

Our News



News from Templestowe Heights Primary School

Templestowe Heights
Primary School

9850 1796

Newsletter Term 4 Week 8

28th November 2024

Templestowe Heights Primary School Values

Persistence

Respect

Courage

Responsibility

“Inspiring learners for life”

Christmas Carols Evening Thursday 5th December

From 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Year 3 and 4 and Foundation Swimming Program

Monday 2nd to Friday 6th December



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Swimming Program

On Monday we commenced our intensive swimming program for all year 5 and 6 students. This is a weeklong program as part of the government's water safety initiative to help ensure Australian children are safe and confident around water. Over the next two weeks our Foundation, Year 3 and 4 (week 9) and year 1 and 2 (week 10) students will also participate.

Classes for 2025 – Please Trust Us

Now that the big task of writing reports has been completed, our class teachers and education support team are creating grades for 2025. This is an extremely challenging task that we take seriously and can be very time-consuming. As part of our class formation policy, we ensure that every child will be placed in a grade with at least one of their nominated five friends they listed down. We do our best to ensure our classes are balanced.

Change is a big challenge for many children. No doubt most children have already started thinking about next year. New teacher, new classroom, new classmates, new routines, the unknown. As parents and carers we want the best for our child and when we see them worried or upset, our initial reaction is that we want to protect and help them to resolve their worries.

Please resist the inclination to approach the school if you have concerns about the placement of your child for their class in 2025. For anyone, moving out of our comfort zone presents challenges, but please remember this is normal as it builds resilience, something we all need as adults. Please trust our teachers and education support staff and know that your child will be well looked after no matter what class they are in for 2025.

Our transition sessions will be held on Tuesday the 10th and 17th December where students will meet their new teacher, in the physical space classroom they will be in with their new classmates.

Reminder – Carols Event Next Thursday



Next Thursday 5th December from 6pm we will be holding our annual Carols event. We encourage all families and friends to come along with a picnic rug, dinner and drinks to celebrate the year that was. Every year level will be singing a song, that they have been rehearsing feverishly in their classes. The *Parents & Friends* will be selling soft drinks and icy poles, and I have it on good authority that Santa may also be visiting. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Year 6 Captains

Congratulations to all our current year 5 students who showed our school value of courage and applied for year 6 leadership positions. Through a process of completing an Expression of Interest Form, preparing and presenting a speech and lastly a preferential voting system, we have now elected our year 6, 2025 captains.

School Captains	Ava (5BW)	Jihoo (5BW)
Environmental	Annabel (5BW) & Lawson (5KW)	Art Ludwin (5KW) & Olivia(5BW)
STEM	Diego (5KW) & Will (5LS)	Library Chloe (5LS) & Freddy (5BW)
Goolagong	Julius (5KW) & Allannah (5LS)	Cuthbert Michael (5LS) & Alyssa (5BW)
Bradman	Dash & Taylah (5LS)	Newcombe Tilly (5KW) & Zia (5BW)

Congratulations Harper!

Last night Harper (4BG) was very excited to be announced as the Grade 3/4 State winner of the RSPCA Pawsome Short Story Awards at a special award presentation at the RSPCA headquarters. Her story was about her guinea pig, "Nibbles", a secret Olympian. Please see below for Harper's winning story. Congratulations Harper, we are so proud of you!



My Pet is a Secret Olympian by Harper Cornish

Last summer holidays, I discovered something amazing about my pet guinea pig, Nibbles.

I always knew he was special, but I had no idea he was a secret Olympian! It all started when I noticed something strange happening in my room at night. Every morning, I would wake up to find tiny hurdles made from pencils, paper clips, and erasers lined up on my desk. It was so weird! At first, I thought my little sister was playing tricks on me, but she said it wasn't her.

One night, I decided to stay up late and figure out what was going on. I pretended to fall asleep and kept one eye half-open. To my surprise, as soon as the clock struck midnight, Nibbles jumped out of his cage and stretched his tiny legs like an athlete warming up. Then, he scampered over to the hurdles on my desk. He got into a starting position and took off! Nibbles dashed across my desk, leaping over each hurdle in perfect form. He was so fast and graceful that I could hardly believe my eyes.

The next day, I followed him around the house secretly to see if he had other talents. It turned out he did! When I let him out of his cage, he would sprint across the living room, doing flips and somersaults like a professional gymnast. He even balanced on the edge of the coffee table like he was on a gymnastic beam. I couldn't believe it—my guinea pig was an Olympian in training!

One evening, I decided to talk to Nibbles about it. He always listened to me when I talked about my day, so maybe he could explain himself. "Nibbles," I whispered as I held him in my hand, "are you secretly training for the Olympics?" To my shock, he nodded! He squeaked and pulled out a tiny gold medal hidden in his cage to show me.

I gasped. Nibbles must have been competing in secret guinea pig Olympics all along! I promised him I wouldn't tell anyone, but I had to help him train. We started practicing every night. I set up obstacle courses in my room and even built a mini trampoline out of my hair ties and some cardboard. Nibbles was unstoppable. He could run faster than ever, jump higher, and balance like a pro.

