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## Executive News

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Dear parents and carers,

Have you ever noticed your child ask a lot of questions? Sometimes they are presented with the answer but mostly they have to find the answer for themselves. Asking questions is not simply a means to gather information; rather it enables students to identify what they already know, think critically about what they are learning, assess new information and think creatively to construct new meaning. Being curious allows you to be extraordinarily interested in something with the purpose of wanting to know more. Being curious can help us to discover new things, new challenges, and explore possibilities, and it can help to develop perseverance, especially when we have a particular interest and want to know more.

Developing curious minds is part of our work at Theodore. We understand that fostering student curiosity can have a direct impact on student engagement, interest and assist students in driving their learning. From play based learning and investigations, to promoting "I wonder..." opportunities and our inquiry approach to the Australian Curriculum, we provide multiple avenues for students to develop their curiosity and ask questions. Yesterday Kindergarten students were exploring shapes in their environment, challenging their thinking, asking questions, reasoning, justifying their thinking. It was wonderful to see their curiosity in action!

Yesterday our staff were engaged in Maths professional learning, led by Trish Foster, of Chapman Primary, and our very own Josh Gurr. Both are committed champions of the *reSolve: Mathematics by Inquiry* project, designed to promote inquiry approaches to maths. We experienced through a number of practical activities the important role curiosity and inquisitiveness plays in meaningful learning. For teachers this prompts us to consider the tasks that we plan to initiate mathematical actions, their mathematical purpose and the potential to go beyond the specific purpose. It also highlighted the importance of establishing connection to the real world, making maths accessible for students by knowing where they are currently and planning to provide the potential to challenge and extend students. Above all, we learnt that maths is fun! Thank you to both of our facilitators for stimulating our curiosity to go further!

I congratulate Alison Yiagloglou and Alison Hosking for their successful appointments to our school board for 2018. Both of our new board members are well respected members of our Theodore community and I look forward to working strategically with them as we set the Strategic Plan for the coming years. On behalf of the Theodore community I would like to acknowledge the contributions that our outgoing board members, Kirsten Baker and Ray Haley, have made and thank them for their service to our school.

I would also like to thank all of our parents who have embraced a key role on this year's P&C. Our incoming P&C president, Carrie Timmer, and her team have already met to set an agenda to support the school through fundraising efforts; the financial support provided by our P&C goes to supporting students in learning and play. At the next meeting the school will meet to discuss spending priorities for 2018 and determine the contribution that the P&C can make towards these. A huge thank you to our outgoing P&C members; your contributions to the life of the school are greatly appreciated.

Our school parliament is underway with our first parliamentary session having taken place and the passing of their first "bill". Raised by our Minister for Social Services, the parliament was asked to consider a fundraising activity to raise monies to support the communities of NSW coastal town of Tathra and surrounds in light of the recent devastating bush fires. Not only does this support our year six students in their inquiry learning into parliamentary processes, this works beautifully with our value of compassion, as it sends a powerful message of caring for others in



times of need. At this week’s assembly, our school leaders and parliamentary officers will be “sworn in” and receive their official badges. Please join us in congratulating our leaders and acknowledging the important roles they are undertaking this year.

As we head towards the end of term, a few updates and reminders:

- The fencing around our kitchen garden area is currently being replaced to ensure the safety of our students.
- The senior playground is due to be installed in the April school holidays, with confirmations of schedules for removal, installation and certification being currently finalised. It is hoped that this will be available for use in early term 2.
- Students are reminded at the beginning and end of the school day to walk their scooters and bikes out of the school grounds before riding them. At these busy times of the day, pedestrian traffic is heavier and little ones can easily be knocked over. This expectation is set in the safety of all.

Kind regards,

Kerri Clark

Parliament Executive			
Prime Minister	Prime Minister	Secretary	Treasurer
Raymond	Aeryn	Oliver	William
Minister for Education: Regan, Jackson	Minister for Health and Safety: Laura, Ben	Minister for the Environment: Abbey, Asha	Minister for Information and Research: Mustafa, Jade
Minister for Social Services: Jeremy	Minister for Sport: Shared Responsibility of Year 6 Sports Captains	Minister for Technology: Haydon, Ajay	Minister for Wellbeing: Tenaya, Zoe
Sports House Captains			
Allan	Fox	Jennings	Rodda
l’eisha B	Bailey M	Nick B	Leah C
Caleb J	Navae S	Jaimee B	Brock U
Tahlia B (Year 5)	Amity C	Dom P (Year 5)	Ashlee H (Year 5)
Kayne S (Year 5)	Tiarrah O	Max D (Year 5)	Aleisha B (Year 5)





## Dates to Remember

<b>5 Apr</b>	Blundell's Cottage Excursion Yr2
<b>6 Apr</b>	Year 5 Assembly
<b>9 Apr</b>	Bunnings Visit to school 1:00pm-1:40pm
<b>11 Apr</b>	Bunnings Visit to school 1:00pm- 1:40pm
<b>12 Apr</b>	Cross Country & Sausage Sizzle
<b>13 Apr</b>	Last Day Term 1
<b>30 Apr</b>	First Day Term 2

## Notes sent home with this issue

### ICAS Reminder

Your child is invited to participate in the 2018 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). For over 20 years ICAS has taken place each year in schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, the Pacific region and South Africa.

