THOMAS MITCHELL WEEKLY


THOMAS MITCHELL DRIVE, ENDEAVOUR HILLS.

PH. 9706 2254

Issue No. 5

28th February 2013

Thursday 28/2  Last day to submit EMA application form
Thursday 28/2  Last day to submit School Council Nomination Form – 4pm
Friday  1/3   Young Leaders Day – School Captains / House Captains
Wednesday 6/3  Year 1 RACV Visit
Thursday  7/3  Divisional Swimming Sports - Noble Park Aquatic Centre
Thursday  7/3  School Photos
Friday  8/3   School Photos
Friday  8/3   Special Assembly 9.00am
Monday 11/3  Labour Day Public Holiday – Students do not attend school
Tuesday 12/3  Year 6 CERES Excursion
Wednesday 13/3  Year 4 Coal Creek Excursion
Friday 15/3  Year 2 Eureka Tower/Cooks Cottage Excursion
Monday 18/3  Year 3BS/3CS/3LP(½ class) Melbourne Museum Excursion
Tuesday 19/3  Foundation ‘Proud to be Me’ Activity
Monday 25/3  Year 3MM/3SP/3LP(½ class) Melbourne Museum Excursion
Monday 18/3  Parent Teacher Meetings
Friday 22/3  Last Day Easter Raffle Tickets
Tuesday 26/3  Parent Teacher Meetings
Thursday 28/3  Last Day Term 1 School Finishes 2.30pm
Monday 15/4  First Day Term 2

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parent/Teacher/Student Meetings
As an integral part of the relationship between school and home, teachers meet with parents at least 2 times each year. These meetings are held at the end of Terms 1 and 3. This year teachers will be available to meet with parents (and students) on Monday 18th March from 3.50pm to 6.50pm and on Tuesday 26th March form 3.50pm to 6.50pm. Information about booking meeting times will be sent home in the near future. Please note that these are ‘formal’ meeting times. From time to time, teachers will make contact with parents, and parents are welcome to contact their child’s teacher if they feel they need to.

School Council Nominations
A reminder that nominations close at 4.00pm Thursday 28th February.

Special Assembly – Friday 8th March at 9.00am
On this day, our 2013 school student leaders will be presented with their badges by our local parliamentary representative, Mr Luke Donnellan. Parents are welcome to attend this assembly.

John Hurley
Principal
SCHOOL PHOTOS – ADVANCE NOTICE
Our school photos will be taken on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th March. Individually named photo envelopes were sent home last week. Packages range in price from $15.00 - $37.00 for individual photos and $10.00 – $20.00 for family photos.

This year, we will be offering the new ‘Master Class’ group photo style. A photo is available for viewing at the office.

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN TIMES – Term 1 2013
Every Friday morning 8.30am to 9.30am:
1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd March

Each 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon 3.00pm – 4.00pm
5th & 19th March

Sally Opie, Uniform Shop Coordinator.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Tracey Etherington
Business Manager
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS) (FORMERLY KNOWN AS UNIVERSITY OF NSW) COMPETITION 2013 - YEARS 3 – 6 & (YEARS 2 - 6 ENGLISH & MATHS)

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 21st May</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Wednesday 5th June</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 18th June</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Monday 17th June</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Wednesday 31st July</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 13th August</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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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 Wednesday 27th March. Unfortunately because of strict timelines set by the N.S.W University, late entries cannot be accepted.

Please complete the form below and return it to school with correct money by Wednesday 27th March, 2013.

THOMAS MITCHELL PRIMARY SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS) (FORMERLY KNOWN AS UNIVERSITY OF NSW) COMPETITION 2013 - YEARS 3 – 6 & (YEARS 2 - 6 ENGLISH & MATHS)

I wish my child .................................................................................................. in class ............ to participate in the following competitions:

- Computer Skills  Tuesday 21st May  $8.80
- Science  Wednesday 5th June  $8.80
- Spelling  Tuesday 18th June  $12.10
- Writing  Monday 17th June  $18.70
- English  Wednesday 31st July  $8.80
- Mathematics  Tuesday 13th August  $8.80

I have enclosed $................................ for the cost of these competitions.

Parent signature:.................................................................................. Date: ..............................

