Dear Parents,

School Council Elections

School Council elections are held in February/March each year with each School Councillor being appointed for a two year term. Approximately half of the current School Council positions are advertised as vacant each year.

Parent School Council members who have completed their current two year term of office are Jane Compton-Robins and Aisha Aslam. Kerryn Holland and Robyn Harrison have completed twelve month terms as co-opted community members. They are joined by Patricia McAuley who has completed her two year term as a Department of Education and Training (DET) representative. Urva Ghandi resigned as a parent representative last year which has created a casual 12 month vacancy. On behalf of Thomastown Primary School, I would like to extend our very warm thanks to all our retiring members of School Council.

The composition of the Thomastown Primary School Council is agreed by negotiation with DET and cannot be changed without DET approval. The current composition of the TPS School Council is:

- 5 parent members
- 4 DET members (includes Principal)
- 3 co-opted community members

*** Parents in paid employment with DET count as a DET member

There are currently two (2) vacancies for parent members, three (3) for community co-opted members and one (1) for DET members. Each of the positions is for a period of two years. There is also one (1) 12 month parent vacancy due to the resignation of a parent representative. The 12 month vacancy will be filled by co-option.

School Council meetings are held during the first week of each month with a minimum requirement of eight meetings each year. In 2016, School Council meetings were held at 5:15pm on the first Wednesday of each month. The timing of the meetings is negotiated with the new School Council each year.

It is very important that the school continue to have an active School Council. If you are interested in nominating for School Council, please take the time to speak to current school councillors and ask them about the role and what it means to the life of the school. I am also available to answer questions from those who are interested but unsure of what to expect.

If you decide to stand for election, you will need to arrange for someone to nominate and second you as a candidate in either the parent or DET employee category or you can nominate yourself. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the Principal within the time limit stated on the Notice of Election.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted after the Call for Nominations has closed. At this point I will then ask all candidates to provide a brief written profile about themselves.

Nomination forms will be available from the office on Monday 20th February 2017
Please take note of the closing date for nominations – Monday 6th March 2017 at 4 pm.

Amanda Henning
Principal
P.E. Report

Monday
13th February 2017

With our District Athletics Carnival scheduled for early next month, PE lessons for most grades will be covering the many events in which the children will be competing, such as tunnel ball; cross ball; shotput; discus; high, long and triple jump.

Excellence in P.E. Award

Please note that the Excellence in PE Award will commence this week.

At the end of each session, a score out of ten will be allocated to each grade. Children are reminded that in order to achieve maximum points I am looking for the following:
• Co-operation
• Effort
• Participation
• Sportsmanship - helping, supporting and encouraging each other
• Good listening skills & response to whistle commands
• Being orderly while lining-up and walking to our set location
• Trying your best

District Athletics Carnival

Please note that the District Athletics Carnival is being held on Wednesday the 8th of March at Meadowglen Athletics Track. With this event just over three weeks away, children will be very busy at recesses and lunchtimes, training for their event.

While the selected team will be on display later this week, it is not yet final, and some positions will need to be filled - or finalised - at a later date, as try-outs will still be in progress.

As usual, children will be given an opportunity to challenge a competitor for their position - if they feel they are a better candidate for that event (conditions apply).

Hats and water bottles

When the weather is particularly hot, I always incorporate an official drink-break into my lesson. However, children are encouraged to bring their own water bottle to PE lessons.

Our school has a "No hat, no play" policy. All children are to bring their hat to PE lessons. Unfortunately, if they do not have a hat, they will be unable to participate. They are NOT in trouble, but they will need to sit in the shade.

And remember:
You don't have to be great to start. But you DO have to start to be great!

Value Stars for week ending : 10th February 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep V - Ishreet</td>
<td>Prep/1 D - Ishaaq &amp; Navjot</td>
<td>1/2C - Khaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2W - Tyson</td>
<td>2/3M - Anmar</td>
<td>2/3C - Kaylan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4Y</td>
<td>4/5G - Julieth</td>
<td>5/6K - Osama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6T - Hamdan</td>
<td>Language School - Ahmed &amp; Abdulmalek</td>
<td>ART -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBRARY</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HELP URGENTLY NEEDED

We would like to have our canteen open as soon as possible (for lunch time sales only).

We urgently need volunteers!
Children love to see someone from their family helping at school and it is also a way of meeting other parents.

If you could possibly help weekly, fortnightly or monthly, please contact Anne at the office on 9465 2225.
School Banking 2017

We're excited to launch the new reward items for 2017 from our Future Savers range.

- Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers, released Term 1
- 3D Chalk Set and Tablet Case, released Term 2
- Smiley Emoji Keyring and Volt Handball, released Term 3
- Pencil + Tech Case and Epic Earphones, released Term 4

School banking began Tuesday 7th February 2017

Learning Support Teacher – Sue Lauder

Are there some things about the school that you don’t understand?

Would you like some hints on how to help your child with reading, writing, maths etc.?

Mrs Sue Lauder is our Learning Support Teacher. She is at the school most Tuesdays.

