

Our News

News from Templestowe Heights Primary School



Templestowe Heights
Primary School

9850 1796

Newsletter Term 1 Week 1

2nd February 2023

Templestowe Heights Primary School Values

Persistence

Respect

Courage

Responsibility

“inspiring learners for life”

Welcome Back To The New School Year

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome Back!

After a six week break it was wonderful to see our buildings and school grounds filled once again with the sight and sounds of our students. Clearly there has been quite a few growth spurts over the break and there was genuine excitement and buzz around the school.

All staff spent their Friday and Monday busily preparing for the start of the school year by setting up learning spaces, moving and assembling furniture, planning the teaching and learning program, creating assessment timelines and undertaking anaphylaxis training.

Significant building works took place over the break that now feels like our school has transformed into a site to behold. I am still pinching myself at how stunning our school looks. Our \$13.1million stimulus grant capital project is all but complete and throughout 2022 our building works delivered on:

- New staffroom and library
- New roof, guttering, ceilings, lighting and sunroofs throughout our two existing buildings
- New structural shelter canopy (as well as shade sails) between and joining our two existing buildings
- Landscaped middle yard with synthetic grass throughout
- New toilet block, with full accessibility from internal and external entrances (including stairwell out onto school oval)
- New multi-age playground
- New state of the art, two-storey (more than 1200m² of floor space) *STEAM Centre* and classroom building complete with our new art room, lift access, STEM centre, 5 classrooms, auditorium, meeting rooms and resource centre.



Our students have commenced their STEM lessons with Ross Toogood delivering on our new curriculum, art lessons with Joy Birrell have also begun and our year 5 and 6 students excitedly moved into their classrooms in the new building. In the next two weeks the final part of the landscaping will be complete, which includes the final stages of the new playground.

I would also like to welcome our new students Harper(2NS), Angelo (3EJ), Arissa (4BG), Sienna (5KW), Darya (6LS) and Harry (6JA) to our learning community. Joining us this year are our new or returning members of staff: *David Bruder* (maintenance), *Monia Iaconi* (Education Support Team), *Sarah Judge*, *Pennie Clark* (Year 1), *Naomi Scott* (Year 2), *Clare Harding* (Year 3), *Stephanie McNabb* (Year 4), *Karen Woods* (Year 5) and *Stephanie Garpodini* (Italian and Performing Arts).

2023 Foundation Students

This coming Monday our newest and youngest members of our community, our Foundation 2023 students, will have their first day of school. It is an exciting time as we welcome them into our community. We will be celebrating this occasion with a free coffee cart, so please come and get your free hot drink in the morning. Photos will be taken outside for all families too.

Year 3-6 House Swimming Carnival

Next Thursday 9th February all students in years 3-6 will be walking to Aquarena to participate in the School House Swimming Carnival.

House Keeping

Just as a reminder, our school assemblies will now be held on Monday afternoons. They will continue to be a mixture of live and online events. Our first assembly will be Monday 13th February and it will be online.

If you have moved to a new property or your emergency contacts have changed, please contact the office so we can update them.

Chinese New Year

Happy new year for all our families that celebrate the Chinese lunar New year. I hope the year of the rabbit will bring you prosperity.



Student Voice JSC/Enviro Leaders Elections

Twice a year every class elects two students to the student voice leadership positions of Environmental and Junior School Councillor. Any student wanting to apply for these roles needs to prepare and present a speech. Attached to the newsletter is information regarding the roles and what they need to do to prepare.

Privacy Statement

Our school values the privacy of every person. When collecting and managing personal and health information, all school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law. For more information about privacy including about how to access personal and health information held by the school about you or your child, see the privacy Collection Notice at the end of this newsletter.

Rhys Coulson

Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023

TERM 1

Monday 6 th February	Foundation Students Begin
Thursday 9 th February	Swimming Carnival Year 3 to 6
Thursday 16 th February	Year 5 & 6 Summer Sports begins - 9.11am every Thursday until 30 th March
Monday 20 th February	District Swimming
Tuesday 21 st February	School Photos
Wed 22 nd to Fri 24 th Feb	Life Education Sessions – Foundation and Year 1 and 2
Tuesday 28 th February	School Fees Due
Wed 1 st to Thurs 2 nd March	Life Education Sessions – Foundation and Year 1 and 2
Monday 13 th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Thursday 6 th April	Term 1 Ends

TERM DATES 2023

Term 1	Last day of term 1 Thursday 6 th April
Term 2	Monday, 24 th April - Friday, 23 rd June
Term 3	Monday, 10 th July - Friday, 15 th September
Term 4	Monday, 2 nd October – Wednesday, 20 th December

FROM THE OFFICE

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope you all had a restful break and are ready for another busy year at Templestowe Heights.

2023 School Fees

2023 school fees are due on Tuesday 28th February, 2023. Please remember to return the form with your payment. If you require a new form please contact the office.

Local Walking Permission

From time to time students take part in local walking excursions in the neighbourhood under the supervision of our staff. **All families are invited to provide consent** for this via the Events tab in their Compass account. This permission is due by Tuesday 28th February.

