

Merry
Christmas



Our News



Templestowe Heights
Primary School

9850 1796

News from Templestowe Heights Primary School

Newsletter Term 4 Week 11

19th December 2024

Templestowe Heights Primary School Values

Persistence

Respect

Courage

Responsibility

“Inspiring learners for life”



**Congratulations to our
graduating Year 6
Students**

**Term 4 Ends Friday 20th December
Whole School Assembly 12.30pm - Gym**

Students Dismissed at 1.30pm

**Term 1 2025 Begins Thursday 30th January
(Y 1 to 6 Students)**

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Safe Break!

I can't believe we have come to the end of another school year...and what a year it has been! I am in a privileged position in that every day, I get to see the impact of the decisions we make in the classrooms I visit, the conversations I have with students and the positive behaviours I observe during play times. THPS really is such an enjoyable, positive place to come to every day and I am so proud of all our staff for their commitment to wanting to do the best for all our children. I am equally as proud of all the students for the way they have embraced our learning culture and high expectations, they are just so positive about what they are learning about...and that is credit to parents, carers and staff.



Unfortunately, at this time of year we also bid farewell to families who are moving on. We wish *Daniel* (5LS), *Joel* (5BW), *Samantha* (4RR), *Lachlan, Stanley* (4SM), *Dayana, Raphael* (3JA), *Kiana* (3EJ), *Elena* (2NS), *Joshua* (1AJ) and *Michael* (FRH) all the best in their new schools for 2025.

We will be finishing early on Friday, **students will be dismissed at 1:30pm**. There will be a whole school assembly at 12:30pm, with all of the community invited. During this assembly we will say farewell to our departing year 6 students. We will also be drawing the winners of our *Parents & Friends* Christmas Raffle.

On behalf of all staff, thank you for the continued support we receive from all our parents and carers. Our roles are made all that bit easier by knowing you trust us and completely support what we do. I hope over the Christmas break families have an opportunity to spend some quality time together. School commences back on Thursday 30th January.

Graduating Class of 2024

They say it takes a village to raise a child...and tonight we will be acknowledging and celebrating our year 6 students at their graduation ceremony, held at Doncaster Secondary College's performing arts centre. It is always a sad and exciting time, as students complete their first seven years of primary school. The students have had a big day out at an outdoor adventure water park, held a special lunch and been busily rehearsing for their graduation dance.

Staff vs Students Dodgeball

Thankfully there were no workplace injuries at our annual staff vs students dodgeball event. These matches really do bring out the competitiveness in some of us adults and draw a huge crowd with almost all students at lunch

play time coming along to watch. In the end it was a hard-fought draw, much to the disgust of the students who felt they were robbed. Thanks to Jaime Buccilli and all the staff and students for making this a fun occasion.

Farwell Mr Veal

Well, what can I say about someone I have come to the same place and shared adjoining offices with for the past ten years? Andrew Veal was there to greet me on my first day, as a very excited and nervous new Principal, during the school holidays in April 2015 when he handed me my own set of keys to the school.

Andrew has been my greatest support and ever so reliable throughout my entire time at THPS. He has challenged me with every decision I have made, always with a goal of making me a better person. I've gotten to know Andrew so well, such a caring person and a softie at heart...his bark is definitely bigger than his bite. He also has an uncanny knack of knowing when a joke or comment (usually inappropriate) is required to ease the tension in a room. I've lost count of the amount of times I have rolled my eyes at his daggy comments and questionable behaviour in a bid to make us all laugh. He also enjoys singing in his office and I have no doubt the Foundation students will remember finding him asleep there too.



With Andrew retiring, he is leaving behind a legacy at THPS of sustained success. His vision of establishing a physical environment is unmatched, and the school grounds and learning spaces that he designed, now support the calm and orderly environment we have established.

There is a famous Greek proverb that states "*plant trees whose shade you know you shall never sit in.*" I now get to collect Andrew's keys off him, as he leaves THPS in a much better place than it was when he commenced fifteen years ago, a school that is now thriving in every aspect. And as a person, I get to use the knowledge that I have gained from working alongside him, to be a better leader.