*Her job is to help you help your children learn.*

If you would like to talk with Sue just complete and return the form below for an appointment or have a chat if you see her on Tuesdays walking around before school.

Interpreters are available.

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Parent’s Name: ____________________________ Contact Number ____________________________

Child’s name: ____________________________ Grade: ____

Preferred time for an appointment. (Please Circle)

9.00  10.00  11.30  12.30

Interpreter required   Yes   No   Language required: ____________________________
FAMILY COOKING PROGRAM

As part of our Learning Support program parents will be invited to come to school and cook something with their child and three friends.

Sessions will be held in the canteen on Tuesdays at 2.30 for about an hour.

Parents will be asked to provide a recipe for something simple that they can make with the children in about an hour.

THE SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE ALL EQUIPMENT AND INGREDIENTS.

This is a wonderful opportunity to have fun with your child and to see how cooking ‘bakes’ learning.

If you would like to be part of this program please complete the form below and return to school as soon as possible.

Regards,
Sue Lauder,
Learning Support Teacher.

I would like to participate in the Family Cooking Program.

My Name: _________________________________

Contact Number: ____________________________

Child’s Name: ______________________________ Grade: ________
LEARNING SUPPORT

Do you have any questions about your child and school?
Sue Lauder is our Learning Support Teacher.
Come and meet her. Have a cuppa and a chat.

PARENT GET TOGETHER

Tuesday 28th February 3.00pm
in the Art room.
All parents are welcome.

Welcome Fair 2017

Keep the date free !!!

Thursday 2nd March 3.30 to 6pm.

This year, we’re having our end of year fair in first term to welcome back all our families and say a big “Hi there and welcome to our school!” to families who are new to the school.

Looking forward to seeing you there.
Arabic Playgroup

When:
Wednesday 9:30am – 11:30am

Venue:
Thomastown Primary School
18 Spring St,
Thomastown

Caring for your children/grandchildren at home is very important. Caring for your own health is very important too!!

This playgroup offers opportunities to:

- Promote your children/grandchildren’s skills through cooperative play
- Encourage children to share play with others
- Develop your children’s cognitive, social, emotional, and physical skills
- Provide health information, parenting, early learning and healthy eating
- Share information and experiences and discuss issues of interest in a friendly environment

For more information contact:
Sayanti 9353 5811 (VICSEG)
Thomastown Primary School
إن تقديم الرعاية لأولادكم أولاًفافوادكم مهم جداً
وذلك الاهتمام يصححكم

إن مجموعة لعب الأطفال للأمهات والذين العربيات
نتيجة لكن هذه المرة

• تطوير مهارات أولادكم أو أحفادكم من خلال المشاركة في اللعب مع أطفال آخرين.
• تشجيع الأطفال على المشاركة والتعاون في اللعب مع أطفال آخرين.
• تنمية القدرات الذهنية والفكرية لدى أولادكم أو أحفادكم وتهيئتهم للمدرسة.
• توفير المعلومات التي تركز على الشؤون الصحية والغذاء السليم والتربية.
• مناقشة مواضيع تهمكم في جو ودي واجتماعي.

لمزيد من المعلومات والحجز يرجى الاتصال بأي من الأرقام التالية:
شابتلي على الرقم 9355811
Excellence in P.E. Award
What a fabulous start to the term in PE by all grades! I cannot tell you how proud I am of all the students who have been on their best behaviour and showing a strong commitment to their health, fitness and PE in general. Well done everyone!

Due to this great start, the scores allocated this week clearly reflect this effort. There have been three grades with an almost perfect score.

These grades were: Grade Prep V; 1/2W and 5/6K. Let me assure you, ALL grades received a very high score this week, so the lead is not far away for any grade! As usual in a tie, a winner was drawn from a hat at assembly.

The winner of the Excellence in PE Award was: 1/2W.

Congratulations Grade 1/2W  Well done!

District Athletics Carnival -
Wednesday 8th March
Children will be asked to train for various events before school, at recess and at lunchtime. I ask the children involved in the athletics carnival to please listen carefully to any announcements that may involve a scheduled training session for their event.

All sprinters and 800m runners are asked to attend training sessions on Mondays & Fridays at 8:30am. We will meet on the soccer pitch.

Runners, hats and water bottles
Children should now know on which day they have PE. If parents could ensure that their child wears appropriate footwear when their child has PE, that would be great.

I have to say, there were very few instances of incorrect footwear last week, which was an amazing result for so early in the year..........well done everyone!

A special mention has to be given to the Grade Preps. The Grade Preps displayed exceptional enthusiasm for PE, and are already showing signs of being a very fit group of children.

And remember:
We already know what giving up feels like.
Let’s see what happens if we DON’T!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value Stars for week ending : 17th February 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep V - Noah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1 D - Sienna &amp; Rohan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2C -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2W - Amira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3M - Bethany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3C -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4Y - Chamithi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5G - Jindalee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6K - Naomi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6T - Simone &amp; Navleen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language School - Abdulmalek &amp; Samaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBRARY - 1/2W whole class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer - 4/5G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>