FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to Term 2 to everyone. A special welcome to our new student who started at Thomas Mitchell this term.

Term 2 is a really important learning term, as students have settled into their new classes. Expect wonderful things from your children this term!

**2014 Foundation (Prep) Enrolment**
We are currently taking enrolments for Foundation (Prep) for 2014.

**Berlin Conference**
Over the holidays I attended the European Council of International Schools Annual Leaders Conference in Berlin. The theme of the conference was “Striking the Balance” – the balance between high student achievement on international tests such as PISA, and allowing students to “have a life”.

It appears to me that in Australia, and specifically at Thomas Mitchell, we have many strengths in place to provide our students with a global, high quality education.

However, there are several areas in which we continue to improve. We are continually looking to improve the quality of our classroom teaching and how all students can be supported in their learning needs. For example:
- Ensuring access for students to current computer technology and learning programs.
- Continuing to ensure that students have access to a broad education which has an emphasis on strong academic achievement in literacy and numeracy, but also includes the arts, sports, play and active inquiry.

There is always plenty of learning by interacting with leaders of schools from across the world.

The trip was funded by my High Performing Principal Grant.
ANZAC Day Public Holiday – Thursday 25th April
The school will be closed next Thursday 25th April for Anzac Day. We will hold an Anzac Day service at 11.15am on Wednesday 24th April.

The school student leaders will attend a service on Tuesday at lunch time at the Endeavour Hills War Memorial.

Congratulations
Congratulations to two of our students, Suzy and Phoebe who were awarded prizes in the Casey Creations Youth Arts Competition. See article elsewhere in this newsletter.

The newsletter will be sent home on Wednesday next week.

John Hurley
Principal

Notices Sent Home This Week

• Year 6RS & 6TV Parliament House Excursion
• Year 6KJ & 6JC Parliament House Excursion
• Blue & Gold Team Interschool Sport Term 2
• School Captains, Vice Captains & House Captains ANZAC Day Ceremony

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Thomas Mitchell PS will be participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn program again this year. When you spend $10 or more at Woolworths between Monday 8th April and Sunday 9th June 2013 you will receive a sticker from the checkout operator at Woolworths to place onto the sticker card (available from the school office next term). Once the sticker card is full please return it to school and place it in the Woolworths Earn & Learn box at the office. Please do not forward your docket cards to school, just your stickers &/or completed cards.

Start collecting during the school holidays!!!

Last year we were lucky enough to earn lots of new maths equipment from the sponsor, MTA (Modern Teaching Aids) who again will be working in partnership with Woolworths. We encourage parents who shop at Woolworths to return their sticker cards to school when your card is full. You may collect more sticker cards from the school office. For further information please visit the website www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn
Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge 2013

It’s Challenge time again! All students from Foundation to Year 6 are invited to participate. To register, parents need to complete and sign the consent form which is available from the school office or may be downloaded and printed from the school’s website www.tmps.vic.edu.au
Registration forms need to be returned to school by the 28th June 2013.

Josie Morando and Linda Loxton
Reading Challenge Coordinators

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN TIMES – Term 2 2013

Every Friday morning 8.30am to 9.30am:

19th and 26th April
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st May

Each 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon 3.00pm – 4.00pm
7th and 21st May

Thomas Mitchell Playgroup

Wednesdays between 9.15am – 10.30am

Hello to all the parents of Thomas Mitchell Primary who have children under school age. The school runs a Playgroup each Wednesday in one of our portable rooms near the hard court area at the back of the school.

It is a great opportunity to meet other parents of the school 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, or if you know someone with younger children who would like to join this group please let them know.

Wednesday 24th April
Splash of colour
We will be painting with brushes, fingers, vegetables, leaves etc. Please dress in old clothes or bring an art smock. There will be singing, plus stories and other activities for your children to enjoy. Please bring a snack for your child and a gold coin donation.

Jennifer Wallace
Playgroup Coordinator
**CALIKIDS AT THOMAS MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Calisthenics Victoria is excited to announce that the CaliKids program will be returning to Thomas Mitchell PS in term 2, 2013.

