



'A great place to grow up'

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent Carers,

We are now almost half way through the term and what an amazing week of opportunity for our students! Our years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have attended their respective camps and returned to tell their stories! The year 3/4s went to Birrigai and had a variety of experiences including bushwalking, campfire cooking and problem solving initiatives through the Web of Life Game. Damper with golden syrup over a campfire was a welcomed treat!

Our years 5 and 6 travelled to Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre and participated in team building activities that required them to use initiative and creative thinking whilst developing skill. Students faced the challenge of rock climbing walls, high ropes, bikes, as well as team games and cooking a feast of sausages and damper on an open fire. An after lunch recital of The Man from Snowy River set the scene for a whip-cracking performance by Isaac H. My day visit to Jindabyne on Tuesday was too short and sadly, I missed the evening "Jindy markets" run by the students. All campers returned somewhat exhausted and somewhat sad that their adventures were over – and that included our teachers too! A big thank you to Jodie White, our executive who worked tirelessly to ensure such wonderful opportunities on both camps!!! And of course our thanks to all of our staff and friends who gave up their time away from family to support our students – Denby Lovell, Alison Haddy, Ben McCarthy, Jen Lonergan, Tracey Stewart, Leonie Cherry and Michael Hogan at Birrigai; and Liz Harding, Josh Gurr, Alice Lowes, John Muir and Jodie White at Jindabyne – Thank you!!!!

Back at Theodore, our Kinder students were today treated to a visit from lovely local Colleen (aka Corinne Follett) who shared stories about respect and spoke of the importance of our school values. The children were none the wiser and demonstrated lovely manners, being respectful of those older than them!

Our school values of respect, integrity, compassion and personal best underpin all that we do at Theodore. We develop students' personal and social capabilities through our curriculum and the Australian Curriculum's focus on self-awareness, self-management, social awareness and social management. Personal and social capability involves students in a range of practices including recognising and regulating emotions, developing empathy for others, and understanding relationships, establishing and building positive relationships, making responsible decisions, working effectively in teams, handling challenging behaviours constructively and developing leaderships skills. The development of such skills is part of the universal strategies we implement at Theodore to create a positive culture of wellbeing. Our collective responsibility is to ensure that we – students, staff and parents and carers- work together respectfully, with compassion and integrity so that we can achieve our personal best.

We regard the safety and wellbeing of students as our imperative. You may have heard in the media recently that police have received reports regarding students being approached by unknown persons. These incidents serve as a good reminder to us all to help our children understand the importance of stranger safety and the need to report any unusual incidents or approaches to staff immediately. Please take this opportunity to talk to your children about stranger safety and encourage them to talk freely and openly about their concerns.

ACT Policing will continue to work with the information provided to them and we will update you if we hear anything further from ACT Police on this matter. Any suspicious activity or approaches to children should be reported to ACT Police on 131444. This will automatically occur if the incident occurs on school grounds.

Other important messages:

- The junior playground is out of bounds before school. The school provides duty of care before school from 8:30am under the central shade shelter. All students are asked to meet their friends there upon arrival at school. The seats outside the entrance to Mereki (Year 3/4 building) are also accessible for a quieter place to wait. This is to ensure the safety of all of our students in one area.
- We have had an increasing number of personal toys coming from home to school. We ask that students leave their precious items and toys at home. This prevents any loss or damage to items dearly loved.

Kind regards,

Kerri Clark



Dates to Remember

5-7 Mar	Year 5/6 Jindabyne Camp
7 Mar	Preschool AGM 11:55am
9 Mar	Year 2 & Yr1/2G Assembly
12 Mar	Canberra Day Public Holiday
21 Mar	Swimming Carnival CISAC
22 Mar	Y1 Lanyon Homestead Excursion
23 Mar	Year 3/4 M and 4L Assembly
27&29 Mar	Preschool Botanic Gardens Excursion
28 Mar	Board & P&C Meeting
30 Mar	Good Friday
2 Apr	Easter Monday
6 Apr	Year 5 Assembly
12 Apr	Cross Country
13 Apr	Last Day Term 1
30 Apr	First Day Term 2

Notes sent home with this issue

07 Mar	Buroinjin Gala Day
Pre-Y1	Speech & Occupational Therapy
Preschool	National Botanical Gdns Excursion

Cross Country Change of date

Dear Parents,

There has been a change of date in the Theodore cross country carnival. The new date is Thursday 12th April week 10, term one. Please add this to your calendar and there will be another reminder sent home prior to the day.

Thanks You

Brooke Wood

School News

Playground Tickets

To acknowledge positive behaviours on our playground we give green Playground Tickets to students who are showing our school values- Integrity, Respect, Compassion and Personal Best. For example: Graham in 2D was showing compassion when he helped his friend up to sickbay.

Each unit collects the Playground Tickets at the end of each break and then draws several tickets out at unit meetings fortnightly. Winners of the lucky draw come up to the front office to receive a lucky dip and congratulations for showing our school values on the playground.

Cheers, Simone Dawson

Parking safely and legally around schools

The ACT Government has developed a short video to help communicate with parents about the need to ensure they park correctly around schools.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6B6PPgOC8I>

YOUR REMINDER TO PARK SAFELY AND LEGALLY AROUND SCHOOLS



Every day across Canberra, parents are parking illegally in school zones and putting all kids in the area at risk. With school parking patrols increasing in 2018, if you keep doing it, you will get caught and you will be fined.

Video – [Parking safely around schools](#)