



THOMAS MITCHELL WEEKLY

Web Site: <http://www.tmps.vic.edu.au/>



THOMAS MITCHELL DRIVE, ENDEAVOUR HILLS.

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Issue No. 4

February 18th 2021



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| Thursday | 18/2 | Parent/Teacher/Student Interview Bookings close at 4.00pm |
| Friday | 19/2 | Last Day for CSEF Claims |
| Monday | 22/2 | Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews via Webex |
| Tuesday | 23/2 | Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews via Webex |
| Friday | 26/2 | District Swimming Carnival, Noble Park Aquatic Centre |
| Monday | 1/3 | Year 6 Assembly – Badge Presentation – 9.00am in Gym |
| Thursday | 4/3 | Year 1 Community Walk |
| Monday | 8/3 | Labour Day Public Holiday – Students do not attend school this day |
| Wednesday | 10/3 | Casey North Divisional Swimming Carnival – Noble Park Aquatic Centre |

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Our Most Recent Lockdown and Back To School

Thank you to everyone for your support, and the way families worked with us during the lockdown that ended today. It is lovely to see all the children back at school this morning. They are also very happy to see their friends again and be back at school.

We have learnt from how quickly the lockdown was called. We only had an hour or so to organise things. We will be in contact with parents soon to ensure that we are better organised with student work and contact with staff if we have another lockdown.

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews – Bookings close at 4.00pm today.

These interviews will be on-line, and parents need to make sure they that they have booked a time. Bookings close at 4.00pm today. Instructions on how to book an interview have been published in previous newsletters.

Our School Council

Below is information about an opportunity for parents to broaden their understanding of how our school operates, and to have a say about the education of your child at Thomas Mitchell – by becoming a parent representative on school council.

School Council Elections – Call for Nominations

Summary of Power and Duties of a School Council

Within statewide guidelines, the major responsibilities of all school councils include:-

- Developing and monitoring the directions of the school strategic plan.
- Establishing the goals and priorities of the school and determining its education policy.
- Approving the school budget consistent with the school charter and maintaining financial responsibility.
- Maintaining and improving the school's building and grounds.
- Reporting annually to the school community and Department of Education.
- Making a recommendation to the Secretary for the Department of Education on the appointment of a school principal.
- Generally stimulate interest in the school.
- Allow use of the school's premises by community groups.
- Approve all camps and excursions that are conducted overnight.

Role of School Councillors

Parents and staff are elected to council to represent the interests of all parents and all staff and to ensure that the best outcomes for all students are achieved.

Composition of Thomas Mitchell Primary School Council

Up to 8 parent members

Up to 4 staff members (DET employees)

Up to 2 community members (cannot be DET employees)

1 principal

Total 15

School Council members are elected for 2 years. Each year, half the parent members and half the staff members stand down from Council. Parent members are also required to stand down if they no longer fulfil the parent status. They may however, complete their term (ie until March 31st) after their child/children have left the school.

Parent Members

The following 4 current parent members' term expires on 31st March 2021.

Luckmi Liyanage Eligible to renominate

Amy Mather Eligible to renominate

Suthagini Subakaran Eligible to renominate

Nicole Walker Eligible to renominate

Current Parent Members whose term expires in 2022

Maggie Chen

Sallie Morrison

Shyamali Subasinghe

Malathy Vivehananthan

Parent Member Vacancies

4 X 2 year vacancies

2 X 1 year vacancy

Community Rep Members whose term expires in 2022

Belinda Bagley

Menaka Jasenthuhewage

DET Employee Members

The following DET employee members' term expires on 31st March 2021.

Mark Reid and Tracey Etherington

DET Employee Members whose term expires in 2022

Giselle Cassar and Jennifer Churcher

Timetable for Elections

Notice of Elections and call for nominations – Thursday 18th February 2021.

Close on Nominations – Thursday 25th February 2021.

All voting completed (if necessary) – Thursday 11th March 2021.

Declaration of Ballot – Thursday 11th March 2021.

Nomination Forms

Nomination forms are available from the school office.