CaliKids will run during lunchtime on Thursdays, commencing with a free come and try session on Thursday 9th of May and continue through for another 7 weeks. The dynamic, 8 week program introduces students to the fundamentals of Calisthenics in a fun and friendly atmosphere. Games, stretching, skill based activities and short routines to modern music are just some of the highlights. The program is only $35, including a special gift for students at the end of the program to recognise participation. Enrolment forms will be available at the school office or from your CaliKids coach at the end of the first session in term 2.

All CaliKids programs are run by qualified Calisthenics coaches, who hold both a current first aid certificate and Working with Children Check. Remember the first session on the 9th of May is FREE. For more information, please visit [www.calisthenics.asn.au](http://www.calisthenics.asn.au)

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**TMPS RUNNING CLUB**

The TMPS Running Club is back for 2013. It is a great way to meet other students, keep fit and have fun at the same time. Those students who have made it through to district cross country should try to make these sessions as part of practice before the cross country day. Please come and join us for some fun and exercise on Tuesday mornings from 8:20am. Meet on the soccer pitch in good weather or in the gym if the weather is bad.

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**HOUSE POINTS**

Results from Week 9 Term 1:

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

Overall House Point Results for 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fraser</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
<td>Bradman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380 Points</td>
<td>370 Points</td>
<td>200 Points</td>
<td>160 Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**RESULTS FROM CROSS COUNTRY**

Last term we had our annual TMPS Cross Country. Luckily the weather held off and the students were able to push through the wind thanks to the support of so many parents. So a big thank you to those parents that turned up to encourage our students! Also well done to those students who dressed up in their house colours.

All students that participated did a FANTASTIC job and should be extremely proud! Cross Country is a difficult and draining activity, so to all students, whether you ran, walked, or did a bit of both, you challenged yourself and that's all we could ask for! All of the teachers at TMPS are DEFINITELY very proud of all those students who competed! Each student that participated scored house points for their house and the results are below:

| 1st Freeman 4140 points | 2nd Bradman 3850 | 2nd Perkins 3850 | 3rd Fraser 3390 points |
As you can see it was an extremely close competition with two teams tying for second place. These points will be added onto the total in next week’s newsletter. Those students in years 4-6 who finished in the top ten have qualified for the TMPS Cross Country team and will represent our school at the District Cross Country Carnival on Tuesday 21st May. Those students are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age 9/10</th>
<th>Age 11</th>
<th>Age 12/13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vivianne</td>
<td>Tori</td>
<td>Jemma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krish</td>
<td>Mya</td>
<td>Hasna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabatha</td>
<td>Michaela</td>
<td>Emily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donya</td>
<td>Denisa</td>
<td>Chloe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naomi</td>
<td>Julide</td>
<td>Trisha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilaab</td>
<td>Bethany</td>
<td>Jasmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirtani</td>
<td>Anaika</td>
<td>Anastasia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylah</td>
<td>Bianca</td>
<td>Jennifer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parisa</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Suzy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison</td>
<td>Kayla</td>
<td>Renee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>Joshua</td>
<td>Ali Daryab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb</td>
<td>Shane</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahn</td>
<td>Hasib</td>
<td>Lachlan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris</td>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nash</td>
<td>Nickolas</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>Tyrone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven</td>
<td>Saleh</td>
<td>Hussain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Bence</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Anthony</td>
<td>Kailash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua</td>
<td>Vladimír</td>
<td>Ali</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another well done to all those students who have made the district team, we will be having practice Tuesday mornings starting at 8:20am each week meeting at the soccer pitch, or the gym if it is wet outside. Remember that the distances for district are that little bit further, so the more you train the easier you will find it on the day.

**GRADE 5 SPORTS**

During term 1 the grade 5 students competed against one another in year level sports. The four sports they played in term 1 were Netball, Sofcrosse, T-ball and Hockey. Year level sport is a fantastic way to have fun, try new sports, keep fit and especially in grade 5, practice for interschool sports next year.

Special congratulations goes out to Hasib, Haya and Kayla who won the best and fairest votes for the term. These students went above and beyond when competing in year level sports and will each earn 50 house points to their assigned houses.

