FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This is our final newsletter for 2016. In this newsletter we say goodbye to several of our staff members who have been at our school for a long time.

**Mrs Celia Hamilton** started at our school in our first year – 1991. Apart from taking Family Leave, her whole teaching career has been at Thomas Mitchell since 1991. She has taught a wide variety of classes and specialist positions in her time here. Many, many children remember her as a caring and thoughtful teacher.

She is transferring to Berwick Chase Primary School. I’m sure everyone joins with us in thanking her for her great contribution to our school, and wishing her well in the next part of her career.

**Mrs Robynne Quinn**

Mrs Quinn is also a long term staff member of Thomas Mitchell. She joined our school in 1994. Since that time, she has taught classes right across the school, and lots of students have benefited from her happy and caring nature.

Mrs Quinn is transferring to Beaconhills College, where she will join several other staff members who taught at Thomas Mitchell. As with Mrs Hamilton, I’m sure everyone joins with us in thanking her for her great contribution to our school, and wishing her well in the next part of her teaching career.

**Mrs Kerrie Chapman**

Mrs Chapman joined our school in April 1998 as an Integration Aide. She has worked with a large number of students, supporting and assisting them to achieve positive outcomes in their learning. We thank you, Kerrie, on behalf of all the students you have worked with.

**Mrs Sally Opie**

Mrs Opie has been at Thomas Mitchell since 1999. She has worked as an Integration Aide and, more recently, as coordinator of our Uniform Shop.

Thank you, Sally, for the great things you have done for the students you have worked with, and for the school as a whole.

**Mr Vaughn Bascombe**
Mr Bascombe joined our school in 2013 as our specialist IT Technician. He has been a great help to the school in the IT area, and has worked with teachers to ensure the functionality of our IT equipment.

Vaughn is moving on to another IT position and we wish him well.

**Year 6 Graduation**

Last night we had the Year 6 Graduation, which was a wonderful celebration of a successful year for our Year 6 students. The following awards were presented last night:

**School Captains**
- Emily
- Samir

**Vice Captains**
- Amelie
- Abel

**House Captains**
- Bradman
  - Snezana
  - Mitch
- Fraser
  - Lily-Rose
  - Ryan
- Perkins
  - Mia
  - Jayden
- Freeman
  - Amitha
  - Nathan

**Art**
- Ciala
- Harejien

**Sport**
- Ebru
- Ryan

**Mandarin**
- Laya
- Abel

**Indonesian**
- Ana
- Sebi

**Science**
- Alissa
- Samir

**Spizzirri TMPS Citizenship Award**
- Ebony

**Community Spirit and Leadership for the City of Casey**
- Lily-Rose

**Academic**
- Joanna
- Nathan

We wish them, and any other students who are leaving Thomas Mitchell, all the very best for their future.

**2017 Classes**

Tomorrow, Friday 16th December, all students will visit their 2017 classroom and meet their 2017 teacher.

Information about their class and teacher will be sent home with their reports on Friday.

**Last Day of School for 2016 – Tuesday 20th December – Finish at 1.30pm**

A reminder to parents that next Tuesday 20th December is our last day of school, and that school finishes at 1.30pm.

**Whole School Assembly**

There will be a Whole School Assembly next Tuesday, 20th December at 9.00am in the Gym. All parents are welcome to attend.

**Finally**

I would like to thank all parents and students for their contributions to making 2016 a really successful school year.

I hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday, and we look forward to another great year in 2017.

*John Hurley*

*Principal*
**Notice Sent Home This Week**

- Year 3 – 6 Students Swim Trials for the 2017 Swim Team

**TERM 1 DIARY DATES FOR 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30th January</td>
<td>Teachers Return to School Book Collection Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 31st January</td>
<td>Students in Years 1 to 6 commence school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 31st January – Friday 3rd February</td>
<td>Prep Interviews and Testing (Students will be allocated an interview time)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6th February</td>
<td>Prep students commence full time (9.00am – 3.30pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13th March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 31st March</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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**School Council Message**

Throughout 2016, the School Council have been working together to ensure that our school continues to offer our students a comprehensive and well-resourced educational program supported by the use of modern technology. TMPS continually strives for high standards across all aspects of the core curriculum to achieve our goals. In order to provide enhanced educational experiences of the quality expected by our school community, School Council have agreed that the school request for parents to contribute towards the education of their children in addition to the grants provided by the Victorian Government. School Council is aware of the burden that this request may have and have ensured that parent contributions are kept to a minimum. If you have any concerns in relation to payments, we encourage you to speak to the staff at the office.

We would like to extend a big thank you to all the dedicated teachers and staff at TMPS who have worked so hard throughout 2016 to educate and support our children as they continue to develop and grow in our school. We are indeed very lucky to have such a multicultural and vibrant school community. 2016 has certainly been a very busy year for all. I am sure the children of this school have created memories and experiences to last a lifetime.