Enjoy your retirement Mr Veal, I hope you now have time to spend with your grandkids Bobby and Ryder, down at Ocean Grove, reduce your handicap playing golf and be bossed about by Deb with countless home renovations. You will be sorely missed by me, but I'm so happy you are now getting time back to enjoy the next exciting chapter of your life.

Rhys Coulson

Principal

From Mr Veal:

My teaching career comes to an end on Friday after 40 years. And it has really flown.

I started my teaching at Ararat Primary School with my first grade being Foundation. Then my journey went to Olympic Village Primary to Keon Park Primary to Warranwood Primary to Ringwood Heights Primary to Antonio Park Primary to finally Templestowe Heights. During this time, I taught at all grade levels and even spent some time as a Physical Education teacher. Moving schools was always a joy and something I sought as I moved up the hierarchical order in the education system. When I secured the Assistant Principal job at Templestowe Heights, I knew that this was a special place to be. The school had just over 200 students, the buildings and classrooms were old and tired but the people inside the walls were here to make this school a special place.

So fifteen years later, with lots of money spent on the building and grounds, on the teaching prowess of the staff and the direction and leadership lead by Rhys Coulson, Jeanette Breen, Samantha Charlton, Martin Ravindran and Margaret de Haas, you have what you see today. This is one of the highest academic achieving schools in the state and is visited weekly by other schools and education department heads in the attempt to try and have what has been established here, replicated throughout Victoria. I have been so proud to play a small part in this.

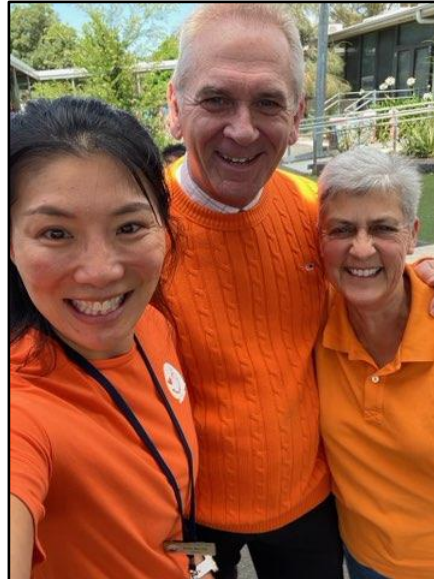
I have been humbled by the many well wishes, events and gifts I have received over the last two weeks. I would like to say a big thank you to the staff and School Council for gifting me a print of my favourite artist, Kate Smith. It sits proudly over my fireplace for me to sit and admire and think of them all. Thank you also to this wonderful community for the many vouchers that I received. Someone must have whispered that I visit Bunnings regularly. It was very generous of you all, thank you.

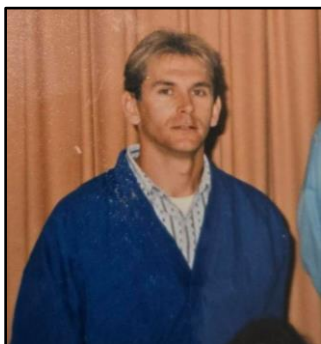
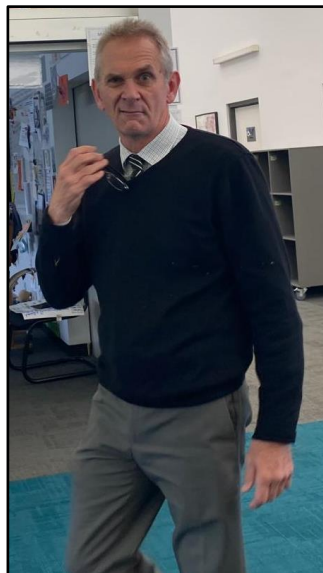
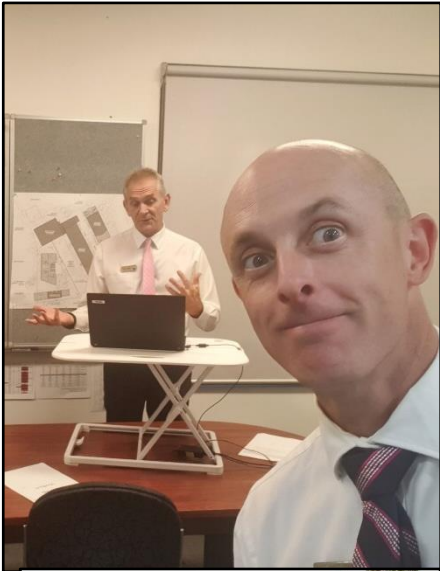
As for Mr Veal Day, well I haven't seen so much orange clothing, neck ties and grey hair in the one place before. Very funny! The assembly was wonderful, getting to hear some of the poems that the children had written for me, or should I say about me. I can't wait to sit down and read through each and every one of them. They bring a warm glow to my heart.

