FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Staff News
1. Tomorrow, (Friday 24th October) will be Ms Qing Liang’s (OQL) last day at school. She will commence family leave next week. Qing will be replaced by Ms Ashley Scarth.
2. Next Tuesday, 28th October will be Mrs Renee Bilston’s last day at school. She too, will commence family leave. Renee will be replaced by Tim Gouge.

I’m sure the school community joins with us in wishing both our teachers “good luck” for the birth of their first child. We will keep you informed!

Congratulations also to Rose and Warrick Arbuthnot on the birth of their baby daughter Layla Joan on the 12th of October.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
As indicated in last week’s newsletter, NO family will receive the EMA payment for the start of next year. The 2014 parents with a Health Care Card received $200 for a prep child and $150 for a year 1 to year 6 child.
Some schools will receive extra funding in their budgets to compensate for this. Thomas Mitchell will receive NO extra funding.
This year in 2014, 347 students were assisted with funding for school fees etc to an amount of $51,355 from EMA. Next year there will be none of this money available to parents.
Our School Council is keen for parents to be aware of this situation so they can plan to pay the school fees at the start of school next year without the assistance of the EMA payment.
We at school will do what we can to keep our fees as low as possible.

Road Safety
A growing number of parents and students are NOT using the supervised crossings in Thomas Mitchell Drive and Cunningham Drive, to cross the road at the really busy and dangerous times 8:45am to 9:00am and 3:30pm to 3:45pm.
We are trying to teach the children to use the supervised crossings for their safety, and ask parents to use the crossings and not cross at the roundabout. Please help us to teach your children safe habits.

Remembrance Day Poppies
These will be sold by the school captains at 10:35am (just before recess) for 50 cents each from tomorrow Friday 24th October until sold out.

John Hurley, Principal
**What is a “nude” lunch box?**

A “nude” lunch box is one that has no plastic wrappers or rubbish that goes to landfill. Use re-useable containers and re-use snaplock bags to build a healthy and rubbish free lunch box. And remember, fruit scraps are not included as rubbish!


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## Kids Art Works-2015 Calendars, iPhone 4/4S and 5/5S covers, Diaries & Cards

Children from Prep to Year 6 have been working hard to design and create some beautiful artwork that will be made into a 2015 calendar, or an iPhone 4/4S or 5 cover, a 2015 Diary, or Card Pack. The cost of the calendar is $12.00, Card Packs will cost $14, the cost for the iPhone 4/4S or 5/5S cover will be $15.00 and the diary will be $16.00. (NB: phone covers will not be available next year. If you wish to purchase any of the products, order forms are available from the office. Last day for orders will be **Friday 31st October**. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**If you have more than one child, a family calendar can be created for you by combining your children’s artwork. This option can also be used for the iPhone cover; however the artwork will be quite small.**

Rosa Spizzirri and Jenni Entwistle, Art Teachers

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**Saver Plus Program:**

Last week we advertised that Karmen Dayal would be visiting TMPs on Tuesday 21st October to explain the Saver Plus Program incentive. The program can provide you with up to $500 to assist with education costs by matching your savings dollar for dollar.

If you missed out on coming along to meet Karmen Dayal last Tuesday and would like to find out more about this beneficial program, please call in to see me (just ask at the school office).

Tracey Etherington
Business Manager
Brochures for Issue 7 were distributed last week. The completed order forms along with any payment need to be back at school by **Friday 24th of October**. If payments are in cash, please place the correct money with the orders. NO change can be given. NO late orders accepted.

*Book Club coordinators*

**UPCOMING DATES FOR THE UNIFORM SHOP DURING TERM 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday mornings</td>
<td>31st October 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7th November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14th November 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21st November 2014</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28th November 2014</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5th December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12th December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday afternoons</td>
<td>21st October 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18th November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16th December 2014</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

**Please note the following special Uniform Shop dates and times for all new families to TMPS in 2015:**

**Thursday 4th December**
- Return uniform pre-orders to the office for payment and collection on Tuesday 9th December

**Tuesday 9th December**
- 9:30am - 1:00pm The Uniform Shop will be open for sales. Collect and pay for any pre-order and beat the 2015 price rise & avoid Uniform Shop queues. (all items can be exchanged providing tags are attached & garment not worn).
- 4:00pm – 6:30pm Please note that the Uniform Shop will be open late for 2015 Prep families. It will close promptly at 6:30pm.

**2nd HAND UNIFORM SALE (DONATED ITEMS)**

The school has an abundance of donated 2nd hand uniforms, mostly jumpers. They have been washed and sized and will be available on Tuesday 28th October 2014 between 3pm and 4pm outside in front of the school (weather permitting).

