THOMAS MITCHELL WEEKLY

THOMAS MITCHELL DRIVE, ENDEAVOUR HILLS.
Issue No. 5
February 25th 2016

Friday 26/2 6CH & 6TG Exc – Shrine of Remembrance & Melbourne Star Wheel
   Last Day for Year 6 Autographed Windcheater Orders – 2nd & final chance
Monday 29/2 Last Day for CSEF Claims
Tuesday 1/3 Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 Assembly – 2.40pm in Gym
Wednesday 2/3 Year 1 Excursion – Community Walk
Monday 7/3 Year 3 Excursion – Victorian Institute of Sport
Tuesday 8/3 Year 3 and Year 4 Assembly – 2.40pm in Gym
Wednesday 9/3 Prep Activity – Carp Productions ‘Happy to be Me’ at TMPS
            Divisional Swimming Carnival – Noble Park Aquatic Centre
Monday 14/3 Labour Day Public Holiday – Children do not attend school
Tuesday 15/3 Year 5 and Year 6 Assembly – 2.40pm in Gym
            TMPS Cross Country – 11.10am – 12.50pm Prep to Year 3 at TMPS
            1.50pm – 3.30pm Year 4 to Year 6 at TMPS
Wed – Fri 16 -18/3 Advance Notice – School Photos
Friday 18/3 Parents’ Club Meeting – 2.30pm in staffroom
Monday 21/3 Harmony Day – Whole School Assembly 2.40pm in Gym

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Staff News
We welcome a new teacher, Miss Elli Hewett to our staff.

School Council
A reminder to parents that School Council nominations close soon. Nomination forms are available at the school office.

SRI – Special Religious Instruction
SRI will commence early in Term 2 for Christianity and Islam studies. Buddhism studies may commence later in the year. Teaching sessions will take place during lunch time for 25 minutes, and commence at 1.00pm.

Parents are requested to read the information sheet and return the Parent Consent Form which is included in this newsletter if they wish their child/children to attend SRI.

Forms should be returned by Thursday 10th March.
John Hurley
Principal

Notice Sent Home This Week

• Young Leaders Day
CSEF APPLICATIONS
LAST DAY FOR CLAIMS – MONDAY 29TH FEBRUARY

A CSEF application form has been sent home previously.

*All applications must be returned to school no later than Monday 29th February.*

Forms can also be downloaded from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef) or copies are available from the school office.

*Tracey Etherington*
*Business Manager*

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**Year 1 Information**

As part of our topic ‘Our Community’, the Year 1 students are learning about various community helpers and their roles and responsibilities. Throughout this term the students will be visited by a number of different community helpers (e.g. nurse, doctor, police officer, dentist etc.) who will speak to them about their occupations. There is no cost for this activity.

*Year 1 Teachers*

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**Give That They May Grow - Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal**

Many thanks to the families who have so far supported the Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal. We have raised $224.70 so far and will be accepting donations until the end of term.

The funds we raise on behalf of Thomas Mitchell go to helping the RCH provide essential medical care, services and equipment to Victorian children and their families. Please help us support the Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal again this year. Spare envelopes are available from the school office.

Thank you so much for your support.

*Louisa Boucher*
*Social Service*

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Year’s Total</th>
<th>Total so far</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$799.60</td>
<td>$224.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,600.00  *Our 2016 Goal !!!!*
Thomas Mitchell Primary School will be offering the following competitions this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject/Paper</th>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>Official Sitting Date</th>
<th>Entry Fee, incl. GST</th>
<th>Fee Enclosed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies *</td>
<td>3–6</td>
<td>17th May 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>31st May 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3–6</td>
<td>14th June 2016</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>15th June 2016</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>2nd August 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>16th August 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These competitions will be held from May to August. To enable us to process students entry fees and submit their names, entries will close on Thursday 24th March. Unfortunately because of strict timelines set by the N.S.W University, late entries cannot be accepted.

I give permission for my child of

Child’s name

Class

to participate in the following 2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter on the timetable above.

Please find enclosed _______________ total entry fee

Amount

Name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

ICAS ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- Common operating systems and hardware
- Word processing
- Graphics and multimedia
- Spreadsheets and databases
- Internet and email
- Programming and scripting
- Reading for meaning in literary texts
- Reading for meaning in factual texts
- Textual devices
- Syntax
- Vocabulary
- Number and arithmetic
- Algebra and patterns
- Measures and units
- Space and geometry
- Chance and data
- Measuring and observing
- Interpreting data
- Predicting/concluding from data
- Investigating
- Reasoning/problem solving
- Dictation
- Proofreading
- Error correction
- Applying rules and conventions
- Text purpose and structure
- Language choices that enhance the writing
- Syntax and grammar
- Punctuation
Sending Medication To School

Many children experience illness and may require medication at school. At Thomas Mitchell Primary School, our School Nurse is happy to administer medication to your child. Please do not send medication in your child’s bag without alerting the school. Thomas Mitchell Primary School has clear policy guidelines regarding medication administration at school.

