



16 February 2023 – Term 1

## Acting Deputy Principal News

Hello Families,

It has been an amazing start to the school year! I have loved walking around the school and visiting classrooms each morning seeing students engaged in independent reading.



### Community Welcome BBQ

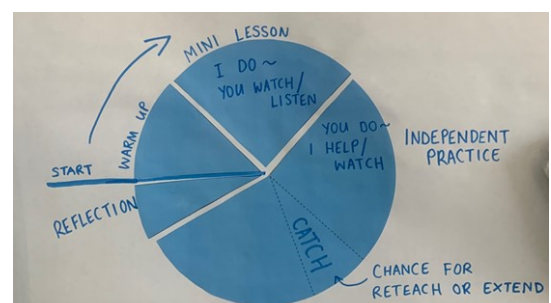
A huge thank you to all the families who came along to the Community Welcome BBQ and for all those families that were unable to make it, don't worry there will be plenty of other upcoming community events throughout the year. It was a slow start for Mr Pepper and I on the BBQ, but it was a great opportunity to chat and make connections with you all. It was wonderful to see the students enjoying the schools' new outdoor games that we purchased at the end of last year.



### Reading and Writing Workshops

This year all students across the school will be engaging in Workshop Models during literacy and math's learning. The Workshop Model was implemented last year and will continue to be implemented for the following years. The Reading and Writing Workshop Model was developed by an Educator named Debbie Miller. Debbie Miller is a teacher, author, and literacy consultant. She taught in the Denver Public Schools for thirty years and now works extensively with schools and districts on long-range planning and development of literacy programs. Workshop Models allow for explicit reading and writing strategies to be taught, independent work time for students to practices, with one on one or small group conferencing with teacher, followed by a reflection to conclude the Workshop. The school has invested in 'Book Boxes' for every student to be used in Reading Workshops. The 'Book Boxes' allow students to store texts that have been selected by the teacher and themselves. This gives them autonomy in their reading choices that then allows for higher engagement in reading. Ask you children what books they have in their 'Book Boxes' now.

Thank you  
Melonie Lloyd  
Acting Deputy Principal



## Contact Us

---



[theodoreps@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:theodoreps@ed.act.edu.au)



(02) 614 23100



[www.theops.act.edu.au](http://www.theops.act.edu.au)



Lawrence Wackett Crescent, THEODORE ACT 2905



[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/TheodorePrimarySchool)  
Theodore Primary School (Official Site)

---

Theodore Primary School  
*"A great place to grow up"*

## Dates to Remember

---

### Term 1 Calendar

#### Fortnightly Schedule

<b>24 FEBRUARY</b>	Assembly—Yr5/6
<b>28 -01 MARCH</b>	Parent Teacher Interviews
<b>02 MARCH</b>	Yr3 — Yr6 Rugby League Gala Day
<b>08 MARCH</b>	K— Yr6 Swimming Carnival



## Notes sent home

K—Yr6	Swimming Carnival
Yr3-Yr6	Rugby League Gala Day
Yr5/6	Netball Gala Day
Kindy	Kindergarten Health Checks
Yr5	Band

## Notes due back

24th February
24th February
03rd March
27th February
14th March



*We are Safe,  
Respectful  
Learners*

# Term 1 | Week 4 @ Theodore



## *What's On This Week*



**MONDAY 20/2-**

**Bilbies Preschool Day**

**TUESDAY 21/2-**

**Bilbies Preschool Day**

**WEDNESDAY 22/2**

**THURSDAY 23/2-**

**Koalas Preschool Day**

**FRIDAY 24/2- Assembly @ 2.15pm - 5/6 Hosting**

**Koalas Preschool Day**

## School Upgrades



In 2022, 3/4 students and their teachers worked together to revitalise our Indigenous garden. This involved designing the space, researching the costs of materials and working with Aaron Chatfield to select appropriate plants.



# Theodore Primary School Board

---

## Theodore Primary School Board - 2023 Position Vacant

School Board is a wonderful opportunity for parents to participate in the ongoing management of the school and to contribute to the school's future directions.

The following positions have become vacant after the 31/3/2023.

- 2 x Parent Member
- 1 x P&C Association Member

### Nomination Dates

**Nominations Open: Week 2 Term 1** - Monday 6th February 2023

**Nominations Close: Week 4 Term 1** - Monday 20th February 2023

**If a vote is needed this will be considered for seven (7) days.**

Voting will **commence** on **Week 5 Term 1** - Monday 27 February 2023

Voting will **close** on **Week 6 Term 1** - Monday 6 March 2023

The current Board meets twice a term. Parents or guardians of Theodore children are eligible to nominate. Nomination form can be collected for the front office.

You can submit your nomination by:

email to [rose.rodriguez@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:rose.rodriguez@ed.act.edu.au) (preferred)

- hand delivery to the *Theodore Primary School* front office

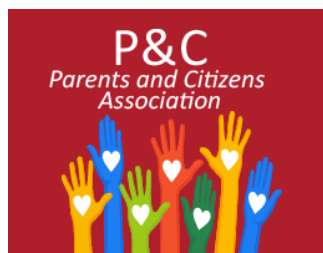
mail to ARO, c/- *Theodore Primary School 78 Lawrence Wackett Cres Theodore Act 2905*

## P&C News

---

### Theodore Primary school P&C AGM

Please come along if you would like to know more about the primary school or preschool P&C



Thursday the 23rd February

6:30pm

Theodore Library

Hope to see some new faces there!



