

## Principal's Report 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018



### Enrolments

1. On current enrolment is 375 students. In April our funding from the Department of Education (DET) will be adjusted, because in August 2017, we predicted only 330 students to be enrolled at the start of 2018.
2. School Tours have commenced.

### Strategic Goals and Priorities

1. Our 2018 Annual Implementation Plan has been endorsed by Region and School Council.
2. 2018 budget has been drafted, ready for endorsement at March meeting.
3. As part of DET's *Framework for Improving Student Outcomes* (FISO) initiative, we have formed a network with Parkmore Primary and Forest Hill College who are embarking on a similar strategic focus of exploring visible wellbeing/positive education.
4. All staff have finalised their performance and development plans, aligned to our school's overall strategic foci, to set goals and targets for their own professional growth.

### Staffing

1. On 3<sup>rd</sup> March Angela Makris and husband Phoebus welcomed their first child, Ari into the world.
2. Andrew Veal will be taking (some much deserved) long service leave in weeks 2 and 3 of term 2 (21<sup>st</sup> April – 6<sup>th</sup> May). During this time Andrew will be replaced by members of our School Improvement Team (Ross Toogood, Jeanette Breen, Celene Black, Cassandra Dykstra and Kate Stacker). A great opportunity to experience the role of an Assistant Principal.

### Professional Learning

1. All teaching staff participated in a half day workshops with our literacy coaches (Mary McQuilten and Chris Egan) as we commence building a new writing curriculum and further develop teacher skills, knowledge and understandings in writing.
2. Staff have participated in after-school workshops linked to our instructional model.
3. Staff are currently participating in their first round of collegiate visits, linked to developing instructional practice.
4. As part of our induction program, our new instructional literacy coach, Bobbie Cameron, has continued to model our reading model and support our new classroom teachers.
5. Celene Black, Jacqui Nicolazzo, Linda Spencer and myself attended a workshop at Geelong Grammar (Toorak campus) focusing on an introduction to positive education.
6. Staff from Old Orchard Primary visited THPS on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March to observe our mathematics program, instructional model and later met with Celene and Jeanette to discuss our assessment tools and practices. This is part of their school's strategic focus.
7. Staff from Warrandyte Primary also visited our year 3/4 team on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March to observe our spelling program in action. Again, this is part of their school's strategic focus.

### Community Life

1. Parent/guardian information evenings (Foundation and years 1-6) took place in mid-February. The sessions were well attended and feedback was positive.
2. Welcome picnic was a memorable event that was well attended. A great opportunity for our new families (and existing) to get to know one another. Staff sausage sizzle was a winner.

3. Foundation students are now here full time. Morning tea hosted by class reps last week.
4. We have had Templestowe Heights Preschool visit us and participate in our "Prep for a Morning" sessions. Thank you to our specialist team of Kate Stacker, Dina Velona, Jayne Setford, Joy Birrell and supported by our year 4 and 6 students for making it an enjoyable time.
5. Parent/guardian-teacher discussions took place in week 5 (26<sup>th</sup> Feb – 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar).
6. Student voice ambassadors and our Foundation students were presented by Courtney Dempsey with badges and certificates respectively at a special assembly.
7. Twenty of our wonderful THPS Parents & Friends successfully participated in the Run for the Kids charity event on 18<sup>th</sup> March, raising \$1000 towards the Royal Children's Hospital Easter appeal. They already have their sights set on a half marathon!
8. Individual Learning Plans were sent home on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March.
9. Growth Mindset parent information evening was well attended by our extended community. Feedback was positive, everyone walked away with a strategy and could relate to the concept of growth mindset.
10. Students in year 5/6 attended a lawn bowls day hosted by Templestowe Bowls Club. The students had a great time, experiencing a new sport with very helpful members of the bowls club. A group of our students will now represent our school in an interschool carnival.
11. Judy, Eliza, Bridget and Indigo proudly represented our school at the regional swimming competition. They did an amazing job and gave it their all to finish second (by under one second) in the 4x50m freestyle relay. Judy smashed 2 seconds off her personal best in the 50m backstroke to win her event and will now go onto the next stage of competition.
12. Our performing arts teacher Jayne Setford, has booked the Beson Centre (at Mount Scoupis) for our School Production – *Pirates of the Curry Bean*, for Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. The venue holds 999 seats, meaning we will only require one night.