sarah thpspaf@gmail.com



bit.ly/bdmp-deliveries

Bakers Delight Macedon Plaza is now offering deliveries every day to our local area (see map below or online).

Orders can be made online or over the phone.

A special discount of 10% is also being offered to

parents/friends/teachers of Templestowe Heights Primary School! Enter the Coupon code: THPS10% and select Templestowe Heights PS as your school to get your discount online or mention the code and school for over the phone orders.

For all the details and to place your order visit: https://bit.ly/bdmpdeliveries or call 9850 4822.

Macedon Plaza 325 Manningham Rd Lower Templestowe 03 9850 4822



LAVRIN & LAWRENCE ORTHODONTICS

**IN-OFFICE** 

**OR ONLINE** 

# 👑 entertainment.





ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIPS HAVE NOW EXPIRED, AND THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO RENEW AND SUPPORT TEMPLESTOWE HEIGHTS PRIMARY!

PLUS 20% OF EVERY SALE GOES TO OUR SCHOOL....



We know this year has been a challenge for many so far, but we are excited to see our school is finally returning to normal. With businesses ramping back up and social restrictions easing, we are ready to get back to the important task of fundraising for our school. We would very much appreciate your support of the Entertainment fundraising initiative below -

## Templestowe Heights Primary School are selling Entertainment Digital Memberships as part of this years' fundraising initiative and we would love your support.

Entertainment Digital Memberships are a convenient, easy to use yearly memberships packed full of valuable 2 for 1 and up to 50% off offers for you to use over the next 12 months! Enjoy offers from local favorites such as **Templestowe Living Room, The Mexican Kitchen, and Salted Caramel Cafe** as well as saving on everyday items with offers from **Woolworths, JB HIFI, and Rebel Sport** and so many more!

By purchasing your memberships from us, you are not only helping our fundraising, but you are also supporting local businesses at the same time.

To order securely online please go to: https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/186857h