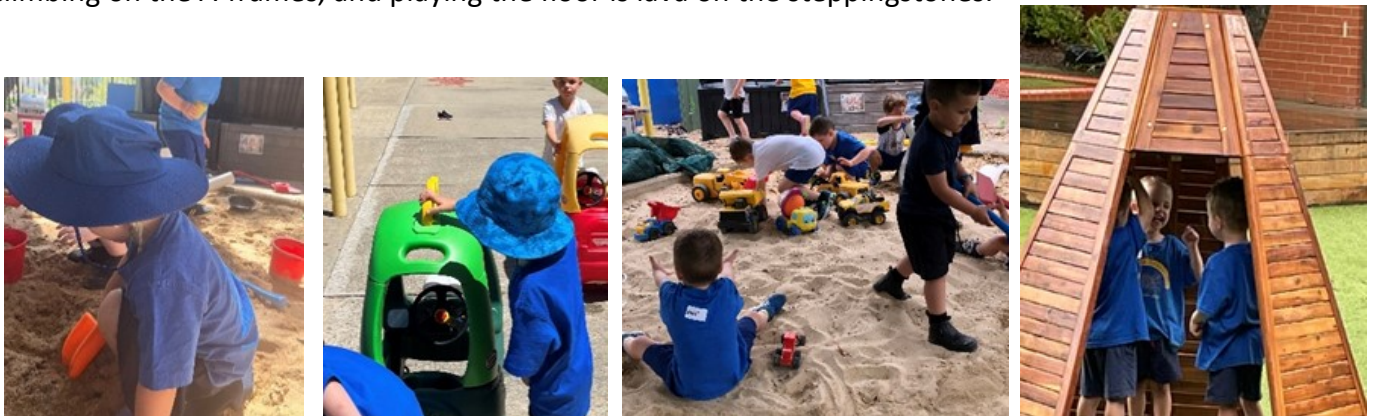


## Preschool

The Bilbies and Koalas have had an excellent start to the year and settled into the school quickly. The children have been exploring a range of inside investigations, including play dough, sorting shapes and colours, magnetic tiles and button hunting at the rice table. The construction room has become a quick favourite, with children building long train tracks that span the whole room.



Outside, children have been getting familiar with the space, building a river on hot days; they loved watching the water run down the sand and begin to fill the bed. They added lots of rocks, sticks and various other materials to change how the water flowed. Children also enjoyed taking trips in the car, climbing on the A-frames, and playing the floor is lava on the steppingstones.



Finally, children started looking at the weather they learnt about the different kinds of weather and the indigenous names in Ngunnawal language for sun, rain, wind, and clouds. After their learning, children had the choice to create a weather scene.





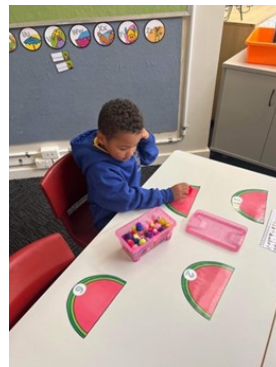
# Kindergarten

Kindergarten students have had a fantastic start to the year and all students have settled into the new learning environment. The learning focus for the first weeks of school has been establishing daily routines, making new friends, exploring new outdoor play spaces, and learning about behaviour expectations.



Across all year levels of Theodore Primary, the morning session is focussed on literacy. Kindy students have been reading the book 'Smarty Pants', by Joy Cowley and learning about the letter sounds S, A and P. A highlight for students has been learning to be *Word Detectives*. This is an activity that has been incorporated into our Home Reading Bags, please ask your child to share this with you!

In the middle session, the learning focus is numeracy. The students have been learning about number 0-10 and practicing making representations of these numbers.



After break 2, Kindy students participate in a fine motor program. The aim of the learning is to build the small muscle groups in students' hands. Strength in these muscle groups supports students across a range of learning activities at school, such as maintaining a grasp on a pencil and opening and closing scissors.



## FRIDAY LUNCH ORDERS

This year students will have the opportunity to order lunch each Friday. These lunch orders will be delivered to the school from Calwell High and must be ordered online by parents prior to Friday.

Orders must be made before 8am each Friday.

Please remember our lunch order day is Friday only, please do not order for any other day of the week as it will not be delivered to the school.

If you have any questions, please contact Aimee Shires on 6142 3100 or [aimee.shires@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:aimee.shires@ed.act.edu.au).



### HOW TO REGISTER



#### WITH flexischools

- 1 Download the Flexischools app and select "Register".
- 2 Type in your email and submit to create an account.
- 3 Go to your inbox and click the link to verify your email (remember to check your junk).
- 4 Follow the registration process, creating a password and adding your personal details.
- 5 Add your student under "Profile" and start ordering online!



