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THOMAS MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

6th March 2019

Dear Parents,

Casey Student Leaders Reception for 2019

The School Captains and Vice Captains of Thomas Mitchell Primary School have been invited to participate in the 'Casey Student Leaders Reception for 2019' to celebrate the appointment of student leaders from across the City of Casey. It will be held at the Bunjil Place Function Centre, Patrick Northeast Drive, Narre Warren on Thursday 21st March 2019, commencing at 4:30pm and concluding at 7.30 pm (formalities will conclude at 7.00 pm with photo opportunities with City of Casey Mayor and guest speaker to follow).

One of the speakers is Elka Whalan (nee Graham) who has enjoyed a successful media career after representing Australia as a dual Olympian in the pool and multiple medallist. She has been a regular on Channel 7 Sunrise discussing news and lifestyle topics, Elka also hosted the popular Live Well series also on Channel 7. An engaging MC and motivational speaker, Elka talks to companies, clubs, schools and teams with her "Be a first rate you not a second rate someone else" inspiring speeches. Her stellar swimming career saw her reach world #1 in her freestyle events bringing home medals from Olympics, World Championships and Commonwealth Games. In 2016 Elka started "Queenhood for the woman who knows her worth", empowering, uplifting and encouraging all women to unite and support one another.

This year the students will be also be hearing from a local Paralympian, Emma Booth. Emma is an Australian Paralympian who competed at her first Games in Rio, in 2016. Her raw talent was clear early on and in 2011 she accepted a job in Germany riding and training horses for international dressage rider Holger Schulze. Emma's equestrian ambitions were put on hold in 2013 when she was involved in a near-fatal car accident, causing serious injury to her spinal cord, resulting in paraplegia. Other injuries included a basilar skull fracture, compound fracture of her left ankle, bleeding on the brain and abdominal trauma. Six months later, Emma found the strength to return to riding. Learning of her options as a Para-equestrian, she set her sights on selection for the 2016 Australian Paralympic Team.

All students attending the reception will be presented with a 2019 City of Casey Student Leaders lapel pin.

Our captains will be accompanied and driven to and from the reception by a Year 6 teacher, Miss Tessa Veljanovski. Students will depart from school at 3:40pm and will return to school at 7:45pm, where they are expected to be picked up by their parent or guardian. **Please note:** Children will **not** be permitted to walk home without their parent/guardian present. Students will need to wear school uniform and bring extra snacks for afternoon tea.

Please complete the reply slip to advise us whether your child will be attending and return it to school by **Monday 18th March**.

Yours sincerely,

Tessa Veljanovski
Year 6 Teacher

John Hurley
Principal

THOMAS MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL - Casey Student Leaders Reception for 2019

I give permission for my child in
to participate in the Casey Student Leaders Reception on Thursday 21 March 2019,
at Bunjil Place Function Centre.

I understand that my child will be travelling with teacher, Miss Tessa Veljanovski in her private car
(Mazda 3 Maxx Sport – Registration place MEISTA). I understand that the vehicle is fitted with seat
belts to all seats, and the vehicle is covered by full comprehensive insurance.

I understand that I am required to be at school at 7:45pm to collect my child.

Parent contact name for the day: Phone:

Parent signature: