**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**CIS (Council of International Schools) Visit to TMPS – Tuesday 3rd May to Friday 6th May**

As I indicated in last week’s newsletter, next week is a very important week for our school. Our CIS visitors, Ray Davis, Michele Anderson and Helena Sobulis will be reviewing our school in preparation for a major school review late in the 2017 school year. In the 2017 major review, we will have 8 to 10 International Reviewers at our school for up to a week.

One of the main reasons we work hard to maintain our CIS Accreditation is because of the rigorous reviews that the school is required to undertake to remain accredited. More than 75% of the schools worldwide that apply for CIS Accreditation are *not* successful. There are about 700 accredited schools worldwide, 50 in Australia and 20 in Victoria.

We propose to have a whole school assembly at 2.40pm on Tuesday 3rd May to introduce our guests to the whole school. Parents are welcome to attend.

**Hats No Longer Required From Next Monday, 2nd May**

As parent would be aware, students are required to wear hats outside until the end of April as part of our Sunsmart Policy. From Monday 2nd May, hats are no longer required to be worn until later in the year.

**CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund) Recipients**

If you are the recipient of funding from this State Government initiative (or you are a holder of a current Health Care Card but have not yet claimed), and you have a child in Prep this year, you are eligible for *free* school uniform items to the value of $57.00. Please contact the school office for more information, or respond to the letter sent home to you today.

John Hurley, Principal
CSEF Applications

Parents are reminded that if you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for the CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their achievements.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students

How to Apply
- Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the CSEF or TMPS website.

Please note:
Prep children who have been approved for CSEF are now entitled to specific school uniform items free of charge. Letters have been sent to eligible families today.

Tracey Etherington, Business Manager

School Photos

We are still awaiting delivery of the school photo orders. We anticipate that they will arrive late next week. They will be distributed to classrooms upon their arrival.

Thank you for your patience.

ANZAC DAY APPEAL 2016

Thank you to our families that purchased poppies and badges for the Anzac Appeal. Our school raised $50.00.
We thank you for your support.
Louisa Boucher, Social Service
Naplan Testing (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy)

These tests are conducted Australia-wide for students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. They are a “snapshot” of how a student achieves on that 40 or 50 minute test on the test day. As parents would be aware, this may or may not be an accurate assessment of a students’ overall achievement.

At school, we conduct a number of tests throughout the year to give both parents and teachers a more accurate view of how each student is learning. This is then conveyed to parents in half yearly reports.

The test days are as follows:

- 10/5/16 Language Conventions and Writing test
- 11/5/16 Reading test
- 12/5/16 Numeracy test

On testing days we would ask that students arrive at school as promptly as possible to ensure a consistent start and finish time. More detailed information will follow in a Parent Information Pack which will be distributed to relevant year levels shortly.

Mark Reid, Assistant Principal

THOMAS MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL PHONE APP

Thomas Mitchell Primary School’s own iPhone/Android App is now available from the App store/Playstore as a free download. If you are downloading the app to your iPhone/iPad you will need to search for the app using the App store. If you are using an Android phone search for the app using the Playstore, then download it onto your device.

The app is designed to allow TMPS parents to access and receive information about events and activities at the school. We trust that you will enjoy the convenience that this app will bring you. If you have any queries, please contact us at school ph: 9706 2254, or via the school’s email thomas.mitchell.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or the app (if you have successfully downloaded it) under the requests tab.

THOMAS MITCHELL WEBSITE

Our website http://www.tmps.vic.edu.au/ has lots of useful information about our school including copies of newsletters, excursion notices, forms, price lists, enrolment information etc that can be downloaded for your use.

A feature of the web is the ability to subscribe to our weekly Newsletter as well as excursion notices. If you would like to take advantage of this feature, click on the parents tab on our website, select ‘newsletters’ and then click on the “Email me updates” link on the right hand side of the page. This link will ask you to fill out your name and email address and each week you will automatically receive an updated copy of the newsletter once we have added it to the webpage.

