

Week 4

THEODORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal
Kerri Clark

Term 1



28 February 2019

'A great place to grow up'

Acting Deputy
Principal
Helen Cox

NEWSLETTER

Principal message

Dear parents and carers,

This week we welcome a number of new faces to our team as we continue to strengthen our learning and wellbeing culture.

Leanne Straatman will be available to work with families in our community over the next couple of weeks. Leanne is an experienced educator having worked in a broad range of schools, including teaching at Theodore Primary. She will be connecting with families in our community to ensure all voices are heard for positive change. If you would like to meet with Leanne, please ring the front office to arrange a time.

Marie Amaro, a behaviour support partner from the Education Directorate, joins us on Mondays to work with classroom teachers and students in developing positive relationships through emotional literacy using circle time.

Cody Hodge, youth worker, will be working across the school to connect with students in the classroom and on the playground by actively engaging students in positive play.

Lachlan Eveston, Canberra Raider and primary teacher in training, has joined the team as a Learning Support Assistant two days a week. In his role, Lachlan is working with students and teachers to support learning and engagement in the classroom.

This week, we also conducted the selection process for our two deputy principal positions, which will work as part of a strong leadership team. I look forward to announcing these once the process is completed.

You might also have already had the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher in our 'Getting to know you interviews'. These interviews allow for teachers and parents to work together in partnership to support student learning needs. Teachers are available to meet with you at other times too, before and after school, through an appointment. We encourage you to arrange a suitable time with your child's teacher.

Kind regards,
Kerri Clark

Lawrence Wackett Crescent, THEODORE ACT 2905

Email: Info@theops.act.edu.au Website: www.theops.act.edu.au

 (02) 614 23100  (02) 614 23121





Say hello to our new executive Michelle Smith

Hello Parents, Carers and Community members,

Firstly, I'd like to introduce myself, my name is Michelle Smith and I have recently joined the Theodore team as an executive teacher in the Early Years (P-K). I have enjoyed spending mornings getting to know families at the Preschool and in Kindergarten and getting to know your wonderful children.

All children have settled into school well and are happy and positive about their teachers and making friends which is lovely to see. Children are learning classroom routines and how to be **safe** during play and in the classroom; **respectful** in their interactions with others, to property and the environment and **learners**. You can read about the learning the children in the Possums, Koalas, Bilbies, Turtles, Owls and Wombat classes have begun in this edition of the newsletter.

The community BBQ last Tuesday was a huge success. It was great to share class information with families and we look forward to working collaboratively with you to ensure your child succeeds at Theodore. This week we are hosting our 'getting to know you' interviews before and after school. It is an opportunity for you to speak one on one with your child's teacher and share individual learning goals for 2019.

We hosted Bronwyn MacLeod in Week 2, who worked with teaching teams to support their planning of integrated science inquiry for semester one; I look forward to observing some of these inquiry lessons this term.

Other important messages:

- The junior and senior playgrounds are 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.
- Breakfast club is in full swing from 8:30am each morning.

I look forward to meeting more families and establishing positive partnerships within the Theodore community in 2019 and in the years to come.

Kind regards,

Michelle Smith



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Dates to Remember

25 to 1 Mar	Getting to Know you Interviews
6 to 8 Mar	Yr 5/6 Borambola Camp
6 Mar	Kindy Reptile Incursion
8 Mar	Yr 3 Assembly 12.15pm to 12.45pm
11 Mar	Public Holiday
15 Mar	Swimming Carnival – CISAC
21 to 22 Mar	Year 3/4 Camp Birragai
22 Mar	Yr 5 Assembly 12.15pm to 12.45pm
27 Mar	Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL) Parent Session
5 April	Yr 2 Assembly 12.15pm to 12.45pm
12 April	Last day Term 1
28 to 30 May	Kindergarten Health checks

P&C News

Joining the P&C is a great way to get involved in your school community, keep up-to-date with what's happening at the school, contribute to your child's education and make new friends. The P&C Association is a group of volunteers working together to improve the facilities and opportunities available at the school.

Vacant Positions

- Assistant Treasurer
- Executive Committee Members
- Fundraising Members
- School Banking Officer
- Calwell High Liaison
- P&C Council Liaison
- Uniform Liaison

Please join our next meeting on 20th March at 6:30pm



Preschool News



We have had a wonderful start at the Preschool with the children settling into the routine very quickly. We are working on our manners, mutual respect, taking turns, appreciations, following instructions, sharing, listening when someone else is talking as well as trying to do our best work. Every session we also have a community circle where we take turns at talking while holding an object like a teddy. This gives everyone a chance to have something to say. An example might be, 'How are you feeling today' or 'Something that makes you happy'. In a community circle everyone also has a right to pass and we encourage no put downs.

