

Principal Report – May 2023



Templestowe Heights
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Enrolments

1. Currently have 452 students enrolled.

2023 Class Structure		
Foundation	72	4 grades at 18 students
Year 1	71	4 grades of 18 students
Year 2	60	3 grades of 19 or 20 students
Year 3	67	3 grades of 22 students
Year 4	59	3 grades of 18 or 19 students
Year 5	53	2 grades of 26 students
Year 6	70	3 grades of 23 or 24 students
Average: 20.5 students per class (state average is 26.0)		

Strategic Goals and Priorities

2023 Priorities Goal	
Key Improvement Strategy (KIS)	Learning – Maximise learning growth of every student. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Build teacher capability to analyse and use data to inform evidence-based learning, teaching and assessment of a differentiated curriculum.2. Build teacher capability to regularly reflect and improve on their practice.3. Embed the school's instructional model across all areas of the curriculum.
Actions to support KIS in Mar/May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All teachers participated in building and mapping English curriculum, including a workshop approach with Samantha.• All teachers participated in a writing assessment workshop (comparative judgement) with Jeanette.
Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Assessment Schedule✓ English curriculum map✓ Google Lesson Slides
Key Improvement Strategy (KIS)	Wellbeing – Improve student perseverance and engagement in learning. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Embed a whole school strategy to the teaching of social and emotional health that builds student resilience, risk taking and perseverance.2. Strengthen teacher knowledge and capability to activate student voice and learner agency so students can act as partners in improving learning outcomes.
Actions to support KIS in Mar/May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RRRR implemented across all year levels, year level newsletters sent out• STEM curriculum for yr3-6 has now been developed.
Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Wellbeing curriculum document✓ Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships framework.✓ Yr3-6 STEM curriculum map

Staffing

1. Cassandra Johnson and partner Chris welcomed their first child, Carter David Johnson in April.
2. We have successfully hired our new IT Technician, Jim Alevizos.
3. Rebekah Avramidis announced she is expecting her first child with partner Andreas.
4. We welcomed back existing and new staff Angelique Giacomini, Tania Martini and Stephanie Gaspodini.

Professional Learning

1. Jeanette Bren, Martin Ravindran and Samantha Charlton will all be presenting at the Sharing Best Practice in Myrtleford.

2. All staff participated in a Professional Practice Day on our pupil free day at the start of term 2. The focus was for teaching teams to build curriculum and lessons in preparation for term 2.
3. Andrew Bagnell, Principal at Macclesfield Primary visiting our school to observe our explicit teaching model and writing curriculum.
4. Students in Years 2, 4 & 6 participated in the Comparative Judgement Project with No More Marking that will assess the growth in student writing over time.

Community Life

1. School Tours have been running well. Visitors have been so impressed with the level of engagement in classrooms and of course the new building. Still not sure of how many 2024 Foundation enrolments we will have with the new system.
2. We have completed our 4-year School Review. This is part of DET's continual improvement cycle. The review team evaluated our previous four years' actions, goals and targets and identified the next areas for focus.
3. Our Year 6 Captains, Junior School Councillors and Environmental Leaders received their badges at the whole school assembly.
4. Student voice leaders sold ANZAC badges at school on behalf of Templestowe RSL.
5. Enviro Leaders also anointed our newest chickens with names- Cherry and Snowflake.
6. Junior School Councillors planned and ran a successful Harmony Day.
7. Extra-curricular lunch time activities continue to be popular and now in term 2 with the introduction of Chess.
8. Parent Ben Birch (Ollie, 2PS) visiting THPS to present to the year 2 students who had been learning about the human body. Ben is a vascular surgeon.
9. Edie (6JA) took part in the World's Greatest Shave, raising \$1,334 towards leukaemia research.
10. Student Voice Leader had an incursion with Manningham Council around sustainable practices for school life, including the introduction of green bins and compost bins for our classrooms and chickens.
11. Staff vs Students competition was back as the tradition has continued for the last week of term. This time the goal kicking competition went down to the wire in a close finish.
12. Our *Parents & Friends* ran a hugely successful Easter Raffle and Hot Cross Bun drive.
13. There were significant building and maintenance works over the term 1 break.
14. Students in year 3-6 participated in the school house cross country event. This year we trialed a 1km course that went out of the school grounds and onto the streets. All the students seemed to enjoy running or walking the course, a successful event organised by Jaime Buccilli and supported by so many staff, parents and carers. The Foundation-Yr2 students participated in a shorter run around the oval the following day where they were able to wear their house colours.
15. Year 5/6 Cricket Team were gallant in defeat against Serpell in the district grand final.
16. Michelle Searle has handed over her indigenous artwork piece that was designed in consultation with the year 5/6 students.