We wish all families of TMPS a safe and festive Christmas and a wonderful New Year. We look forward to working together again in 2017.

*Magdaline Goh*

*School Council – Treasurer*

On behalf of members of the School Council at TMPS, I would like to thank Magdaline Goh for her many years of service to school council and our school community. We wish Magdaline and her family well in their future endeavours.

*Micahel Vekic*

*School Council President*

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**Canteen News**
Just a reminder that tomorrow, Friday 16th December, is the last day for canteen lunch orders and sales.

The canteen will be closed after this day and will reopen on Tuesday 31st January 2017.

Canteen Staff

ADVANCE NOTICE OF CAMPS IN 2017:

Dear Parents

In order to assist you with planning and financial arrangements for our proposed camps in 2017, we are providing the following information:

Year 4 Camp 8 November to 10 November 2017 Philip Island Adventure Resort approx. cost $300
Year 5 Camp 30 May to 2 June 2017 Creswick Log Cabin Camp (Ballarat) approx. cost $380
Year 6 Camp 24 October to 27 October 2017 Coonawarra Farm Resort approx. cost $400

The above costs may be subsidised if you have a Health Care/Pension Card and have successfully applied for the Camps, Sports and Excursions funding.

Further information about these camps will be provided in 2017.

Important Information about Books and Payments For 2017:

Last week the booklet “Parent Payment Requests, Uniform Shop and Book Pack Collection Arrangements for 2017” was sent home with each child in years Prep to 5 to give to their parent/guardian. This information pack contains options for payments, uniform shop and book collection.

In summary, parents have the following payment options:

1. **Prepay and avoid queues on Book Collection Day**
   If you use the prepayment option your credit card payment will be processed on either 25/27 January and your child’s books will be sent directly to their classroom, ready for their first day of school. You do not need to come to school on the 30 January unless you require uniforms. **Please return your form if taking up this option by Friday 16 December 2016.**

2. **Enter into payment arrangements**
   We have provided options to enter into instalment plan arrangements. **If you would like to do so, please complete the GREEN form enclosed in the pack and return it to school by Friday 16 December.** Your plans will be authorised and returned to you as confirmation. Please note the first instalment should commence on 30 January 2017. If you provide credit card details you will not need to come to school on the 30 January unless you require uniforms. If you prefer to take up the cash/cheque option, please come to school on 30 January to make your first payment. Please ensure you return the green form by Friday 16 December regardless of the method of payment, so we may discreetly organise the plans in advance.

3. **Payments on Book Collection Day – Monday January 30 2017**
If you are not using the prepayment, or payment instalment arrangements options above, please come along to the school between 8.00am and 12.00noon, or 2.00pm and 6.00pm on Monday 30 January 2017, contribute your payment and collect your child/ren’s books. Payment options are cash, cheque, credit/EFT cards.

4. **If you have a credit from this year (CSEF, excursion credit or other credit) this will be deducted from your fees prior to us processing your prepayment or instalment plan.** Details of any credits deducted will be available with your prepayment form after 30 January. Please note if you do not collect your prepayment form by February 24 2017 from the office, we will securely destroy this record of your credit card information after that date for your protection.

If you are paying on Book Collection Day, we will discuss any credits with you at that time.

Uniform Shop/Book Collection Day times on Monday 30 January 2017 are:
8.00am to 12noon, then 2.00pm to 6.00pm.

2nd Hand Uniform will also be on sale on this day between the hours of 8.00am and 12noon. **THIS IS A CASH SALE option only.**

In the meantime, please call into the office if we can assist you with anything further.

On behalf of the admin team, we would like to wish you all an enjoyable break with your children. Thank you for your friendly smiles, chats and enquiries at the office - we look forward to seeing you again in 2017.

*Tracey Etherington  
Business Manager*

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**T.M.P.S. Enviro News**  
14/12/2016  

Last Thursday we had a wonderful breakfast with 3RC to congratulate them on their efforts on winning the walk to school challenge for 2016.

*3RC did an awesome job on walk to school and their prize was a big breakfast in the staffroom. Mrs Cooke organised the breakfast and had help from her daughter, Nurse Anthea and some parent helpers. Nurse Anthea started off by explaining why eating healthy food was necessary.*

*Then we got to try lots of different healthy breakfast options. The first option was a yummy selection of yoghurt with a sprinkle of healthy muesli on top. Everybody enjoyed it. Following the yummy yoghurt, we got to try: bacon, porridge, baked beans, French toast and fruit smoothies. It was a very exciting start to the day and we had lots of new ideas for healthy and delicious breakfast options. A big thank you to Mrs Cooke, Anthea and all the helpers.  
By Zoe and Ranuthmi 3RC*

*Liz Cooke  
Sustainability Coordinator*
2017 MEDICAL UPDATES

**DOCUMENTATION FOR USE IN 2017**
Over the next week, I will be sending home plans and Authorisation Forms for updating.

**ASTHMA ACTION PLANS**
If your child has a medical diagnosis of Asthma, please have your child’s Asthma reviewed over the school holiday period.