PG Movie Permission

Occasionally students may watch clips of PG Movies at school, while attending excursions, or on school camp under the supervision of our staff. **If you are new to the school or did not give consent in previous years you will receive a Compass** notification inviting you to complete the permission in the events tab. For existing families your previous permission will carry over for the duration that your child will be at our school. This permission is due by Tuesday 28th February.

Family Contact List (Buzz List)

Every year our class representatives compile a buzz list that is distributed to parents in your child's class. This list is used by your class rep to provide information about class and the school social activities and other relevant information. Once class representatives have been appointed you will receive a Compass email with your reps details and you may request to be added to this list.

PARKING



At this busy time of the year, please be mindful of students and other drivers when parking around the school. The safety of our students is the responsibility of all of us. **The carpark is for staff only.** Please do not use the staff carpark for pickups and drops offs at any time.

Due to the limitations of our staff carpark, we are only able to designate one disability access carpark space. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and kindly ask parents and carers to consider flexible arrangements for pick up and drops off times that may alleviate demand all at the same time.

FIRST AID UPDATE

If your child has developed a new medical condition or had changes to their existing medical condition please ensure you contact Tanya Misquitta at the school office with these updates at Tanya.misquitta@education.vic.gov.au.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND APPLICATIONS

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 9850 1796 and ask for an application form.

VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL (WWC)

All parents and carers wishing to visit or volunteer at the school need to hold a valid Working With Children Check (WWC). This can be done online at <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>. Once you have received your card please present it to the office.

LIBRARY NEWS

We are currently in the process of changing over to a different management system software. Once this has taken place we will be asking for volunteers to assist in the library either before or after school. The role will involve scanning returned books and returning books to shelves. Making sure shelved books are in the correct place and some covering of new books. Once the system is up and running our students can begin borrowing book again.



Welcome everyone!

Welcome back to school for another year. A warm welcome to all our new families joining our THPS community. As you may know, we have a bit of a change to the P&F team this year and I would love to say a massive thank you both personally and from everyone else to **Sarah** (Josh- graduated 2022), **Fiona** (Jack – graduated 2022) and **Cecile** (Florence – 4RA) for absolutely everything they have done over the last 4 years as part of P&F.

I would also like to say a very warm welcome and thank you to **Lauren Brown** (Archie – 2NS), who has very generously put her hand up to coordinate P&F with support from me (Oula – Tilly 4BG). Also, a huge thank you to all our new coordinators who have put their hand up to take on certain events.

Class Reps

Last call for anyone who is interested in volunteering to become a class rep for your child's class in 2023. Please email your interest to us at thpspaf@gmail.com. Thank you for those who have already put their hand up, you will be contacted shortly with more details.

Buzz lists

Every year our class representatives compile a buzz list that is distributed to parents in your child's class. This list is used by your class rep to provide information about class and the school social activities and other relevant information. Once class representatives have been appointed you will receive a Compass email with your reps details and you may request to be added to this list.

Working With Children Check

Anyone who helps in any capacity at school must have a WWCC. It's free and easy to apply for online <https://wwcv.auspost.com.au/>

THPS Gardening Group Facebook page

Join the THPS closed Facebook group by searching for THPS Gardening Group or using the link. The Gardening Group is run by the lovely Laura David (Helena Hutchison) and manages the roster over weekends and school holidays to water and take care of our school vegetable garden.

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/758762184247385/?ref=bookmarks>

THPS Chicken roster

If you would like to be included in the chicken roster to help look after our school chickens over weekends and school holidays, please contact the office to join the WhatsApp group.

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 – Lauren & Oula thpspaf@gmail.com



Only a few sleeps left until
school starts!

Make a booking for week 1 and go into the draw to

Win

2 x Holiday Program days

OR

3 x Before or After School Care sessions

COMMUNITY NEWS

You are Invited to a Friday Night Dinner @ greythorn bowling club on 17th February (2023)

Choice of three terrific Meals + a Dessert for \$26.00

Chicken Parmigiana with Chips & Salad
 Beef or Vegetable Lasagna with Chips & Salad
 Flathead Fish with Chips & Salad
 Plus Home Made Apple Crumble with Ice Cream

\$11.00 meals also available for under 12s
 Bar opens at 5.00pm / Meal service starts at 6.30pm

Meal choice needs to be pre-booked by 9th February 2023, and please let us know of any special dietary requirements when booking. Drinks will be available at member's prices & no BYO drinks are allowed

If you feel like having some fun after dinner, try your hand at some 'barefoot bowls' with the help of our friendly volunteers (Bare feet or flat soled runners only please) Fully air-conditioned club rooms On-site parking available



To make a booking: scan the QR code here ->

Our friendly & hospitable club is located at

7 Gregory Court Doncaster

We look forward to welcoming you!!

Short Courses

For Employment and Further Study

It's time to start planning for Term 1!