We have begun working on our basic shapes and we will be soon looking at the students' sandwich shapes to keep a tally of which sandwich shape is most popular. We are also beginning to work on recognizing names. We would love the children to begin practising using scissors at home as we will be working also on that skill at Preschool. If you are helping your child write their name at home, it is important for the students to learn lower case letters except for the initial capital letter at the beginning of their name. We are more than happy to demonstrate the best way to teach them. Please come and see us.

On Wednesdays, with the help of some wonderful parents, we have our fundamental motor skills program where the children are learning to catch, hit and kick a ball, balance, cross over their midline, leap, skip, and build up their upper body strength. We also focus on fine motor activities to improve the strength in the children's hands, for example, cutting with the correct grip, folding paper, picking up small items with tweezers, or drawing horizontal and vertical lines. If you would like to help with our rotations, please put your name down on the roster sheet. It is an enormous help to ensure our rotations run smoothly.

In Week 9 Pirate Pete is coming for a visit. He is a highly entertaining pirate who entertains children with music, stories and games. The children participate by singing and dancing. For the Pirate performance we encourage the students to dress up in pirate outfits. These can be as simple as a striped t-shirt, a bandana, a drawn on scar.

Welcome and thank you to our new P & C Fundraising Committee and a big thank you to our outgoing 2018 Committee, especially Jemima Livingstone and Kim Fitch. I'm sure the Committee would love some help and are open to any ideas you might have. Please feel free to come and attend the informal meetings. The more the merrier!

Thank you also to all those families who have brought in their child's book packs. All these items are a huge help to the running of the Preschool. If you haven't brought in your book pack could you please supply your child with a 20 pocket A4 portfolio display folder that has a display cover which is clear at the front. We need these folders for the children to add their artwork over the year. A big thank you also to the lovely parents who help us with our rotations and to the families who have been doing our washing. We really appreciate your help.

April and Autumn (our lovely Guinea Pigs) have begun going home with our families on the weekend. If you would like to have a turn please put your name down on the roster sheet or come and talk to one of the teachers/LSA's. They are very easy to look after and we do have a travel cage for them to go home in.

Lastly, just a couple of reminders:



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- Please ensure that the children bring a named water bottle (no fruit juice please), healthy snacks and lunch. Fruit, yoghurt, cheese, vegetables, crackers, sandwiches, boiled egg, or pasta are great options. Please don't include chocolate, chips or lollies. We also have a couple of children in Preschool that have a nut allergy. Please remember **no nuts**.
 - Please ensure children's things are named and easily seen.
 - Ensure your child has a hat (no caps) please. If your child keeps losing their hat we are happy if you would like to leave a named hat in their home pocket to stay at school.
 - Please remember to send an extra piece of fruit or vegetable for 'fruito' – it is a very popular time of the day. We also ask families to please send a piece of fruit or vegetables for their child's snack.

This year is going to be a very busy year. Before each event you will receive a note giving more detailed information. This year we have planned:

TERM 1

Monday 2 April (Possums and Bilbies) / Friday 5 April (Koalas)

Pirate Pete Incursion

TERM 2

Tuesday 7 May (Possums & Bilbies) / Friday 10 May (Koalas)

An open morning to celebrate Mother's Day.

Tuesday 25 June (Possums & Bilbies) (TBC)

Friday 28 June (Koalas)

Declan the Music Man will visit the Preschool. Declan will be entertaining and sharing his knowledge of instruments with the children.

Term 3

Tuesday 13 August (Possums and Bilbies) / Friday 16 August (Koalas)

Open Science Morning for Science Week

Tuesday 27 August (Possums and Bilbies) / Friday 30 August (Koalas)

An open morning to celebrate Father's Day

(Dates TBC) Excursion to the National Arboretum

Term 4

Tuesday 15 October (Possums & Bilbies)

Friday 18 October (Koalas)

Reptiles Inc Zoo

Wednesday 23 October Art Show - where the children's artwork will be displayed

Thank you everyone for your assistance. I hope you all enjoy your preschool year.

