



Our News

News from Templestowe Heights Primary School

Newsletter Term 1 Week 4

18th February 2021

Templestowe Heights Primary School Values

Persistence

Respect

Courage

Responsibility

"inspiring learners for life"

Parent Teacher Discussions from Monday 22nd February

Booking Now Open(via [Compass conferences](#))

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome Back

Friday's snap 5-day lockdown was a stark reminder of how quickly things can change and how important it is to be ready in the event that a lockdown continues for a longer period of time. I was proud of how responsive and supportive all THPS staff were as we planned for what the three school days would look like. It was so good to see the students again this morning, who I think have now realised that after the novelty of being at home throughout previous lockdowns, being at school is much more appealing.

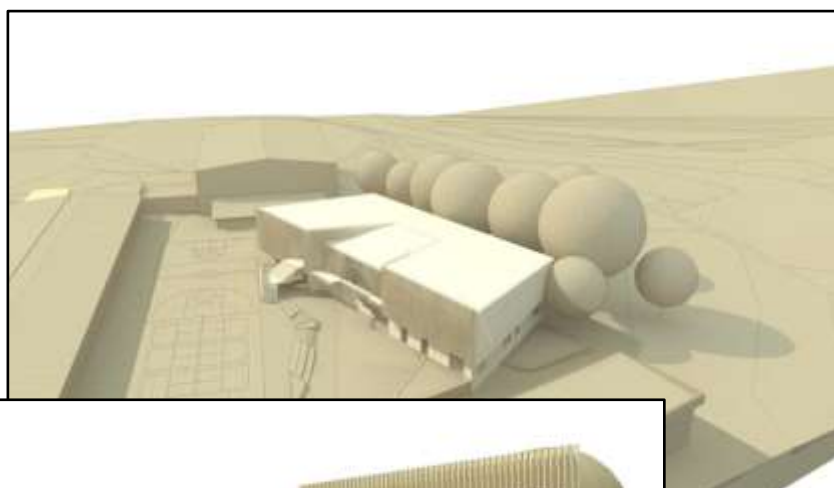


Student Voice Elections

Congratulations again to all students who demonstrated our school values of courage and responsibility when they stood before their peers to deliver a speech as to why they should be elected Junior School Councillor or Environmental Leader. At next week's whole-school assembly, students who have been elected to these positions, as well as year 6 leaders will be presented with their badges. We are able to permit two adults per child to attend this assembly. Families will receive correspondence as to how they can register to attend.

Capital Works Update

Everything is on track as we continue to plan the concept-design for our new capital works project. The centre piece of this project is the construction of a double-story, senior school and state of the art STEAM (*Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics*) centre. The site for this has been earmarked for the back of the school, please see the 3D plans below. The design phase will be finalised by the end of the year, with construction commencing in December 2021 and to be completed by the start of 2023. Enlarging the administration space and redeveloping the staffroom and toilet blocks are also part of the staged building works.



Connect-Up House Assemblies

As part of our revamped school assembly schedule, tomorrow (Friday) we will be facilitating our first Connect-Up House assembly. The purpose of these assemblies form part of the school's wellbeing strategy, providing students with opportunities to make positive relationships with other students and staff, but more importantly strengthen connections amongst our learning community. These sessions are being run by our year 6 Leaders and supported by teachers. Driving this initiative has been the Wellbeing Team, led by Celene Black & Julia Laidlaw. We are really looking forward to seeing the students have fun whilst making social connections.

School Council Nominations

Ever considered wanting to become a school councillor? Or curious to know more about what the role entails? Attached to this newsletter is information about what functions School Council has, in particular ensuring we continue to improve as a learning community. In this newsletter is information about nominating to represent Templestowe Heights Primary as a School Councillor, and further information about the functions of School Council and timelines about the election process. Nominations close Thursday 25th February.