Now, every night, while the world sleeps, Nibbles and I train for the Guinea Pig Olympics. He's not just my pet; he's my secret Olympian hero. I know that one day, he will be the greatest pet athlete in the world. But for now, it's our little secret.

Rhys Coulson
Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

Term 4 2024

Mon 2 nd to Fri 6 th December	Year 3, 4 and Foundation Swimming Program
Thursday 5 th December	Christmas Carols Evening – from 6pm to 8.00pm
Friday 6 th December	Year 5 Immigration Museum Excursion Whole School Assembly Gym – 2.45pm (All Welcome)
Mon 9 th to Fri 13 th December	Year 1 and 2 Swimming Program
Tuesday 10 th December	Whole School Transition 2.30pm to 3.30pm
Tuesday 17 th December	Whole School Transition 11.30am to 12.30pm Parent & Carers Morning Tea – 10.30am
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 6 Big Day Out
Thursday 19 th December	Graduation Rehearsal and Lunch – Students Only Graduation Ceremony in the Evening – Families Welcome
Friday 20 th December	Last day of Term 4 – Students Dismissed 1.30pm



2024 TERM DATES

Term 4	Ends – Friday 20 th December 1.30pm Dismissal
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2025 TERM DATES

Term 1 - Thursday 30 th January to Friday 4 th April
Term - 2 Tuesday 22 nd April to Friday 4 th July
Term 3 - Monday 21 st July to Friday 19 th September
Term 4 - Monday 6 th October to Friday 19 th December

FROM THE OFFICE

Payments due

Year 5 Immigration Museum due Friday 29th November

Year 6 Graduation due Friday 6th December

School Savings Bonus Information

By now most parents would have received an email with a unique School Saving Bonus link. Below please find a link to a short video explaining how to use the School Savings Bonus. If you have not yet received the email make sure you check your junk or spam folder.

<https://vimeo.com/1032194830>

PSW (Primary School Wear Information)

A PSW Flyer is attached to this message that may assist families with their uniform requirements. If you would like to avoid the queues at the end of January we encourage you to visit your local PSW store before the 'back to school' rush. Families are able to book a 20-minute appointment by following the prompts, from now until early January with a dedicated team member to assist you and your child. It makes the whole shopping experience that much better and less overwhelming for new students.

Please note from mid-January PSW do not take appointments, and they often have very long queues. This can be overwhelming for some students. If parents are worried their children will grow, please know that the PWS team will fit for growth. If all clothing items have their tags on them, are not worn, washed or labelled they can be exchanged for a different size prior to the child commencing at school.

For existing families that just require a few items and know what they need PWS also offer a 'click and collect' service or delivery to home.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Our second-hand uniform shop is open for business every afternoon from 3pm to 3.45pm. All tops and dresses \$5, all bottoms \$2, School bags, hats and satchels \$5.

Donations welcome Please bring them to the school office.

Lost Property

There are a large number of unnamed items in our lost property tub. Please ensure all items brought to school are clearly labelled so that they may be easily returned.

All unnamed items in the lost property tub at the end of day today will be donated to the second hand uniform shop.

JSC DONCARE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The JSC's are collecting donations for the 2024 Doncare Christmas Appeal. Families are invited to bring a gift donation for a child or teen to open on Christmas Day, or alternatively a monetary donation can be given which is used to purchase vouchers for parents and carers.



We will have collection points for gifts throughout the school and for money donations at the office. Alternatively, you may scan the QR code to donate directly. Collections will finish up on Friday 13th December (week 10). Please note that Doncare have asked for new gifts only (no secondhand gifts).

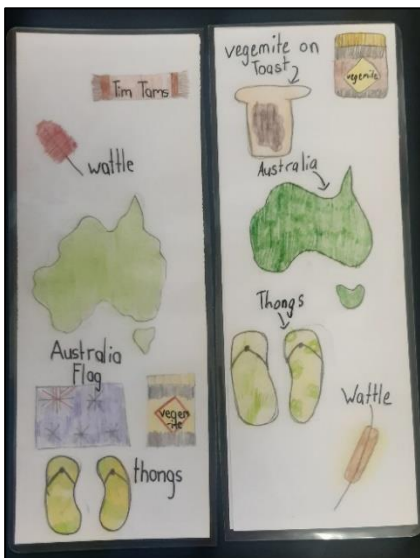
INTERNATIONAL BOOKMARK EXCHANGE PROJECT

Students in Years 3, 4 and 5 have been participating in an international bookmark exchange project. There has been extensive discussions of Australian culture and icons, and each student has carefully created a bookmark with an Australian focus. The bookmarks will be exchanged via post with students in Hong Kong, Portugal, Lithuania and Serbia. The project which is organized by the International Association of School Librarianship, focuses on celebrating books and libraries whilst building awareness of different cultures and lifestyles. Students have enjoyed learning about different countries, and similarities and differences in our education systems. Our bookmarks are now on their way across the globe.