To receive excursion notices and forms repeat the same process by clicking on the School Notices & Excursion forms tab. Please go and visit our new web page and tell us what you think, we would appreciate your feedback.
2016 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open and Thomas Mitchell Primary School is excited to be participating again and encourages all students to participate.

The Premiers’ Reading Challenge is a great way to get students reading and talking about books. Students can discuss book lists with their friends to find out what they’re reading and what’s worth reading. The Challenge also encourages students to push themselves to read as many books as they can. This is the eleventh year of this Challenge and since 2005, it has helped inspire nearly two million students to read 34 million books.

IT IS FREE TO PARTICIPATE. For those parents who are new to the Challenge, you will find that it is a great way to motivate your children to read more books and discover new and exciting titles. Children who complete the Challenge, will be rewarded with a certificate of achievement. They will also have the opportunity to see their name on an online honour roll, and view a special video to congratulate participants. TMPS will also have special raffles and prizes for those who complete the Challenge. Students in Prep to Year 2 who accept the Challenge need to read or ‘experience’ 30 books during this period. (This means books can be read to these students as well). Students in Years 3 to 6 who accept the Challenge, must read 15 books during this period.

Students must choose most of their books from the Challenge book list, and record their reading online. The school will enrol students and issue them with a password and user name. This is used by students to logon to the website and record what they have read. The children can keep reading for the Challenge until it ends on the 2nd September.

The Thomas Mitchell Library Resource Centre has hundreds of books from the Challenge list, so it is easy for students to find books to borrow and read. The extensive Challenge booklist has something for everyone with much-loved classics as well as new releases. There are thousands of books to choose from, with fiction, non-fiction, plays, poetry, short stories and graphic novels all available. Reading books in other languages also counts towards the Challenge.

Consent forms are available from the school library and must be signed and completed by a parent/guardian and returned to the school by Friday 24th June. Further information and forms are available from the Library. The Library is open before and after school if any parents wish to find out more details.

Josie Morando, Librarian
First Place - District Cross Country Carnival - Wednesday 20th April

A huge congratulations to all students who competed at the District Cross Country Carnival last Wednesday. Thomas Mitchell finished in first place and we are very proud of all our students who competed on the day.

The results are as follows:

1st - Thomas Mitchell Primary School – 2562
2nd - Fleetwood – 2011
3rd - Narre Warren North – 1762
4th - Mossgiel Park – 1566
5th - James Cook- 1369
6th - Maranatha- 1204

Go TMPS! 😊

Divisional Cross Country Carnival

The Divisional Cross Country Carnival will take place on Monday 23rd May at Toomuc Recreation Reserve on Princes Highway, Pakenham.

Congratulations to the twenty-one Thomas Mitchell students who have qualified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dalia</th>
<th>Alyssa</th>
<th>Ela</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nikolina</td>
<td>Snezana</td>
<td>Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jyothika</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Ebru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>Andrew</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitsuki</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claudia</td>
<td>Senam</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neveen</td>
<td>Nazif</td>
<td>Allen</td>
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</tbody>
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Cross Country Training

Students wanting to train for the Divisional Cross Country Carnival or any students who would like to train to improve their fitness, training will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday 3rd May 8:20am
- Wednesday 11th May 8:20am

All students are to meet in the gym foyer and training will be conducted on the oval.

Year 6 Interschool Sport - Friday 29th April

Tomorrow, Friday 29th April the year six students participate in their second round of interschool sport. Please see below for game fixture:

| Narre Warren North Vs. Thomas Mitchell (Blue) Away |
| Thomas Mitchell (Gold) Vs. Holy Family Home |

Reminder: Year six students who are in the home team are reminded to please bring a cut orange for interschool sport.
Round 1 Result

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Handball</th>
<th>Volleystars</th>
<th>Soccer</th>
<th>Tee-Ball</th>
<th>Netball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mossgiel Park (Navy)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thomas Mitchell Blue</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Handball</th>
<th>Volleystars</th>
<th>Soccer</th>
<th>Tee-Ball</th>
<th>Netball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mossgiel Park (Maroon)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thomas Mitchell Gold</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
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**Weekly House Points Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Fraser</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Bradman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total House Point Results for 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Fraser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Olivia Goder, Physical Education Teacher

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Thomas Mitchell Playgroup – Tuesday Mornings - 9.15am – 10.30am**

The school is running a Playgroup for 0-5 year olds each Tuesday morning from 9:15am – 10:30am during the school term again this year. We ask for a gold coin donation to participate and for parents to please bring a nut free snack for their child/ren.