SHARING BEST PRACTICE HIGH COUNTRY

Education Myrtleford Performing Arts Centre
Myrtleford, Victoria
27 May 2023 9am - 3:30pm



**TICKETS
ON SALE
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Keynote speakers include:



Brendan Lee
Implementing the Science of Learning
Brendan Lee is a Primary School Assistant Principal (Curriculum and Instruction) and educational consultant in NSW. He hosts the podcast Knowledge for Teachers and Learn with Mr Lee blog.



Steven Dinham
Mind the Gap
Professor Dinham was appointed as Foundation Chair of Teacher Education and Director of Learning and Teaching in the Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne, in 2011. In 2018 he was appointed Professor Emeritus at the University of Melbourne.



Jeanette Breen
Comparative Judgement and Improving Writing
Jeanette is an experienced education practitioner. Recently joining UK based company No More Marking in 2022, she is the bridge for schools using innovative writing assessment techniques, including Comparative Judgement.

Breakout session #1 speakers:



Kitty Hancock
Principal, St. Mary's Primary
Kitty has been in education for 38 years. She is currently principal at St. Mary's Myrtleford. She is passionate about teaching and learning and has a strong belief that all children can succeed at school and we have a responsibility to make this a reality.



Lyn Stone
Spelling Choice Hell Video Presentation
Lyn's job is to use research, evidence and linguistics to produce programs, methods and tools for students, teachers and educators worldwide. Lyn has been in private practice since 2004 and has continued to train and mentor teachers whilst developing her linguistics-led learning programs.



Tracey King, Rick Battista, Rachael Geerts
The ABC's of EDI
Tracey is currently the Head of Junior School at St Paul's Anglican Grammar Traralgon Campus. Together with Rick and Rachael, they will present practical tips, strategies and advice for teachers who are beginning to shift their practice to reflect what science has shown will benefit all learners.



Martin Ravindran
High Quality Maths Instruction
Martin has dived headlong into pursuing evidence-based practice by delving into the literature and connecting with communities of practice such as Think Forward Educators. Hailing from Singapore, Martin is particularly passionate about Maths instruction.

Breakout session #2 speakers:



Sally McNamara, OT
Top Tips for Teachers
Sally is a paediatric occupational therapist with more than 15 years experience. Sally has written 3 books: The Motor Skill Flip-Book Program, The Sensory Support Flip-Book Guide and I need more, I need less: our different sensory needs.



Catherine Scott
Memory Structures and Processes
Catherine Scott has worked in primary and high schools as an art teacher. She later trained as a school psychologist before moving to universities where she taught in both undergraduate and post graduate programs of teacher preparation.



Alexandra Harper, LLL
Effective reading and spelling routines
Alexandra manages Little Learners Low Literacy in Melbourne. Alex has worked with many educators to implement evidence based instruction in classrooms. Alex is passionate that every child can learn to read, write and spell with confidence.



Sam Charlton
Literature Mapping Across the Curriculum
Samantha is a Learning Specialist at Templestowe Heights, where she works to implement and drive structured literacy and evidence based teaching and assessment practices across P-6. She has worked as a Subject Lead for Ochie Education.



Lauren Naish, Speech Pathologist
Low language in low literacy readers
Lauren has been working in Catholic Education for nearly 5 years, supporting primary schools across the diocese in language, literacy, articulation and many other areas.




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