The Year 3 students were very excited to receive a package from Hong Kong this week and carefully selected a prized bookmark to take home.

Susan Bannister

Teacher Librarian





Term 4 Events:

Thursday 6th December – Christmas Carols From 6.00pm

P & F will be selling Zooper Doopers for \$1.00 and Soft Drink/Juice boxes for \$2.00 from a stall.
EFTPOS will be available.

We are looking for some volunteers to help with the stall – please contact us at thpspaf@gmail.com if you are able to assist us on the night.

The famous Christmas Raffle is back! Drawn at last assembly

Next week notices and raffle tickets will go home for the Christmas Raffle. 3 for \$5.00 or 6 for \$10.00

15 Hampers up for grabs, which includes 1 family hamper kindly donated from Theircare.

We will have a few prizes on display at the office next week.



Pancake Parlour School Rewards!

Help support THPS with PANCAKES!!!

Simply download The Pancake Parlour app, follow the prompts to join the school rewards program Or click on this link <https://www.pancakeparlour.com.au/school-rewards-join-an-existing-school>

Every time you dine at the Pancake Parlour show them your barcode in the app and THPS will gain the points, which turn into great prizes for the school, such as guest speakers, vouchers and cash.

Want the Entertainment book?? [THPS - Entertainment link](#)

THPS Parents & Friends Community Facebook page



Don't forget to join the THPS Parents & Friends closed Facebook group by scanning the QR Code or by searching for the THPS Parents & Friends Community group. The joining process includes a few simple questions to answer.

The Facebook group is a great way to stay up to date with all that is happening socially at school.

Working With Children Check (WWCC)

A WWCC can be applied for free of charge by scanning the QR Code or online <https://wwcv.auspost.com.au/>

A current WWCC is essential, and a copy will need to be supplied to the office



at

Lauren & Elisa Need to contact us? thpspaf@gmail.com



BASKETBALL NEWS



Season 1, 2025

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IS NOW OPEN!

Expression of interest for Season 1 next year is now open! Please register your child if they would like to play Primary School Basketball or Miniball (foundation students) in 2025. Please do this ASAP so we can start sorting the teams for next year.

This expression of interest registration is FREE:

Primary School Basketball <https://www.trybooking.com/CXMEO>

Miniball <https://www.trybooking.com/CXMFQ>

Season 1, 2025 will run from the 17 February 2025 to the 4 July 2025.

MONDAY GRADE 5/6 BOYS & GIRLS	TUESDAY GRADE 3/4 BOYS	WEDNESDAY GRADE 1/2 BOYS & GIRLS	THURSDAY GRADE 3/4 GIRLS	FRIDAY FOUNDATION
4 Rounds Of Grading 9 Rounds Regular Season 2 Rounds of Finals Cost: \$175 + BV License Fees	4 Rounds Of Grading 12 Rounds Regular Season 2 Rounds of Finals Cost: \$175 + BV License Fees \$55 Finals Team Sheets	4 Rounds Of Grading 12 Rounds Regular Season 2 Rounds of Finals Cost: \$175 + BV License Fees \$55 Finals Team Sheets	4 Rounds Of Grading 12 Rounds Regular Season 2 Rounds of Finals Cost: \$175 + BV License Fees \$55 Finals Team Sheets	15 Rounds Regular Season No Finals Cost: \$160 + BV License Fees

For more information, please email Natalie.

thpsbasketball@gmail.com

GO HEIGHTS!!!

COMMUNITY NEWS



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 9412 8425 or by email on DoncasterRE@cam.org.au. The programs will be conducted by Margaret O'Donnell on Tuesdays after school. There will be an information evening on Tuesday, 4th February 2025 at 5pm in St Gregory's Parish Church. Specific details for celebrating each sacrament will be made available at that meeting.

Bulleen Preschool

'Learning Through Discovery'

Our innovative and exciting learning journeys, will encourage your child to discover themselves by exploring nature, materials and friendships.



We currently have vacancies for 2025 & 2026

We are offering **Free Kindergarten 15 hours** in our 3 & 4 Year old groups.

Visit our Website: ykinders.org.au/centres/bulleen/ or visit our Facebook Page **Bulleen Preschool** and learn more about our program.

Contact the preschool to arrange a tour:

Ph: 4329 0426

Email: bulleen@ykinders.org.au



Can you make a child's holiday season magical this year?

With the generosity of our local community, Doncare provides families with joy during the holiday season.

You can give families the dignity and power to choose gifts that will make their child's holiday season magical.

Please scan the QR code to donate. Doncare will purchase gift cards to give to our parents and carers. Thank you.



Doncare also accepts gift cards, books and new toys for children and teens.

doncare

Suite 4, Level 1, 687 Doncaster Road, Doncaster 3108
www.doncare.org.au

Gifts or vouchers not used will be utilised to support Doncare's ongoing Emergency Relief and Student Wellbeing programs.

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