Rhys Coulson

Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

Term 1

Mon 22 nd to Fri 26 th February	Parent/Teacher Discussions
Wednesday 24 th February	School Photos
Thursday 25 th February	School Council Nominations Close Interschool Sports 9am to 11am
Friday 26 th February	Parents & Friends Meeting (Multipurpose room) 9.15am (& Webex) Badge Presentation Assembly for School Leaders 2.30pm
Monday 1 st March	Foundation Responsible Pet Education Program Incursion
Thursday 4 th March	Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports 9am to 11am
Monday 8 th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Thursday 11 th March	Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports 9am to 11am
Wednesday 17 th March	School Council Meeting 7.30pm
Thursday 18 th March	Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports 9am to 11am
Friday 19 th March	Foundation Students Starting School Certificate Assembly
Thursday 25 th March	Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports 9am to 11am
Friday 26 th March	Cultural Identity Day
Thursday 1 April	End of Term 1 –Hat Parade

TERM DATES 2021

Term 1	Friday 29 th January (Students Start) to Thursday 1 st April
Term 2	Monday 19 th April to Friday 25 th June
Term 3	Monday 12 th July to Friday 17 th September
Term 4	Monday 4 th October to Friday 17 th December

Pupil Free Days

Monday 24th May

Monday 1st November

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

18th February 2021



Templestowe Heights
Primary School

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Templestowe Heights Primary School Council is an elected body comprising 13 members: 7 parents, 4 DET employee members, 2 possible co-opted members and the Principal as Executive Officer. The term of office is 2 years. Each year, half of the Council comes due for election.

The School Council is a legally formed body that is given the power to set the key policies and directions of the school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing so, the School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for our students.

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

If you decide you would like to nominate for school council, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Nomination forms are available at the office. You can either pick one up or call the office and we will send one home.

School Council meets at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month. It operates sub committees in Finance, Community Engagement, Policies & Grants and Buildings & Grounds.

I hereby call for nominations for the Templestowe Heights Primary School Council.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each category open for election are as follows:

Parent Members

No. of positions: 3

Term of Office: 2 years

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and must be lodged by 4.00pm on Thursday 26th February.

If nominations exceed vacancies, an election will be held. The timeline is as follows:

February 18th Call for Nominations

February 25th Nominations Close 4pm

March 4th Ballot Distributed

March 11th Poll Closes at 4pm

March 12th Declaration of the Poll

The first meeting for the new School Council will be Wednesday 17th March, 2021.

Rhys Coulson

Principal

School Council Election Process Timetable <u>School council election process timetable 2021</u>	
Name of the School:	<u>Templestowe Heights Primary School</u>
EVENT	DATE
a) Notice of election and call for nominations	Thursday 18 th February 2021
b) Closing date for nominations	Thursday 25 th February 2021
c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Monday 1 st March 2021
d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	Thursday 4 th March 2021
e) Close of ballot	Thursday 11 th March 2021
f) Vote count	Friday 12 th March 2021
g) Declaration of ballot	Friday 12 th March 2021
h) Special council meeting to coopt Community members (the principal will preside)	Wednesday 17 th March 2021 at 7:30pm
i) First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Wednesday 17 th March 2021 at 7:30pm

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected school employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

A mandated elected student member category, with two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councilors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school

and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election.

You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

REMEMBER

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the Principal for further information.

FROM THE OFFICE

School Fees and Payments

Just a reminder that 2021 essential items school fees are due on 26th February. For those families paying their fees via Bpay please remember to send a copy of the form into the office for our records.

- Compass Walking, PG and Contact list events notifications due
- School Fee – Due Friday 26th February

School Photos

School photos will be taken on Wednesday 24th February. Order forms came home with your child on Friday 12th February. Please note school photos can only be ordered online. Do not return forms and money to the school.



2021 Events

Unfortunately the annual Welcome Picnic has had to be cancelled for this year due to a number of Covid restrictions. We do hope to hold some of our other regular events this year to bring the community together and create fun for the kids. Our THPS 50th Anniversary celebrations will be held in November. Look out for our upcoming Class Rep email over the next couple of weeks.

Parents & Friends/ Class Rep meeting

We will be holding our regular Parents & Friends meeting next Friday 26th February at 9.15am. This meeting is usually held early in each term to discuss upcoming P&F events. It will be held in the Multi-purpose Room in person and also via Webex. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please sign in at the office.