*Troy Diaz,*  
*Physical Education Teacher*

**CANTEEN NEWS – WINTER WARMER**

During Term 2 and 3 we will be selling Potato Cakes at recess only. The cost will be 80c each.
CASEY CREATIONS YOUTH ARTS COMPETITION
Recently a number of our senior students entered the locally run Casey Creations Youth Arts Competition. Over 300 students across the City of Casey submitted a selection of drawings, paintings and also photography to be judged. Last night, Wednesday 17th April, we were honoured to watch two of our Year 6 students be awarded prizes in the Casey Creations Competition 2013. Suzy received a Merit Award in the 2D Grade 5 & 6 division, whilst Phoebe received an Encouragement Award in the same division.

This was a fantastic achievement for both girls and they represented our school beautifully at the Presentation Ceremony held at the Berwick Church of Christ last night. Both Suzy and Phoebe were presented their awards by the City of Casey’s Mayor Amanda Stalpedon.

On behalf of the entire school community, we would like to congratulate both Suzy and Phoebe on their awards.

Jenni Entwistle and Rosa Spizzirri
Visual Arts Coordinators

Suzy with Mayor Stapledon
Phoebe with Mayor Stapledon

[work titled: Am I Really That Unwanted?]
[work titled: Forgotten Teddy]
Parents’ Club

SUPA SLICE DRIVE

Let's all enjoy some yummy slices or cookies while we continue to support the fundraising efforts of the Parents Club! A brochure has been sent home with today's newsletter showing the delicious range on offer. Choose from fresh baked slices in a re-usable décor container, beautiful cookies in a resealable zip-lock pack and/or individually wrapped cookies. Please return completed order form by Thursday 2nd May. Please ensure CORRECT MONEY as CHANGE CANNOT BE GIVEN. All orders should be delivered to school by mid-May.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We are still selling the 2013/2014 Melbourne Entertainment Books. For only $65.00 you get over $15,000 worth of valuable offers that can be used right away. The vouchers are valid up until 1st June 2014!!!!

$13.00 from each book sold will go towards TMPS' fundraising. If you have not received an order form, spare forms are available from the office. If you wish to order an Entertainment Book, you can either order online https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/1876q86 or please return your order form with correct money to school for delivery early this term.

MOTHERS’ DAY STALL

This year the Mothers’ Day Stall will be held on Friday 10th May. All gifts will cost $5.00. Could all children please bring a shopping bag to take their gift home in.

RESULTS FROM 2012 FUNDRAISING

Have you ever wondered how much money we actually raise from fundraising each year and what it's used for? Here are the figures for 2012 showing clear profit after expenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easter Raffle</td>
<td>$1,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fathers’ Day Stall</td>
<td>$294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Showbags</td>
<td>$549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendars/iPhone covers</td>
<td>$1,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad Bears</td>
<td>$106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Bags</td>
<td>$92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopping Tour</td>
<td>$1,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers’ Day Stall</td>
<td>$1,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pauls Collect a Cap</td>
<td>$588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment books</td>
<td>$299</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That's just over $7,000 in total!! The money was used to purchase computer equipment. Profit from this year's fundraising will be used to make improvements around the school grounds. You may have noticed that some improvements have already begun such as new garden beds and grassed areas.

Many thanks to all who contributed to last year's efforts.
Let’s see if we can make this year even more successful!!
Registration Day for Endeavour Hills Auskick will be held on Sunday 21\textsuperscript{st} April starting at 10.00am. See attached flyer for further details.

**SEAL Opportunity for current Year 6 students - Gleneagles Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program for 2014**

Prospective students and parents are encouraged to attend a SEAL 2014 Information Night on Thursday, 18th April 2013 at 7.00pm to hear more about the program and collect an application package.

*For further details, please visit the Gleneagles website: [http://www.gleneagles.vic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-process/](http://www.gleneagles.vic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-process/) or contact the SEAL Manager, Julie Mullins on Tel 9708 1319 or email gleneagles.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au.*
OSHC phone: 0402 728 789 Coordinator: Janice

The Autumn holiday program was a great success with both children and staff enjoying watching “Croods” at the movies, visiting the Aquarium and taking part in a Zumba class. We have already started planning the winter holiday program so stay tuned for more information regarding this in upcoming newsletters.

Please remember to call or text the service when your child will be absent from the program.

Janice 😊

REMINDERS

How to get started before using our programs you must register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin www.campaustralia.com.au

Once registered you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day online. Keep in mind we are able to take bookings at short notice to help busy families.

Save on Care You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 Monday to Friday.