FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SAFETY AT SCHOOL
The primary focus of school is to provide a broad education, with a special emphasis on literacy and numeracy for all students who attend.

However, before students can start to learn, they have to be, and feel, safe. Safety is also a really important issue for both parents and staff. We all need to work together to provide a safe environment in which high quality learning can take place.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?
Parents can help by talking to their children about safety – how important it is to think and act in a safe manner.

They can demonstrate acting safely – particularly in relation to traffic around the school – ensure that children know that using the crossings is the safest way to cross the road (and demonstrate this themselves). Do not drop off or pick up children while the car is on the road, and do not use the car park as an entry or exit to the school.

At around 8.45am- 9.00am and 3.30pm-3.45pm each school day, there are more than 1000 people at school (including students, staff and parents). It is really important that we all act in a safe and orderly way, for everyone’s benefit.

HARMONY DAY – POSTER COMPETITION
A separate notice with this newsletter informs you about this.
**School Council Elections**
A reminder to parents that nominations for parent and staff members of School Council are now due. Please see the office for nomination forms.

**Class Mission Statements**
Each class has developed their own Mission Statement. These will be sent home to parents in the near future.

*John Hurley, Principal*

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**School Photos**
School photo envelopes were sent home with each student last week if you would like your children at school to have a family photo please call past the office and collect a family photo envelope. Our school photos will be taken on Thursday 6\textsuperscript{th} and Friday 7\textsuperscript{th} March.

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**Notices sent home this week**

- **Year 3** – Melbourne Museum Excursion
- **Year 1** – Community Walk
- **Year 1** – Casey Safety Village Excursion
- **PFA** – Easter Raffle Tickets

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**2014 International Competitions & Assessment for Schools (ICAS) (Formerly Known as University of NSW) Competition – Years 2 – 6 as indicated below**

Thomas Mitchell Primary School will be offering the following competitions this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Competition Date</th>
<th>Close of entries &amp; payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 20\textsuperscript{th} May</td>
<td>Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Wednesday 4\textsuperscript{th} June</td>
<td>Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Mon 16\textsuperscript{th} – Fri 20\textsuperscript{th} June</td>
<td>Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 17\textsuperscript{th} June</td>
<td>Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 29\textsuperscript{th} July</td>
<td>Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 12\textsuperscript{th} August</td>
<td>Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These competitions will be held from May to August. To enable us to process student’s entry fees and submit their names, entries will close on **Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March**. Unfortunately because of strict timelines set by the N.S.W University, **late entries cannot be accepted**.

*Details were sent home with the newsletter last week. Please return to school with correct money by Friday 28\textsuperscript{th} March, 2014.*

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[Image of school photo envelopes and a logo of a world map]
We welcome the following students to the
Thomas Mitchell Primary School Community

Nadine, 5LR, Nessrine, 1NC, Anthony, 5LR

SPORTS NEWS
Swimming

The Endeavour Hills District Swimming Carnival was held at the Noble Park Swimming Pool today. The following students were selected and competed today:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joy 3MM</td>
<td>Alissa 4HP</td>
<td>Damian 5LR</td>
<td>Bethany 6CW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adhya 3JC</td>
<td>Emily 4BS</td>
<td>Naomi 5MR</td>
<td>Kayla 6CW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max 3 LP</td>
<td>Jeremy 4DH</td>
<td>Sharanaa 5MR</td>
<td>Ivo 6CH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashleigh 3LP</td>
<td>Adrian 4JT</td>
<td>Chloe 5FH</td>
<td>Samuel 6CW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michaela 3RB</td>
<td>Wesley 4BS</td>
<td>Matilda 5LR</td>
<td>Kaya 6CH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannah 3SC</td>
<td>Ryan 4DH</td>
<td>Marko 5FH</td>
<td>Bence 6CW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max 3 LP</td>
<td></td>
<td>Suhail 5FH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Larisa 5FH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Paige 5FH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to all of the students who represented Thomas Mitchell Primary School today, what a fantastic achievement. Thank you to all of the students who tried out for the team over the past two weeks. Keep up the great work!

HOUSE POINTS
Results from Week 5 Term 1:

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

Total House Point Results for 2014:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>110 Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bradman (Red)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>110 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perkins (Green)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>100 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeman (Blue)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>40 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraser (Orange)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have a great week!

Olivia Goder, Physical Education Teacher

Year 6 Windcheater Orders
Second Opportunity

We are now offering year 6 students a second opportunity to purchase the specially printed year 6 2014 windcheaters. **Please note this will be the final opportunity to purchase a garment for the year and no late orders can be accepted.**

Payment may be made by cheque (payable to Thomas Mitchell PS), cash (please send correct money as we are unable to give change) or by coming into the office to pay by EFTPOS or credit card by **Friday 7th March**. Order forms are available at the school office.

These garments will take 6-8 weeks from the date the order is submitted by the school, therefore delivery is expected late April / early May. **Please choose styles and sizes carefully as we are unable to exchange items.**

It has also been brought to our attention that a few Year 6 jumpers have not been printed correctly and will be returned to PSW for repair. Please contact Sally on Friday mornings between 8.30-9.30am if you have any problems.