- Medication must be sent directly to the office for secure storage in the Health Centre to minimise risk to others
- All medication must be delivered to the administration office or Health Centre in the original labelled packaging for identification, together with a completed and signed Medication Authorisation Form
- All prescribed medications received must be clearly labelled with the student’s name and dosage instructions clearly identifiable.
- Clarification from parents/ guardian will be sought prior to administration if the information on the medication container is contradicted. If in doubt, the medication will not be administered.

Medication Consent

- Consent to medicate children is of utmost priority at TMPS. All medication must be accompanied by a signed Medication Authorisation Form supported by specific written instruction. This form must be completed for all medications stored at TMPS. Forms can be filled in at the administration office or downloaded from our website www.tmps.vic.edu.au.
- Consent forms are now available from Before and After School Care.

Medication Return

- All short term medication must be taken home by parent/ guardian at the end of each school day.

Anthea Cupido
School Nurse

TMPS Playgroup

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.
UPCOMING DATES FOR THE UNIFORM SHOP 2016 - TERM 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday mornings</th>
<th>Tuesday afternoons</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30am – 9.30am</td>
<td>3.00pm – 4.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th February</td>
<td>1st March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>15th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th March</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EFT & credit card facilities available (minimum transaction of $15)

Year 6 Second/Final Chance To Order Autographed Windcheaters
A reminder that orders and money for Year 6 Autographed Windcheaters are due back at school tomorrow, Friday 26th February. No late orders will be accepted.

Sally Opie
Uniform Shop

Harmony Day Art Competition
**District Swimming Carnival**

Big congratulations to all the students who competed at the District Swimming Carnival yesterday. Everyone performed extremely well and it was great to see lots of support from family and friends of TMPS on the day.

Final scores:

**Section 2**

1. Narre Warren North – 364 Points
2. Thomas Mitchell – 319 Points
3. Mossgiel Park- 299 Points
4. Hallam- 91 Points
5. Fleetwood – 78 Points
6. Holy Family

Fantastic Result! 😊

Students who have qualified to the Divisional Carnival will be notified in the next few days. The Divisional Swimming Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 9th March** at Noble Park Aquatic Centre.
TMPS Cross Country
The date has been set for our annual TMPS Cross Country!

Tuesday 15th March
11:10am – 12:50pm (Session 3 and 4) Prep – Year 3
1:50pm – 3:30pm (Session 5 and 6) Year 4 – Year 6
Parents are most welcome to come along to watch and encourage their children. All students have been training hard during our warm ups in P.E sessions, so they will be very prepared.

Tennis Trials
Tennis trials for the Endeavour Hills District will commence next Wednesday 2nd March after school. The trials are designed for students who are in years five or six, who play at a high level. They will be competing against students in the Endeavour Hills District. If you play tennis at a highly competitive level please see Miss Goder by the end of the week.

School Sport Victoria Trials
School Sport Victoria trials are now open online. These trials are for students who turn 10-12 years by the end of the year. The trials are designed for students who play at an extremely high level in AFL, soccer, netball 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.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Miss Goder. Have a great week! ☺
Olivia Goder
Physical Education Teacher

PARENTS’ CLUB

Meeting
Our next meeting will be held at 2:30pm on Friday 18th March so please put the date in your diaries and come along if you'd like to be involved.

School Banking

- Thanks to all our regular savers and welcome to our new savers!
- 97 deposits this week. Let's see if we can go over 100 next week!
- School Banking is a great way to encourage kids to save!
- Easy to join. Collect a Parent Pack from the school office or go to your local Commonwealth Bank branch.
- If you’ve got an account and have lost your book, please bring a note to school and, if we can find your details, we’ll issue a new book.
- Our school receives $5 for each new account registered and 5% commission on each weekly deposit.
- Competition for 2016 - Full Day Adventure Tour at Australia Zoo including meet & greet with Bindi & Robert Irwin! Flights, accommodation, hire car & spending money included!! Just make 15 or more deposits before the end of Term 3.
- Deposits are processed every Wednesday at 9am. Please come and help if you’re free.

Easter Raffle
We will be running an Easter Raffle again this year with tickets being sent home with next weeks newsletter.
Holiday Club bookings are now open. Get in quick to avoid missing out.

These holidays we are going on a JUNGLE QUEST! WE are visiting Bundoora park and farm and watching the movie Zootopia. We are also having a silent disco party, making an erupting volcano and a tie dye t-shirt.

Come into the program for more info.

Janice DeClase and the OSHC Team 😊
The Grade Twos Are Courageous!
There are all kinds of ways to be courageous!

Courage is about never giving up and trying again even though you fail.

Courage is when you do something different like sleeping by yourself in the dark.

Courage is standing up for other people when they're being hurt.

Courage is making new friends with new people.