Kathie Arnold
Assistant Principal
Last Friday the 22\textsuperscript{nd} of February we had the District Swimming Sports held at the new Noble Park Aquatic Centre. It was a perfect day with blue sky’s in the afternoon and a nice new swimming pool to cool down in. Congratulations to the 26 Thomas Mitchell students who represented our school and did a fantastic job.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jeremy</th>
<th>Paige</th>
<th>Sephina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marko</td>
<td>Tayla</td>
<td>Jonathon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharanaa</td>
<td>Lansa</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe</td>
<td>Will</td>
<td>Trisha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naomi</td>
<td>Bethany</td>
<td>Ivo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe</td>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>Kailash</td>
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</tbody>
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20 of our students have made it through to the Divisional Swimming Sports which will be held on the 7\textsuperscript{th} of March at Noble Park Aquatic Centre. We wish them all the best of luck.

**HOUSE POINTS**

We are half way through term one and there have been many house points given out so far. Remember house points can be gained for many different reasons such as good behaviour, helping out a class mate, working well, using manners, helping to clean up etc. So work hard during every school day and you could earn lots of points for your house!

Points so far are as follows

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st}</td>
<td>Perkins (Green)</td>
<td>200 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2\textsuperscript{nd}</td>
<td>Freeman (Blue)</td>
<td>100 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\textsuperscript{rd}</td>
<td>Fraser (Orange)</td>
<td>30 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\textsuperscript{rd}</td>
<td>Bradman (Red)</td>
<td>30 Points</td>
</tr>
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*Troy Diaz, Physical Education Teacher*

**PARENTS’ CLUB**

**EASTER RAFFLE!!!!!!**

Any donations for our Easter raffle would be greatly appreciated and can be left at the school office. Thank you for your support!

All tickets sold need to be returned to the school by no later than FRIDAY 22\textsuperscript{nd} March 2013. Please ensure CORRECT MONEY is enclosed as CHANGE CANNOT BE GIVEN. Additional ticket books are available at the school office if you would like some more. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 25\textsuperscript{th} March and prizes will be distributed on that day.

*Parents’ Club*
Please check the website or visit the OSHC room for information regarding the Holiday program for the April school holidays.

Book early to avoid missing out.

For the duration of first term only, we will collect all Prep children that will attend after school care from their classrooms. Please discuss this with your child so that they are ready to go when they see a Camp Australia staff member.

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.

Community News

**TMPS 0-4 Year Olds - Playgroup Club**

*Wednesdays 9.15am – 10.30am.*

Thomas Mitchell runs a Playgroup each Wednesday. 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 join us.

*Wednesday 6th March – Dress up in your favourite costume*

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*
NARRE WARREN – BERWICK BLUE LIGHT DISCO

For students in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 ONLY

FRIDAY MARCH 1st

Narre Warren North Community Centre
A’Beckett Road, Narre Warren North
6.00pm – 9.00pm
Cost: $10.00

Any enquiries to Narre Warren Police Station 9705 3111

BIG FISH LITTLE FISH SWIM SCHOOL

www.bflf.com.au
Aquatics for All Ages – infants through to Grown Ups!

SMALL CLASS SIZES – EXPERIENCED & DEDICATED AUSTSWIM TEACHERS –
25M INDOOR HEATED POOL – PROGRESSIVE, HIGH QUALITY LESSONS FOR ALL AGES
& AQUATIC ABILITIES

This voucher entitles affiliates of Thomas Mitchell Primary School to one free trial lesson at BFLF.
This offer expires 26th March 2013* Conditions Apply

For bookings and inquiries, please contact us at our Swim School office on
9707 0004. Our programs are held at – Freeway Sports Centre, Corner Princes Highway & Doveton Avenue, Doveton.

Casey Kids Carnival
Saturday 23rd March 10.00am – 4.00pm
Akoonah Park, Berwick

A fun free event for the whole family
Year 4 students have been investigating and exploring ‘Australia’; its land and its people. During the term, students have been examining the geography of our great southern land and how its landscape has changed over the time.

The students are also investigating and researching explorers and early settlers and using this information for their exhibition at the end of term. In the coming weeks we will also be looking at the lifestyle of indigenous Australians.

Here are some of our works of art.
William Dampier an Englishman arrives on the northwest coast of New Holland. He meets with some of the local Aborigines People.

William Dampier

Charles Sturt

1828

Charles Sturt discovered the Larkindale River and the Murray Mallee Rivers. He also explored part of South Australia.

By Chloe and Jazmin