Susie, Leigh, Jayne, Janene and Annie



Kindergarten News

This term we are learning to be Safe, Respectful Learners, following Theodore's Positive Behaviours for Learning model. Students have been involved in games and discussions about how we play safely inside and outside and what we can do when we feel unsafe. We are beginning to understand that to be a good learner we need to be listeners, ask questions and try new things, it is okay to make mistakes, mistakes show us we are learning.

We are looking forward to our first school Swimming Carnival in a few weeks' time on Friday March 15th (week 6), and our visit from the Reptile Man on Wednesday March 6th (week 5). If you haven't returned permission notes for these activities, please return them to the front office or your class teacher as soon as possible.

Every morning between 9.30 – 10.00 we have a healthy snack break, students are encouraged to bring a piece of fresh fruit or vegetables to eat during this time. We also encourage students to

bring a drink bottle of water for the day.

Home Readers were sent home last week, we hope you all enjoyed reading with each other. A few quick reminders about our home reading program – starting this week:

- Rich Text books (calico bags with fun activities) - sent home and collected every TUESDAY. If your child misses bringing their bag to school, the book will not be exchanged until the following Tuesday.
- Take Home Readers (zip lock plastic pocket with 2-4 small books for reading practice) – sent home from school every THURSDAY.
- Library Books – (a book that your child self-selects for enjoyment)
Wombats – WEDNESDAY, Turtles – THURSDAY and Owls – WEDNESDAY.

We would LOVE morning helpers on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. If you have a current Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card we would love for you to assist us in reading with children or helping restock book bags with Kirril.

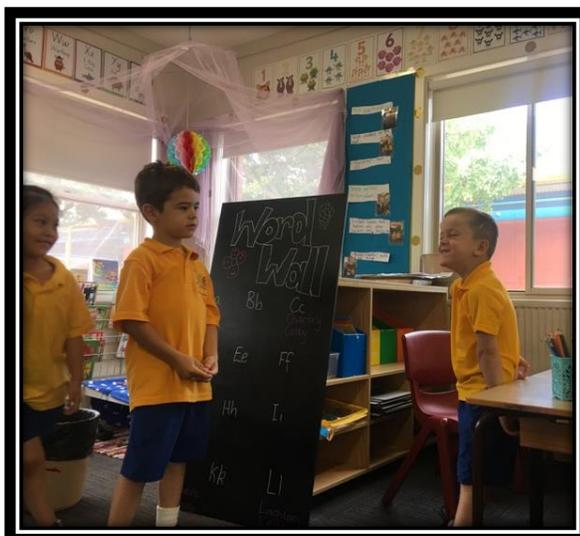
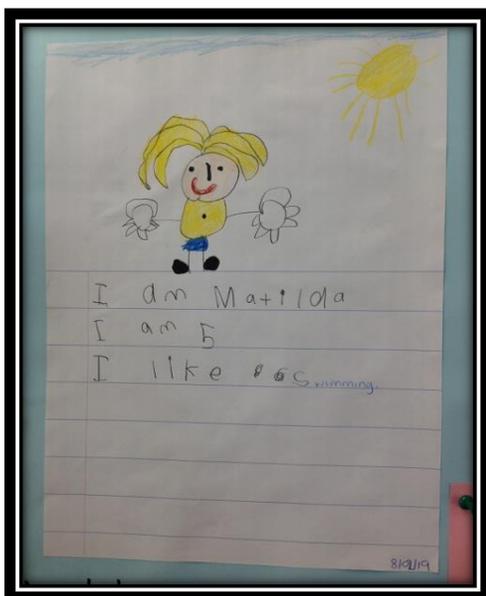
Theodore is a Sun Smart school, students are required to wear a broad brimmed, legionnaires or bucket hat outside during playtimes, unfortunately we do not have spare hats for students to use.

With 18 days of kindergarten gone, we are all very excited and looking forward to a year of fantastic learning.

Miss O'Neill, Miss Blewitt, Miss Coombes and Mrs Smith



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Community News



DRAMA CLASSES

THEODORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Enrol Now for 2019!

CLASSES INCLUDE:

- **Acting and Performance Skills**
- **Confidence Building**
- **Communication Skills – strong voices, clear speech and active listening**
- **Public Speaking – speech planning and presentation**
- **Exploring and performing a variety of texts**
- **Outlet for creative and effective self-expression**

Classes will be held on Wednesday Mornings during term time 8.00am – 9.00am
in the Library

For more information and enrolment please go to the link below:
<http://www.perform.edu.au/canberra-in-school-programs.html#/>
Or phone Perform Australia: 1300 908 905



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