*Sally Opie, Uniform Shop*

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**EVERY FRIDAY MORNING 8.30AM TO 9.30AM:**

- **28th February**
- **7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March**
- **4th April – Last Day of Term 1**

**EACH 1ST AND 3RD TUESDAY AFTERNOON 3.00PM – 4.00PM**

- **4th, 18th March, 1st April**

**EFTPOS & CREDIT CARD FACILITY AVAILABLE (MINIMUM TRANSACTION OF $15)**

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Thomas Mitchell 27 February 2014

Please remember to call or text the service if your child will be absent from any session of OSHC. The staff will always text you back to confirm that they have received your text message only. You are **NOT** required to call the school office at any time relating to OSHC bookings or cancellations.

The OSHC service number is 0402 728 789.

Janice 😊
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – PARENTS’ CLUB
Please keep Friday 14th March at 2.30pm free for our Parents’ Club Annual General Meeting. More information will follow in next week’s newsletter. We’d like to see as many parents there as possible.

EASTER RAFFLE!!
All students have received a booklet of 10 tickets today for our Easter Raffle! Tickets cost just 50c each or 10 tickets for $4!!! Please be sure to put your name, class & contact phone number on the LEFT HAND SIDE OF EACH TICKET. All tickets sold need to be returned to the school by no later than Tuesday 1st April.

The Easter Raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 2nd April and prizes will be distributed on that day. Extra ticket booklets are also available at the front office.

DONATIONS FOR THE RAFFLE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND CAN BE LEFT AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU!

Student Banking
The new reward system for 2014 is now fully operational! A new Deep Sea Savers theme has been introduced, with all new rewards. A sample of each new reward will be held at the school office if anyone wishes to view them. As previously advised, students have only been able to carry over a maximum of 9 tokens from last year (due to the change in the Rewards system). Please ensure all tokens you currently have are in your child's bank book next week so we can amend the total held against the bank's records. Any discrepancies will be discussed with the Commonwealth Bank School Banking Help Desk.
Rewards available for redemption in Term 1 are a Handball or Scented Pencils.

COMMUNITY NEWS
Thomas Mitchell Playgroup – Thursday 6th March, 9.00am – 10.15am

WHEELS ON THE BUS
This week we will be reading and singing wheels on the bus.

The school runs a Playgroup for 0-5 year olds each Thursday morning in the Prep Rooms near our school gym. Please ask for directions from the school office if you are unsure.

Fun activities are held at playgroup such as playdough, painting, pasting, stories, music, singing and games just to name a few. Please bring a snack for your child and a gold coin donation. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents of children attending the school and for your younger children to meet other children who may be joining the school in the future. 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.

Hope to see you next Thursday.

Jenny Wallace, Playgroup Coordinator
Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home — from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs.

This year TMPS will be having a Harmony Day poster competition.

There will be three age groups for entry:
- Lower Primary (P-2)
- Middle Primary (3-4)
- Upper Primary (5-6)

The winning posters will be displayed around the school and the winners from each age group will receive some great prizes for themselves and their class.

Your mission is to design a poster that shows everyone belongs in our school, community or country.

The poster must include:
- The title: Harmony Day
- The slogan: ‘Everyone Belongs’
- The date: Friday 21st March, 2014
- The colour orange
- The information: Wear orange to celebrate Harmony Day at TMPS. Bring a gold coin donation. All proceeds will be donated to Sen Isidro School in Bohol, Philippines
- Your full name and class (on the back of the poster)

All poster entries are due Friday, 7th March

Entries can be dropped off in Miss Byers' room (Room 6).
First Name: **Lauren**

3 Words That Describe You: **Hopeful, Nice, Lucky**

Lover of: **Science and deep sea wildlife**

Who is able to: **get anything I want**

Who feels: **good and calm**

Who if my sister is happy: **she is happy too**

Who fears: **spiders and falling in deep holes**

Who would like to: **go to lots of theme parks**

Who dreams: **to grow up and go where ever I want**
Asia

First Name: Asia
Words That Describe You: Loving, Smart, Tall
Lover of: Dogs
Who is able to: Write fast
Who feels: Like I am the best
Who wonders: How many people are on earth?
Who fears: Of the world ending
Who would like to: Become a really great teacher
Who dreams: Of running in school and working hard.

Jayden

First Name: Jayden
Words That Describe You: Cool, Awesome, Strong
Lover of: Sharks and sword fish
Who is able to: Draw super cool
Who feels: Hanging around his friends
Who wonders: The earth at the end of the universe
Who fears: Heights
Who would like to: Go to Queensland
Who dreams: Go fishing to the planet with my dog
To take the fastest and the strongest in the world.

John

First Name: John
Words That Describe You: Wild, smart, and fast
Lover of: Small cats, Ninja Turtles
Who is able to: Do art at school and home
Who feels: Scared knowing that people will find my dinosaurs dead
Who wonders: 6 planets
Who fears: Spider
Who would like to: Go to a soccer game
Who dreams: Be a tennis player.

Rory

First Name: Rory
Words That Describe You: Creative, smart, and hardworking
Lover of: Logan and books
Who is able to: Do art at school and home
Who feels: Scared knowing that people will find my dinosaurs dead
Who wonders: 6 planets
Who fears: Spider
Who would like to: Go to a soccer game
Who dreams: Be a tennis player.