For me now, as they say, the journey is just beginning. I have two grandchildren who I will be babysitting regularly who keep me on my toes, an old house that needs constant maintenance and upgrading, and the opportunity to follow some of my passions that time and work have not allowed. (As well as a list of jobs that the staff need to be completed at their own places!)

It has been an absolute pleasure to have worked for 15 years at Templestowe Heights Primary School. It is not the buildings and grounds nor the academic programs that make this place special, but it's the people. The staff, the parent community, the students - you are all so supportive and welcoming to each other, you have been amazing.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your journey. You will live in my mind and my heart for ever!





CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

Term 4 2024

Thursday 19 th December	Graduation Ceremony in the Evening – From 6pm
Friday 20 th December	Last day of Term 4 - Assembly 12.30pm Gym – All Welcome - Students Dismissed 1.30pm

2025 TERM DATES

Term 1 - Thursday 30th January to Friday 4th April

Term - 2 Tuesday 22nd April to Friday 4th July

Term 3 - Monday 21st July to Friday 19th September

Term 4 - Monday 6th October to Friday 19th December

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025

Term 1 2025

Thursday 30 th January	Term 1 begins Year 1 to 6
Wednesday 5 th February	Foundation students first day of school
Mon 17 th & Tues 18 th February	School Photos

FROM THE OFFICE

From the office Staff – Margaret, Anna, Tanya and Penny



Wishing everyone in our school community a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope you all have a restful break.

The office will reopen on Wednesday 22nd January 2025 and operate on reduced hours. 10.00am to 3.00pm
Please direct all urgent enquiries to our school email at:

templestowe.heights.ps@education.vic.gov.au

FIRST AID NEWS

If you require your EpiPen or medication over the school holidays or if your families is leaving the school please come to office and collect it at the end of the school day tomorrow.

Summer holidays are an important time for kids with asthma. During all the festivities, please don't forget to keep up your child's asthma management and medicine as prescribed. Good asthma management over the holidays means less time off school when kids return in the new year. To make sure your child stays as healthy as possible over the break and into 2025, you can take the following steps:

- Check your child's medication to make sure they're still in date.
- Keep using your child's preventer medicine as directed over the summer holidays, even if they're feeling well.
- If you're leaving the house or going on holiday, make sure you pack your child's asthma medicine(s) and a spacer.
- Book an Asthma Review with your doctor to get an updated written Asthma Action Plan during the holidays - you'll need this for Term 1 2025. Book in early as doctors can have limited appointments over the Christmas period.

Use Asthma Australia's School's Checklist for parents and carers:

https://asthma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/AA_BTS2022_Asthma-Checklist_digital.pdf



What a wonderful year 2024 has been!

So many P&F events have brought us together; the Welcome Picnic, Easter raffle, Hot Cross Buns, Mother’s Day Breakfast, Mother’s Day Stall, the School Disco, Father’s day Breakfast, Father’s Day stall, the carols evening and the Christmas raffle still to be drawn; P&F has had a very busy year!

Fundraising through these events has been incredibly successful, raising approximately \$9.300, that is all going straight back into our school.

And most importantly, we are very grateful that through these events our school community has come together more than ever this year - so many new connections and friendships have been made.