All items will be priced between $2.00 and $10.00 to cover costs for laundering, etc. Please do not cash sales only.

**CASH ONLY**

**2nd HAND UNIFORM SALE**

The 2nd Hand Uniform Sale will be held on the 9th December 2014, 8.30am to 9:30am. Please note that it will be a cash sale only. No EFTPOS, credit card or cheques will be accepted.

Tuesday the 2nd December 2014 will be the last day of accepting any items to sell at our 2nd Hand Uniform Sale. Please make sure all clothes are laundered, bagged and returned with a completed 2nd Hand Uniform Sale Form. Please leave bags at the office.
We had a great start to our interschool sports last week with great results. The following table below outlines where each team is playing this Friday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thomas Mitchell Blue Team</th>
<th>Vs. St Paul Apostle North</th>
<th>Home</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Mitchell Gold Team</td>
<td>Vs. Berwick Chase (Black)</td>
<td>Away</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Just a reminder to students playing at home will need to bring fruit. Good luck and Have Fun! 😊

**House Points**

Results from Term 4 Week 3 2014:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fraser</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
<td>Bradman</td>
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Total House Point Results for 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bradman</td>
<td>Fraser</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,220 Points</td>
<td>1,210 Points</td>
<td>1,120 Points</td>
<td>1,080 Points</td>
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Have a great week and enjoy the sunshine!

Olivia Goder - Physical Education Teacher

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**TMPS Playgroup**

Unfortunately TMPS Playgroup is cancelled for the remainder of 2014 due to numbers. We hope to run this program again in 2015. It’s a great way to meet new faces and the children to have lots of fun.
Thomas Mitchell PS 23/10/2014

At OSHC next week we will be having a special “pamper session” for all parents, grandparents or special persons. Come into the program between 4.30pm-5.30pm during the week of the 27th-31st of October and your child can paint your nails. Lots of colours to choose from. This is provided to ALL families at TMPS.

Janice 😊

Bicycle Thefts

In the Casey Police Service Area, bicycle theft has increased 130% this financial year. Half were from residential locations. The bikes were stolen from the front of the house and were not locked up at the time.

Police Advice:
- Secure your bike with a lock
- Do not leave bikes in the front yard - Move to a secure location out of sight (garage, shed)
- Engrave the underside of the bike frame with the letter V followed by the owner’s/parent’s drivers licence number to assist police in returning located bicycles
The New Concept Chinese School (Principal Ms Ma) is seeking expressions of interest from people who would like to enrol.

Classes are free and will operate each Thursday after school from 3.30 to 5.30pm at Thomas Mitchell Primary.

Each enrolled student will receive free Chinese Text Books.

Regardless of your family and cultural backgrounds the Chinese Mandarin language is seen to be a valuable skill to learn within our current world population.

Please complete the form below if you would like your child to attend next year. (Confirmation of classes will occur if we receive enough expressions of interest.)

New Concept Chinese School is a credited Language School in Victoria. For further information please contact Ms Ma 0403 086 532 or email the school at thomas.mitchell.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

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NEW Dance School – Endeavour Hills
All Ages – Boys and Girls
Hip Hop, Street Dance, Comtemp, Funk and LOTS More.
For more information please email d4nc3studio@gmail.com or phone 9700 0082

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Are you interested in your child attending free Chinese Mandarin classes after school next year?

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THOMAS MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL – AFTER SCHOOL CHINESE MANDARIN PROGRAM

I would like to enrol my child/ren in after school Chinese Mandarin for 2015

I would like more information about regarding this program

Child’s Name: ............................................................................  Class:............................................
Parent Name: ..................................................................................
Contact Number: ............................................................................
Please return this form with the goods for sale to the school.

Family Name: ...........................................  Child’s Name: ..................  Class: ...............  
(Please Print Clearly)

Items submitted for sale (Must be school uniform pants, logo on tops, hats etc.)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>ITEM OF CLOTHING</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
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<td>Office Use Only</td>
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- All items have been washed and placed in a plastic bag prior to delivery to school.  
- I acknowledge the school will attempt to sell my uniform items at a cost based on condition of quality. (Each article will be inspected and priced according to quality)  
- I acknowledge the school will retain $1.00 per item as sales commission. This amount will be deducted from the money due to me from sales.

**Please choose one of the following items only (tick relevant box):**

- I would like to donate these items if not sold at the sale
- Please retain any unsold items for next sale (to be held each term)
- Please return unsold items if not sold at this sale

Signature: ________________________________  Contact Phone No: ______________
This term, Prep Students are tracking animals across the globe!