Buzz lists

Please ensure you have completed the permission form on the Compass portal for - Family contact list (Buzz list) – to ensure you are included in all Class Rep emails and information.

THPS Parents & Friends Community Facebook page

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

◆Student Absences

If your child will be absent from school please record their absence on **COMPASS**.

- On your smart phone

1. Press the “**Add Attendance Note**” tab
If you have more than 1 child at the school select the absent child
2. Tap on ‘**Reason**’ – and select an option. (illness, parents’ choice etc.)
(Details/Comments field is optional)
3. Tap on **Start Date** and **End Date** (change if necessary)
4. Press ‘**Add Attendance Note**’

Complete this process before 10.30am on the day of their absence

◆Recording Extended Absences

If your family is going on holidays please record your child’s absence using the same process as above before the absence date. (Adjust the **Start Date** and **End Date** accordingly) and email your child’s class teacher and the school office.

◆Absence Notifications

An SMS will be sent at 10.30am to all children recorded as ‘Unexplained’. If you receive an SMS, please update the absence on **COMPASS** or call the school office.

◆COMPASS Notifications

Notification are sent via the app and email. To ensure you receive all notifications go to the settings on your phone and select “**Enable Notifications**”.


◆Late Arrivals Early departures

Late arrivals and early departures are recorded on the **School Kiosk** as your child arrives and departs the school via the office. **Do not record these on Compass.**


◆School reports

Semester reports can be accessed by selecting your child’s photo and pressing on the “**Reports**” tab

◆Booking Teacher Conferences (Parent Teacher Interviews)

1. Tap on the icon on the top left corner of your app 
2. Select Conferences and follow the tabs to book a time with your child’s teacher.

◆Events Consent (Incursions, Excursions, Permissions)

1. Tap on the icon on the top left corner of your app 
2. Choose “**Events**” tab and follow the prompts.

If your family circumstances change, please notify the office so separate family **COMPASS** accounts can be created. Personal family details will be shared unless we are otherwise notified.



BASKETBALL NEWS

Season 1 2021 commences on Monday 22nd February



REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Any children in grades 1-6 in 2021 who would like to play can register using the link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNCTQ>

For more information, please see the flyer in the newsletter, or email Sarah & Kate

thpsbasketball@gmail.com

GO HEIGHTS!!!

What is **Book Club** ?



Ordering books through Book Club is the easiest and most affordable way to offer students the best in children's books for the home and to encourage independent reading for fun.

Book Club offers students a wide range of titles in each issue, from popular and award-winning fiction series and charming new picture books, to fascinating nonfiction titles and hands-on activities that stimulate creativity and encourage problem-solving.

Plus every order you place earns the school **FREE** books and learning resources. Book Club catalogues arrive to school up to twice a term, so make sure you keep an eye out for when it arrives home in your child's school bag!

HOW TO ORDER ON **Book Club**



1. Your child will bring home a Book Club catalogue from school

2. Discuss with, and help your child pick the books they would like to read

3. Order online via the Scholastic Australia **LOOP** website or app and the school will take care of the rest! (**LOOP** orders are electronically linked to your school in an easy, secure online process)

4. The books are delivered to your child's classroom.



LOOP is the easy way for families to order and pay for Book Club.

Log in, or create a new account at [scholastic.com.au/loop](https://www.scholastic.com.au/loop)

- 1.** If you are new to Book Club, follow the Wizard to set up your profile
- 2.** Click the ORDER tab, and select your school and child's class
- 3.** Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- 4.** Enter the product item number shown on the Book Club catalogue
- 5.** Make payment via credit card.



Templestowe Heights Chess Classes Term 1, 2021



Chess is a wonderful game which enhances skills such as: Problem Solving, Pattern Recognition, Analytical, Visualisation, Concentration and Social Skills.