Courage is when you feel scared.
Information for parents

The Education and Training Reform Act 2006 provides that government schools must be secular. The only exception to this principle is non-compulsory Special Religious Instruction (SRI).

Page 1 of this form provides information for parents in relation to SRI. Page 2 provides parents the opportunity to indicate whether or not they wish their child to participate in SRI.

If you would like your child to participate in SRI, please return this form by the date specified on Page 2.

Note: SRI should not be confused with general religious education which may be delivered to all students in the school curriculum and provides education about world faiths and secular belief structures, which assist students to understand the world around them and act with tolerance and respect towards all cultures.

What is Special Religious Instruction?

SRI is “instruction provided by churches and other religious groups and based on distinctive religious tenets and beliefs.” This may include scriptural studies, and instruction in how to live and behave according to the beliefs of a particular faith.

SRI is an ‘opt-in’ extra-curricular activity that provides instruction in a specific faith, and is provided by a church or other religious group.

Given the specific religious nature of SRI, the Department of Education and Training does not endorse SRI program content. SRI materials are available online and via the SRI provider for parents to review.

Who delivers Special Religious Instruction?

SRI is delivered by religious volunteers who are accredited by an approved provider to deliver SRI instruction. Currently, the organisations approved to accredit instructors are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Provider website for further information</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>ACCESS ministries</td>
<td><a href="http://www.accessministries.org.au/">www.accessministries.org.au/</a></td>
<td>1800 063 341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholicism</td>
<td>Catholic Education Office</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/">www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/</a></td>
<td>03 9267 0228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islam</td>
<td>Arkan Toledo/Islamic Council of Victoria</td>
<td>arkan.org.au/</td>
<td>1300 857 797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judaism</td>
<td>United Jewish Education Board</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ujeb.org.au/">www.ujeb.org.au/</a></td>
<td>03 9523 6844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Orthodox</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>Religions for Peace Australia (RfP)</td>
<td>religionsforpeaceaustralia.org.au/</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Baha’i Faith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sikhism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hinduism</td>
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Volunteer instructors are associated with a church or religious organisation. Their role is not that of a teacher. To obtain accreditation, they must undertake training through one of the providers listed above, and sign a Code of Conduct, which outlines how they are to conduct themselves in a government school. It is a requirement of accreditation that volunteers have a valid Working With Children Check.

Participation in Special Religious Instruction

A student may attend SRI in a government school for a maximum of 30 minutes per week during lunchtime, or within the hour immediately before or immediately after school hours.

SRI is not compulsory for any student. Schools can only allow students to participate in SRI if parental consent is provided using this form.

Parents are requested to complete and return this form to the school if they wish their child to participate in SRI.

Your consent for your child to participate in SRI is for the program listed on this form only. It does not constitute general consent and is valid until the end of the school year.

You may withdraw your child from SRI at any time by notifying the school principal.

Special Religious Instruction – Parent Consent Form

School Name: Thomas Mitchell Primary School  
Date form must be returned by: Thursday 10th March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Accrediting Provider</th>
<th>Instructor’s details</th>
<th>Proposed time and length of program</th>
<th>Age group of students invited to participate in the SRI program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Christianity | ACCESS Ministries | Mrs. Leona McKenry  
Mrs. Jo Schaddee van Dooren  
Mrs. Julia Capon  
Dr. Des Gaffney | Tuesdays or Wednesdays during lunchtime (1pm – 1.25pm (25 minutes)) for Terms 2 – 4 | Year 1 – Year 6 |
| Islam | Arkan Toledo/Islamic Council of Victoria | Ms. Sri Soejatminah  
Ms. Hilarie Haque  
Ms. Nai’a Ahmed  
Ms. Adilah Haque  
Mr. Zaharah Abdul  
Ms. Hafize Coskun | Mondays or Thursdays during lunchtime (1pm – 1.25pm (25 minutes)) for Terms 2 – 4 | Prep – Year 6 |

If details of individual volunteers (their name and accrediting provider) are not available at the time this form is issued, they will be provided to parents who have indicated they wish their child/children to participate in SRI prior to the commencement of the program. Parents can opt their child/children out of SRI at any time, by notifying the school principal.

I confirm that I have read and understood the information about SRI on page 1

Do you consent to your child/children participating in the SRI program proposed above?  
YES ☐ (please tick one)  
NO ☐

If you have indicated yes, please list your child/children’s details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Family Name</th>
<th>Student’s First Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Which SRI programs do you consent to your child participating in?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christianity ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Islam ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ (please tick one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christianity ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Islam ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ (please tick one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christianity ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Islam ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ (please tick one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Christianity ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Islam ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ (please tick one)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I understand that there may be a fee, determined by the provider (expected maximum fee: $10), to purchase materials for my child’s use in SRI, and that this will be collected once it is determined whether SRI will be scheduled in the school

PLEASE DO NOT SEND MONEY NOW  

Parent/Guardian’s Name: .................................................................................................................................

Signature: ................................................................................................................................................................

Date: ........../........./.............