Thank you to everyone who offered their time, expertise, experience and love to this great cause - you know who you are!! We love and appreciate every one of you.

Next year is set to be another big one. If you are keen to join the fun, laughter, fundraising and friendship, please reach out personally, via the below QR code which will take you to the THPS P&F Facebook page, or in an email to thpspaf@gmail.com

We would love to have you onboard!

Merry Christmas everyone and we’ll see you all next year!

Elisa & Lauren
page

THPS Parents & Friends Community Facebook



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!!!

Basketball has finished for Season 2 2024!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to coach, team manage and train our players, and to all the parents who have scored, helped with lifts etc – it's a team effort and we couldn't run this program without your valuable contributions and support.

This season we had 15 Primary School teams and 4 Miniball teams. Of our 15 PS teams, 12 played finals, 8 played in their grand final match and 2 won their grand final!

Amazing result!

GO HEIGHTS!!!



Access Psychological Treatment and Assessments

Elysium Psychology

**Meet
Katrine Anthoulas
Provisional Psychologist**



What can therapy help with?

- Social anxiety
- Academic stress
- Bullying
- Body image
- Mood disorders
- Learning difficulties
- Emotional Regulation
- Sleep difficulty
- ASD
- ADHD

Contact us today:

Templestowe Heights Primary
Rhys.Coulson@education.vic.gov.au
Tel: (03) 9850 1796

or

Elysium Psychology
katrine@elysiumpsychology.com.au
Ph. 0491709555

How can I access this service?

Katrine will be working on-site every Wednesday from Week 2, Term 1, 2025

Sessions are 50 minutes.
MHCP required - no gap fee
NDIS Fees may apply



TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!

The place to be
these holidays!

LEVEL UP!

Summer Holiday Program

Book Now!



See Sonic
The Hedgehog 3



Octopus art attack!



Arcade rush!



Ultimate game
shows

Book now at theircare.com.au

Save up to 90% with the Child Care Subsidy

Holiday Program Important Information!

What to bring

- A healthy morning tea and lunch
- A labelled drink bottle for water
- Suitable clothing for an active day – closed toe shoes and jacket if wet/cold
- SunSmart hat for Spring and Summer holidays
- Medical Management Plan & Medication if applicable – see below for details



Don't forget!

- Keep your lunchbox nut-free to keep everyone safe
- Do not include food items that need to be reheated
- Label all items with child's name!
- Bus departure and arrival times are indicative only. For an accurate estimated time of arrival and departure please contact your service directly.



Personal belongings

Electronic devices, money and other valuables should be left at home.

If brought to the service, these items remain the responsibility of the family. TheirCare does not accept responsibility for loss or damage.



TheirCare provides

- Breakfast and afternoon tea snack
- Sunscreen
- Water to refill bottles



Child Care Subsidy

Please note that subsidised hours are calculated and allocated by Centrelink on a fortnightly basis. Check Centrelink for eligibility. Each session is calculated using the full service operational hours, not the hours attended by the child.



Unexpected changes to activities

In the unlikely event that an activity is unable to run, an alternative activity will be provided.

Activities and times are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances such as severe weather or provider availability. If an alternative cannot be sourced we will update your invoice to reflect this.



Serious stuff!

Medical Management Plan & Medication

All children who have been diagnosed with a medical condition including allergies, food/chemical intolerances, anaphylaxis, asthma, epilepsy will need to provide:

- a completed Medical Management Plan with a colour photo
- necessary medication

Please note it is a legal requirement under the Education & Care National Regulations and the Terms and Conditions for booking that these are provided.

In the interests of child safety, care may be refused on the day should the appropriate documentation or medication or medication not be supplied.



Changes to your booking

Simply log into your account anytime to make the relevant changes or call us between 8:30am – 9:00pm weekdays on 1300 072 410.



Fees for changes to your booking

More than 5 days	Less than 5 days *	On the day
No Charge	\$10.00	Full Fee

*Less than 5 days from the start of the booking (120 hours from the start of the session).

When making additional bookings, the \$10.00 fee is eligible for the Child Care Subsidy, which means you may only need to pay the gap, depending on your families' circumstances.