Templestowe Heights P.S. Term 1 chess classes commence on **Tuesday 16th February** with tuition provided by *Dark Horse Chess*. Students from all grades are invited to participate and no prior experience with chess is necessary. All students will receive a Chess Certificate, and trophies will be awarded to tournament winners.

Classes provide students with an opportunity to learn chess in a fun and social environment!

- Class times:** Tuesday lunchtime (1pm)
- Class dates:** 16/02, 23/02, 02/03, 09/03, 16/03, 23/03.
- Location:** TBC
- Price (inc. GST):** \$12.00 per lesson × 6 lessons = total cost of \$72.00.
- Enquiries:** admin@darkhorsechess.com
- Enrolment:** www.darkhorsechess.net/THPS-T1-21
OR use our QR code below:



Community News

TAEKWONDO

Claim your **FREE** trial class!

Learn self-defence and martial arts skills. Learn to improve your discipline and concentration.

Improve your fitness, co-ordination and confidence.

Classes are on every Saturday at 9:30am at Templestowe Heights Primary School.

School children of all ages are welcome (4 years and up). Adults are also welcome.

For further information or to book your trial class contact Carmelo on **0422 193 793**

Or through our Facebook page - **Australian/Korean Taekwondo Centre.**



AUSTRALIA'S LEADING CHILDREN'S SOCCER PROGRAMS

Mini's Program For boys and girls aged 2.5 - 3 years	Preschool Program For boys and girls aged 3 - 5 years
Junior Program For boys and girls aged 6 - 8 years	Birthday Parties Celebrate with a soccer themed birthday party!

REGISTER NOW!
www.soccajoeys.com.au
1300 781 735

LOCATIONS:
Lower Templestowe,
Balwyn, Bulleen,
Box Hill North, Macleod,
Northcote

Ph:0409 644 037
ivanhoe@soccajoeys.com

PIANO LESSONS AT SCHOOL

Vivian Davies is an experienced piano teacher and has been providing THPS students with piano lessons at the school for many many years. These lessons take place during school time making it convenient for busy parents.

For more information, please contact

Vivian on 98467336



Parish of St. Gregory the Great

Catholic children who attend our school are invited by St. Gregory the Great Parish, Doncaster to participate in programs to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. Could parents please contact the parish office on 94128425 or by email on DoncasterRE@cam.org.au. The programs will be conducted by Margaret O'Donnell on Wednesday evenings.

There will be an information evening on Wednesday 3rd March at 7.00pm in St. Gregory's Parish Hall.

Open Night*

Thursday 18 March 2021

* This year by booking only



East Doncaster Secondary College

This year bookings must be made to attend and receive a COVID Safe College tour, starting at **5:30pm**, with the last tour departing at **7:05pm**.

Pre-Purchase tickets at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BOSHQ>

For tour times and more information visit www.eastdonsc.vic.edu.au

Tickets will not be available on the night.

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2021 Community Seminar Series

REPEAT SESSION

ONLINE SEMINAR

WORKING WITH PARENTS AROUND SCHOOL REFUSAL

DATE	25 March 2021
The workshop will be presented by:	Staff from CYMHS Specialist Child Team

This workshop will focus on:

- *Understanding school refusal*
- *Learning what can be done to prevent school refusal for primary aged children*
- *Understanding how to help a child who is refusing to attend school re-integrate back into school*

Target audience:	Staff working in a range of settings including education, child and family services and youth services
Time:	9.30 AM to 12.30 PM
Cost:	\$40.00 (including GST, and seminar materials)
Bookings & Registration:	Email to: communityseminarCYMHS@easternhealth.org.au or complete the Registration Form and fax to 039870 7973
Contact:	Marion Bernard Community Engagement Seminars on 9871 7710
Seminar Location:	ONLINE DELIVERY

All prices and dates quoted are subject to change by CYMHS. Seminar fees are kept as low as possible. Enrolled participants will be notified of any changes to advertised programs when necessary. Participants are not entitled to a refund unless WRITTEN cancellation has been received at least 24 hours prior to the event. The department reserves the right to cancel any scheduled programs when necessary and course fees will be refunded if the course is cancelled. www.easternhealth.org.au