ICAS provides an opportunity for all Years 3 – 6 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of English, Mathematics, Spelling, Science and Writing.

All notes and payment need to be returned to the school by Friday 13 April 2018.

### Cross Country Reminder

Our cross country carnival will be happening Thursday of week 10 (12<sup>th</sup> April). The proposed schedule for the day is:

	Time	Distance	Est finish time
<b>Pre- school</b>	<b>9:40</b>	<b>500m</b>	<b>9:50</b>
<b>11 years</b>	<b>9:50</b>	<b>3000m</b>	<b>10:35</b>
<b>12 years</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>3000m</b>	<b>10:45</b>
<b>6 years</b>	<b>9:45</b>	<b>500m</b>	<b>9:55</b>
<b>7 years</b>	<b>10:00</b>	<b>500m</b>	<b>10:10</b>
<b>8 years</b>	<b>10:30</b>	<b>1000m</b>	<b>10:50</b>
<b>K-6</b>	<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>RECESS</b>	<b>RECESS</b>
<b>9 years</b>	<b>11:45</b>	<b>1500m</b>	<b>12.10</b>
<b>10 years</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>2000m</b>	<b>12:30</b>
	<b>12:50</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>K-6</b>	<b>2:15-2:55</b>	<b>Sports assembly</b>	

## School News

### Newsletter feedback – Have your say!

This term we changed the newsletter distribution day to Wednesday to accommodate the administrative needs of the school. As we ourselves have been adjusting to the change in routine (myself included!), coupled with our school's transition to the school administration and distribution system, SENTRAL, a few newsletters have gone out later than anticipated. We do apologise for any inconvenience.

The newsletter is a valuable tool for communication; each week it provides a front page from Principal/Executive, upcoming dates to remember, messages and community news, and every second edition highlights what's happening in our classrooms. We have recently added an article relating to wellbeing that appears every week. What would you like to see in your newsletter? Please email the school with your comments at [Info@theops.act.edu.au](mailto:Info@theops.act.edu.au). Your feedback matters!

### Bunnings Visit

Bunnings are coming in next Monday (9<sup>th</sup> of April) and Wednesday (11<sup>th</sup> of April) at 1:00 to bring in some seedlings and help us to plant up our gardens bed in our kitchen garden.

Families are welcome to come along, learn some new ideas and help with the planting. Just turn up.

### Wellbeing matters

The national definition of bullying for schools tells us there are three main features of bullying: 1) It involves a misuse of power in a relationship, 2) It is ongoing and repeated, and 3) It involves behaviours that can cause harm.

We tend to name bullying by the type of behaviour that is involved, so we talk about verbal bullying, physical bullying or social bullying. Verbal bullying includes name calling or insulting someone about physical characteristics such as their weight or height, or other attributes including race, sexuality, culture, or religion. Physical bullying includes hitting or otherwise hurting someone, shoving or intimidating another person. Social bullying includes excluding another person or sharing information or images that will have a harmful effect on the other person.

But as we've already seen in the previous videos, if any of these behaviours occur only once or are part of a conflict between equals, no matter how inappropriate they are, they are not bullying. The behaviours alone do not define bullying.

Verbal, physical and social bullying can happen in person. Verbal and social bullying can also happen online, as can threats of physical bullying.

Bullying behaviours can be easy to see (overt), or hidden (covert). Social bullying can be subtle and even sometimes denied by the other person by saying, 'oh, I was only joking!' In fact, covert social bullying can be almost impossible for outsiders to identify.

Bullying can also be direct or indirect. Direct behaviours occur between the people involved, whereas indirect actions involve others, for example passing on insults or spreading rumours.

These unwanted verbal, physical, or social behaviours can lead to physical and/or psychological harm. When these behaviours cause harm, are repeated, and are part of a misuse of power in a relationship, we call them bullying.

Source:  
<https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/resources/videos/pages/videoplayer.aspx?VideoID=94>



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## P&C News

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### Pre-loved Uniform Shop

Stock up before the cold weather arrives! The P&C will be selling second hand uniforms outside the front office on Thursday 5th April 2.30pm - 3.30pm.

All items are \$2 with a school logo or \$1 without (cash only).

You can also donate your old uniforms by bringing them to the stall, or to the front office at any time (please put them in a clearly marked bag so we don't try to return them to you as lost property!)

Thank you!

Nicola



### Sausage Sizzle Lunch 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**(SAUSAGES ARE GLUTEN FREE AND ARE BEEF ONLY)**

WE WOULD KINDLY APPRECIATE THAT ALL ORDERS, (EACH STUDENT ON A SEPARATE FORM PLEASE) ARE RETURNED BY THE DUE DATE SO THE P&C CAN CATER APPROPRIATELY.

**DUE BACK NO LATER THAN THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL.**

Direct deposit available for families' convenience. Please indicate if you have chosen to pay this way on the form.

Bendigo Bank BSB:633-000 ACC:119036911 REFERENCE: CHILD'S NAME