We have these short courses starting soon:

- Business Admin Skills
- Computers for Beginners Level 1
- Bookkeeping Basics
- Digital Design Basics Using Canva
- Skills to Apply for Work (Free)

Funded places available – eligibility criteria applies

Pines Learning Phone 9842 6726
 think • grow • evolve • relax pineslearning.com.au

Community Bank
 Doncaster East and Templeton Village
 Bendigo Bank

Learn Local

BASKETBALL NEWS

SEASON 1 2023 ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN!

Please enroll using the link
<https://www.trybooking.com/CEDAO>

For more information, please email Natalie, Sarah & Kate
thpsbasketball@gmail.com

GO HEIGHTS!!!

ROTARY eltham FESTIVAL

saturday 4 and sunday 5
 March 2023
 Ailstair Knox Park

Celebrating Community—Supporting Local

Gold coin donation appreciated at entry

Activities: Rock Wall, Animal Farm, Main Stage, Fireworks, Buskers Tent, Roving Entertainers, Clean Future Zone, Carnival, Rides, Food Stalls, Art & Craft.

www.elthamfestival.org.au Facebook/ElthamFestival

Major Sponsors: Bendigo Bank, Eltham Leigrove Centre, Le Pine, HYSPEC, MAIN, Yellowworld, bloom.

Proudly supported by: Rotary Eltham, Nillumbik The Crown Wildlife Shire.

Privacy Collection Notice

Information for students, parents and carers

The Department of Education and Training (the Department) values your privacy and is committed to protecting the personal and health information that schools collect.

All school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law and the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). This notice explains how the Department, including Victorian government schools (schools), handles personal and health information. On occasion, specific consent will be sought for the collection and use of information, for example, for a student to receive a health service. Our schools are also required by legislation, such as the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, to collect some of this information.

Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes principals, teachers, student support service officers, youth workers, social workers, nurses and any other allied health practitioners, and all other employees, contractors, volunteers and service providers of the school and the Department.

On enrolment, and during the ordinary course of a student's attendance at a school, schools will collect information about students and their families for the following purposes:

- educating students
- supporting students' social and emotional wellbeing, and health
- fulfilling legal obligations, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law
- communicating and engaging with parents
- student administration
- school management
- supporting policy in relation to student education and wellbeing.

If this information is not collected, schools may be unable to provide optimal education or support to students or fulfil legal obligations.

For example, our schools rely on parents to provide **health information** about any medical condition or disability that their child has, medication their child may take while at school, any known allergies and contact details of their child's doctor. If parents do not provide all relevant health information, this may put their child's health at risk.

Our schools also require current, relevant information about all **parents and carers** so that schools can take account of safety concerns that affect their children. Parents should provide schools with copies of all current parenting plans and court orders about or that affect their children and provide updated copies when they change.

When parents enrol their child in primary school, they will be asked to provide personal and health information in several ways, including via the Enrolment Form, the [School Entrance Health Questionnaire](#) (SEHQ) and the [Early Childhood Intervention Service](#) (ECIS) Transition Form.

The **Enrolment Form** is used to collect information that is essential for the purposes listed above, and requests information such as:

- **Emergency contacts** – Individuals parents nominate for a school to contact during an emergency. Parents should ensure that their nominated emergency contact agrees to their contact details being provided to the school and that they understand their details may be disclosed by the Department if lawful, e.g. in the case of emergency communications relating to bush fires or floods.
- **Student background information** – Information about country of birth, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, language spoken at home and parent occupation. This information enables the Department to allocate appropriate resources to schools. The Department also uses this information to plan for future educational needs in Victoria and shares some information with the Commonwealth government to monitor, plan and allocate resources.
- **Immunisation status** – This assists schools to manage health risks and legal obligations. The Department may also provide this information to the Department of Health and Department of Families, Fairness and Housing to assess immunisation rates in Victoria, but not in a way which identifies students.
- **Visa status** – This is required to process a student's enrolment.

All schools may use departmental systems and online tools such as apps and other software to effectively collect and manage information about students and families for the purposes listed above.

When schools use these online tools, they take steps to ensure that student information is secure. If parents or carers have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact the school.

School staff will only share student and family information with other school staff who need to know to enable them to educate or support the student as described above. Information will only be shared outside the school (and outside the Department) as required or authorised by law, including where sharing is required to meet duty of care, anti-discrimination, occupational health and safety, and child wellbeing and safety obligations. The information collected will not be disclosed beyond the school and Department without parent consent unless such disclosure is lawful.

When a student transfers to another school (including Catholic, independent and interstate), personal and/or health information about that student may be transferred to the next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of the student and assists the next school to provide the best possible education and support to the student. For further detail about how and what level of information is provided to the next school, refer to the: [Enrolment: Student transfers between schools](#)

Schools only provide school reports and ordinary school communications to students, parents, carers or others who have a legal right to that information. Requests for access to other student information or by others must be made by lodging a [Freedom of Information](#) (FOI) application.

To update student or family information, parents should contact their school.

For more information about how schools and the Department collect and manage personal and health information, or how to access personal and health information held by a school about you or your child, refer to the: [Schools' Privacy Policy](#)