This is an opportune time to have a medical assessment of Asthma symptoms, triggers and management strategies.

Please have the Asthma Action Plan completed by your child’s treating doctor.

Asthma Plans that have not been signed by your doctor will be returned to families for review by the doctor.

**MEDICATION AUTHORITY**
Consent to medicate children is of utmost priority at Thomas Mitchell Primary School.

If medication is kept in the Health Centre, a new Medication Authority must be completed and signed by parents for use in 2017.

**ANAPHYLAXIS & ALLERGY ACTION PLANS**
As part of Thomas Mitchell Primary School’s commitment to the wellbeing of our students, we require families to provide action plans for use in 2017.

Please have the Action Plans completed by your child’s treating doctor.

**UPDATING MEDICAL CONDITIONS**
Families are reminded to inform the school if your child has a newly diagnosed condition. Please contact the office and arrange to speak with our school nurse if you have any concerns.

**APPOINTMENTS WITH NURSE ANTHEA CUPIDO**
I am available for appointments to discuss your child’s medical needs on the following days:
   i) Wednesday 25th January 2017
   ii) Friday 27th January 2017

Please contact me to make an appointment time.

Anthea Cupido
School Nurse
TIMES – TERM 4 2016

Every Friday morning 8.30am to 9.30am:
16th December

Book Collection Day – Monday 30th January 2017
8.00am to 12.00noon
2.00pm to 6.00pm

Nude Food

Congratulations and thank you to all the students (and parents) who participated in our Nude Food competition this year. You can all be proud of your efforts to reduce the amount of rubbish you produce.

Nude food winners for Week 10, Term 4:
Junior School: Joint winners Prep DH and 2DF.
Middle School: 4CM.
Upper School: No data.

There will be no data collected for this week.

SPORT NEWS

2016 Physical Education and Sport

2016 has been a jam-packed year!

Well done to all of the students that represented Thomas Mitchell this year in Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics. Thomas Mitchell has had a very successful year in sport! Taking out first place at the District Cross Country and the District Athletics Carnival was a huge highlight. It was great to see many students representing Thomas Mitchell at the various Regional Carnivals and also the Regional Hoop Time Basketball Competition.

Thank you to all parent helpers this year that helped assist with the carnivals. We look forward to seeing you all in 2017!

Year 6 Interschool Sport

Well done to the Year six students on a very successful year of Interschool Sport. We had great results throughout each term. It was very evident that Thomas Mitchell Blue and Gold teams were very strong across the board. In total we won six pennants throughout the year in Volley Stars, Soccer, Softball and Basketball.

Good luck to the year six students. We wish you all the very best in the future!

Also a huge thank you to our amazing 2016 House Captains:

Bradman: Snezana and Mitch
Fraser: Lily-Rose Campbell and Ryan
Perkins: Mia and Jayden
Freeman: Nathan and Amitha
**2017 Swim Team**

If your child turns 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 during 2017, and is capable of swimming 50 metres in any of the strokes of freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke or butterfly, under the minimum requirement time of 1 minute and 20 seconds, please bring them to try out for our swim team. We didn’t have a large team in 2016, so let’s see if we can have more students try out for next year!

Please see below for times and dates:

- **Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th February 2017** from 4.00pm to 5.00pm at Doveton Pool in the Park, Doveton.

**House Points**

*Finally house points will be announced at the last assembly!*

Have a great week and happy holidays for next week! 😊

*Olivia Goder*
*Physical Education Teacher*

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**PARENTS’ CLUB**

**School Banking**

We had 51 deposits this week which was a great amount for the last week of term. Thanks again to everyone who has consistently banked throughout the year. We look forward to seeing everyone back again for 2017!

The School Banking Program is a fun way for your child to develop the knowledge and confidence to handle their money, combining a savings Reward Program with great activities throughout the year. If you have not yet registered your child but would like them to participate in our School Banking program in 2017, please register your interest at [www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking)

By doing so, the Commonwealth Bank will send an email in January, with a link to open an account on-line, or a reminder to go into a branch.

Remember, our school receives $5 commission for each new account registered as well as 5% for each deposit made on School Banking Days (up to a maximum of $10 commission per deposit).

**Tokens** - every deposit earns one silver token. Some weeks we forget to put tokens in books but please be assured that the bank keeps a record as well. If you’d like to double check the amount you should have, please include a note with your banking next year and we’ll provide an exact total.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported the efforts of the Parents’ Club this year!