

#### **ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

We are finally at the stage where the children will be returning to school, if only for a few days a week. Like you, we at school are all over the moon about this. This unfortunately means an end to the Pilates classes that have been running twice a week for our parent community. I'm sure that you have found these a great stress reliever for your day and on your behalf, I would like to thank Jaime Buccilli for taking the time to run these sessions. Jaime will now revert back to the Physical Education role for the rest of the year, certainly a lot healthier.

#### Schedule for Returning Children

As you will appreciate, the guidelines around COVID restrictions, lockdown and in our context, the return to school, are ever-changing. The information contained below is current as I write and I will always endeavour to provide our school community with the most accurate and current information available, but it is important to understand that it is subject to change, often at relatively short notice. Similarly, the Department of Education Operations Guide contains information that is clear and unequivocal (the requirement for staff to be vaccinated is one such example) and other information that is presented as a guideline subject to context and circumstances at individual schools. Hence, there are likely to be some differences between schools in the area.

Please find below the timetable for the return of all children over the next two weeks. The Foundation and Year 1/2 children will be attending school as per normal from next week on a part time basis and the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 children will join them the following week also on a part time basis.

GRADE LEVEL	DAYS OF ATTENDENCE . SCHOOL	AT DAYS AT HOME ONLINE LEARNING
	9.00am – 3.30pm	
FOUNDATION	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	
		Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October
		Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October
YEAR 1/2		Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October
		Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October
		Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October
	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	
	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	

GRADE LEVEL	DAYS OF ATTENDENCE A SCHOOL	T DAYS AT HOME ONLINE LEARNING
	9.00am – 3.30pm	
FOUNDATION	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	
		Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
		Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October
YEAR 1/2		Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October
		Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October
		Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	
YEAR 3/4		Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October
	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	
		Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
		Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October
YEAR 5/6		Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October
		Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October
		Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	
	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	

These are the latest COVID requirements as found in the DET guidelines.

- Face masks are mandatory for children in Year 3 to Year 6, only when indoors on school premises, unless an exception applies. It is recommended for children in Foundation to Year 2.
- Parents are to supply their child/children with a mask.
- Children will undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet. Hand sanitiser will be made available at entry points to classrooms.
- Windows and doors will to be opened as much of the day as possible
- The Education Department is delivering air purifier units (model Samsung AX7500) to schools during Term 4
- Playgrounds are open for school use and are available for community use after school hours only, in line with community settings.
- Visitors to school grounds are limited to essential school services and operations.
- Camps, excursions and incursions for Victorian schools cannot take place at this time.
- School events, gatherings, assemblies, and non-essential meetings are deferred
- Outside School Hours Care programs can operate for children eligible for onsite supervision
- Parents are not to enter the school buildings
- Parents on school grounds must wear a mask
- Parents must socially distance 1.5 metres from others
- Parents can drop off and pick up their child/children from inside the school grounds but must leave in a timely manner once this is done.

#### Management Of An Unwell Child At School

It is important that any child who becomes unwell with COVID-19 symptoms while at school will have parents contacted and need to be picked up and Covid tested. Children cannot return until they have a negative result and are symptom free

The symptoms to watch out for are:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss or change in sense of smell or taste

Some people may also experience headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

#### Asthma and Hayfever (Allergic Rhinitis)

Due to the overlapping symptoms to COVID parents of children who suffer asthma and/or hayfever at this time of the year need to supply the school with the appropriate updated management plan.

Please refer to the attached 'Managing Illness In Schools' and 'Allergic Rhinitis' documents for more details.

**Drop-off and pick-up** Arrival and departure times will remain at 9.00am and 3.30pm respectively. Students should not arrive at school prior to 8.45am. Classrooms will not be open until 8.45am.

For the Foundation and Year 1/2 students, please deliver your child to the entry doors in the middle of the school. We ask that you then leave the grounds in a timely manner. At the end of the day, while you are waiting for your child, please do not congregate in large groups and again, once you have collected your child, leave the school in a timely manner.

**Visitors** (including parents & carers) *are not permitted* to enter school buildings at this point. If you have business that necessitates you to visit the office, you must observe the protocols and knock on the front door and wait for the office staff to attend to you at the door.

Thank-you as always for your amazing support of your children and the school throughout the past 18 months or so. I realise that the information thrown at you may be a little overwhelming or confusing – please don't hesitate to contact Acting Assistant Principal, Kate Stacker or myself at any stage with queries or concerns.

#### Hats On Term 4

Please remember that all children are to wear a school legionnaires or broad brim hat when outside. Children who do not have a hat will have to stay in a shaded area.

#### **Class requests for 2022**

As part of the process of creating classes for 2022, parents or guardians with any special requests relating to their child's grade placement need to submit this in writing to me by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. As part of our class formation process, teachers will facilitate a process where we ask all children to list five friends, where we are able to guarantee that every child will have at least one of those five friends in their class for the following year, as per policy.

Requests may relate to friendship groups, learning issues or family matters. Requests cannot be made regarding individual teachers and parents are unable to select their child's friends on their behalf.

#### **Building Progess**

Work has commenced on the portables out the back of the school. Electrical work and plumbing are the first jobs that are being worked on and then over the next three weeks, weather dependent, the portables will be realligned and installed.

#### 2022 Foundation Enrolments

We are currently taking enrolments for 2022. If you know of any families who have children to enrol for 2022 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@education.vic.gov.au</u>.

#### **Leaving Families**

Can parents please notify the school if they will be leaving Templestowe Heights Primary School at the end of the school year. This helps us with our planning for the 2022 school year.

#### Andrew Veal

**Acting Principal** 

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

Term 4		
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Class Reps Meeting – Online 9.15am to 10am	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Pupil Free Day	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Melbourne Cup - Public Holiday	
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	School Production	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Term 4 Ends – 1.30 Student Dismissal	
Pupil Free Days		
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November		

#### **FROM THE OFFICE**

The office will be attended from 8.30am to 4.00pm during lockdown.

Just a reminder that parents are not permitted inside the school building at this time. Should you need our assistance please on 9850 1796 call or email <u>templestowe.heights.ps@education.vic.gov.au</u>



#### Term 4 Class Rep/Parents & Friends meeting

Our Term 4 Parents & Friends/Class Rep meeting will be held tomorrow - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 9.15 – 10am online to discuss the term 4 events. *Everyone is welcome*. Please join us on Webex 579 980 226

#### **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

### **Community News**







# Give life. Give blood in Eltham.

Eltham Community and Reception Centre 801 Main Rd, Eltham

18 October to 23 October

Monday 18 October Tuesday 19 October Wednesday 20 October Thursday 21 October Friday 22 October Saturday 23 October 12.30pm - 7.30pm 12.00pm - 7.30pm 12.00pm - 7.30pm 8.00am - 7.30pm 8.00am - 3.00pm 8.00am - 3.00pm

give blood