John Hurley, Principal

NOTICE SENT HOME THIS WEEK

Year 1 Community Walk





FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER, TRACEY ETHERINGTON

Dear parents, carers and students, thank you all for arranging to prepay or visit us on Book Collection Day. 2020 was a potentially difficult time financially for some families and we appreciate your efforts to support your child's school. I also want to thank you for your patience if you visited us on Book Collection Day and experienced delays due to density restrictions at the Uniform Shop. In these restrictive times, it is advisable that you prepay for uniform wherever possible and arrange to collect it (or have it delivered to your child's classroom). You can do this by telephoning us or sending your emailed order and making payment over the phone.

If you have not yet made arrangements to pay for your books, excursions and any other fees please do so as soon as possible.

Prepaid Forms for Books, Excursions etc.

Your receipt and prepayment form is available at the office for collection. Due to credit card information being written on these forms we are not willing to send these home with children.

Please call by and collect your form as soon as possible. If forms and receipts are not collected by [the end of next week](#), we will securely destroy these records.

CSEF – Centrelink Health or Concession Cards

If you hold a Centrelink concession card and it was valid on 27th January 2021, you may be eligible for \$125 per student to help assist the costs of excursions, camps or sporting activities.

Applications close shortly. Please contact us if you would like more information.

Communications

As most of our communications are now electronic, please keep us informed of your any changes to your email address and mobile phone numbers. It is important that we have up to date contact details at all times.

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF)

The Department of Education has advised us that the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) will be accessible again in 2021 for eligible families. The fund will assist these families to cover the cost of school excursions, camps and sporting activities to ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important educational and fun activities.

If you hold a valid, means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for \$125 per student attending primary school. Application forms and further information were distributed with our Parent Payments Information pack, and spare copies are available at the office. If you have not yet applied for this fund, please ensure you do so **by tomorrow, Friday 19th February 2021**.

FOR PREP 2021 FAMILIES: Later this term, if your application for CSEF has been approved, we will write to you about your eligibility for a 'free' Prep uniform package. This package usually includes shoes, and a complete uniform for your child. Details of the package are yet to be confirmed.


Parent, Teacher, Student Interviews – Bookings Close at 4.00pm today.

A reminder to parents that bookings for parent, teacher, student interviews close today at 4.00pm. Instructions on how to book an interview have been published in previous newsletters.

These interviews are different to the information sessions being held, and will enable us to obtain information about your child.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open on the following days during Term 1. Please be aware due to capacity limits, there may be a delay being served. We apologise for any inconvenience.

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| Every Tuesday afternoon between 3.00pm to 4.00pm:  23 rd February 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th March | Every Friday morning between 8.30am to 9.30am: 19 th & 26 th February 5 th , 12 th , 19 th & 26 th March |
|--|--|

A reminder that all students are required to wear a TMPS hat while outside during Term 1.

Playgroup



The school offers a Playgroup for 0-5 year olds each Thursday morning from 9.15am – 10.30am during the school term in Rooms 18/19. We ask for a gold coin donation to participate and for parents to please bring a nut free snack for their child/ren and water.

It is a great opportunity for local families and parents of children attending our school and for your young children to meet other children who may be joining the school in the future. Please feel free to bring a friend along, or if you know someone with younger children who would like to join this group, please let them know. Fun activities include: playdough, painting, pasting, stories, music, singing and games.

Thomas Mitchell PS Sport News

School Sport Victoria Trials

School Sport Victoria trials are now open online. These trials are for students who turn 12 years old by the end of the year. The trials are designed for students who play at an extremely high level in AFL, soccer, netball, cricket and basketball. Parents are responsible for registering their child online.

All state team information is available & nominations can be registered online via the SSV website (www.ssv.vic.edu.au) using the Team Vic State Teams tab and selecting the relevant sport.

Please note there are limited positions in each of the sports so get in early if you believe your child displays exceptional skills and a deep passion for a specific sport!

Weekly House Points

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|-----------------|---------|-----|
| 1 st | Freeman | 300 |
| 2 nd | Perkins | 300 |
| 3 rd | Fraser | 250 |
| 4 th | Bradman | 150 |

Have a great week!

Tim Gouge

Physical Education & Sport Coordinator