It is a great opportunity to meet other parents of children attending our school or local families and for your younger 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.

Look forward to seeing you at Playgroup.
**Fundraising Target**
All our fundraising this year will be going to the Art Department to help with the purchase of a new Kiln! We hope everyone will continue to support the efforts of the Parents Club and help us work towards achieving this goal. We’ll be so happy if we can contribute $10,000.

**Meeting**
Our next meeting will be held tomorrow, **Friday 29th April at 2:30pm**. Please pencil this date in your diary and come along to the staffroom if you’d like to be involved in the Parents’ Club.

**Jamberry Nails Fundraiser**
We are running a Jamberry Nails fundraiser this term in conjunction with Mayuri Wickramarachchi. The school will receive 20% commission on all sales made using the link below, from now until the 9th of May. Jamberry Nails are also donating $1 from all wraps sold in April to Legacy and $3 from each special Autism wrap to Autism Spectrum Australia. If you’d like to find out more, please check out the flyers posted up around the school or call Mayuri on Mb:0422 621 187. Please use the following link to make your online purchase. Please check the online newsletter through the school website if you wish to click on the link directly instead of typing it in! [https://aussiejammy.jamberry.com/au/en/shop/party/home/a10546b1-4e5a-4cbf-b5f3-32956947ab5e](https://aussiejammy.jamberry.com/au/en/shop/party/home/a10546b1-4e5a-4cbf-b5f3-32956947ab5e)

**Mothers’ Day Stall**
The Mothers’ Day Stall will be held on **Friday 6th May**. All gifts will be $5 each and students wishing to purchase additional gifts can do so at the end of the day. We ask that you let your teacher know, on the day, if you have $10 or more. Please bring a shopping bag for your purchase/s.

**5c Fundraiser**
Thank you to everyone for the overwhelming support of this fun event so far! Please continue to donate your 5c coins via your class teacher each morning. The amount of coins donated from each class is being recorded once a week. The class which has donated the most coins by 17th June will receive a special Pizza lunch in the last week of Term 2!! Please keep looking for all your spare 5c coins under the couch, in the car etc and bring them along to school each morning.

**School Banking**
We had 69 deposits this week which is great considering the Year 5 students are away on camp. Thank you to all our regular savers and welcome to our new savers! Remember, the Commonwealth Bank rewards the school with 5% commission on each deposit made (as well as $5 for each new account registered). The new rewards now available are Mud Splat Handball and Outback Pat Bag Tag. Other rewards still available are: Flying Snake Tail, Wildlife Writer Set, Dollarmites Moneybox (2014), ET DVD (2015), Outerspace Money Box (2015), Intergalactic Rocket (2015) or Galaxy Glider Frisbee (2015). Please include a note and 10 silver tokens (or 1 gold token) with your banking if you’d like to claim a reward.

**Entertainment Books**
We are now selling the 2016/2017 Melbourne Entertainment Book. For only $65, you get over $15,000 worth of valuable offers that can be used straight away. The vouchers are valid up until 1st June, 2017!! $13 from each book sold will go towards TMPS’ fundraising. Order forms should be available next week. In the meantime, you can order an Entertainment Book online [https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/1876q86](https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/1876q86) or pay by EFT/Credit Card or correct cash at the school office. A copy of the Entertainment Book is available at the office for viewing.
In Year 1, we learnt about the importance of ANZAC day and why we celebrate it. We made poppy wreaths to remember those who have fought in wars to protect our country.

1W, 1JW, 1JX, 1NW, 1SB
The soldiers fought for their country.

On ANZAC day, we remember the soldiers who fought in the war.

The Last Post is played at the end of a dawn service.

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

The poppies came when the soldiers died.