Download Flexischools app

### HOW TO PLACE A CANTEEN ORDER



#### WITH flexischools

- 1 Click "Order food" at the top of the home page on your app.
- 2 Select the child you want to order for, then the date you wish to receive your order on.
- 3 Choose the food items you wish to purchase, then select "Confirm Order".
- 4 Choose your desired payment option.
- 5 Press "Place Order" to confirm your purchase.

ENJOY!



Download Flexischools app

## Mid Week Lunchbox Favourite Suggestion

### Egg and Avocado Sandwich

Prep 5 mins

#### Ingredients

- 2 slices wholegrain bread
- ½ cup baby spinach leaves
- 1 egg, hard boiled and de-shelled
- 2 tbs avocado
- 1 tbs low-fat natural or Greek yoghurt
- ¼ tsp Dijon mustard
- ½ tbs lemon juice

#### Method

In a small bowl, mash together egg and avocado. Add yoghurt, mustard and lemon juice and mix well. Spread mixture evenly over one slice of bread, layer over spinach leaves and top with remaining slice.





## **What is Saver Plus?**

A financial literacy program funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services and ANZ, aimed at supporting families on lower incomes to develop financial skills and independence. As an incentive to completing the 10-month program, a participant's savings are matched dollar for dollar, up to \$500, for an education cost such as school uniforms, stationery, tutoring, and laptops, as well as extracurricular activities like sport, music, scouts, and dancing.

## **Why should we promote Saver Plus?**

The reality of the pandemic, widespread natural disasters, and the rising cost of living is that financial stress and hardship is becoming more prevalent. By promoting the Saver Plus program to your school families, you're supporting them to build lasting savings habits, improve their personal wellbeing, and be better prepared for unexpected expenses. An [independent study](#) found that of past participants:

- 87% continue to save the same amount or more 3 to 7 years after completing the program
- 80% had more control over their finances
- 78% were better equipped for unexpected expenses
- 88% reported increased self-esteem
- 100% experienced increases in life, financial and employment satisfaction.

## **How will it benefit our school and students?**

Unless the parent or guardian is studying themselves, their savings goal will be an item/s for their child's education. This means an investment and active engagement in your school community. Furthermore, we know the important role that parents play as their child's first and most influential teacher. Therefore, the financial skills, confidence, and habits developed through this program are passed along to the rest of the family.

## **How can we promote Saver Plus?**

### **School Newsletter**

- Adapt the below blurb to suit your needs and pair with an [image](#) if possible.
- Could \$500 help you with education costs? You might be eligible for Saver Plus, Australia's longest running and most successful financial education program. On this FREE 10-month program, parents and carers just like you are supported to develop savings habits and financial confidence.*

*Once you reach your savings goal, ANZ matches your savings dollar for dollar (up to \$500). You can use this money towards your children's education costs such as uniforms, stationery, laptops, or even extra-curricular activities like sport, music, dancing, and scouts! You have nothing to lose and \$\$\$ to gain so head to [saverplus.org.au](https://saverplus.org.au) for more information and to register your interest today.*

### **Facebook**

Reshare posts from [Saver Plus](#) to your school's Facebook page like [this post](#). Or contact your local Saver Plus Coordinator for more personalised tiles and captions.

### **Posters**

Print and display one of our posters in areas parents frequent such as reception area, uniform shop, or OSHC centre:

[Kindy Poster](#)

[School Poster](#)

[How it Works Poster](#)

If you'd prefer a printed copy provided to you, please contact your local Saver Plus Coordinator.

### **On-Hold Message**

Use [this script](#) to record an on-hold message promoting the program to people who call your school.

If you don't record your own messages, please contact your local Saver Plus Coordinator for an audio file.



**Could \$500 help with next year's back to school costs?**

Learn tips and tricks to grow your budget and saving skills. Save for 10 months. Get up to \$500 of matched savings for school expenses. Just in time for 2024.

Must meet all eligibility criteria:

- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment\*
- ✓ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✓ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)\*
- ✓ Be 18+ years old

\*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

**saverplus**

For more info, visit [saverplus.org.au](https://saverplus.org.au) or call 1300 610 355.  
To fill in an online enquiry form, [CLICK HERE](#).





# THEODORE PLAYGROUP

Theodore playgroup is a free play-based playgroup designed for children aged 0-5. The aim of Theodore playgroup is to provide an opportunity for parents and carers to connect with others in the community and to provide a safe and friendly environment for children to learn new skills through play.

DAY: Friday - During the school terms

TIME: 9 – 10 am

LOCATION: Theodore Preschool

Lawrence Wackett Crescent Theodore ACT

For more information, please contact Aimee.

61423100

[aimee.shires@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:aimee.shires@ed.act.edu.au)

## Stay and Play

Every **Thursday** afternoon from

**3-3.30 pm** we invite all families to stay and play at the junior playground area.

Play on the playground

Bring bikes and scooters

Meet other families

Share stories/information

Bring afternoon tea



## COFFEE VAN IS COMING

**When:** Fridays

**Time:** 8 – 10 am

**Where:** Theodore Primary carpark

Please bring cash or card



**\$12** | PER LESSON  
PAY AS YOU GO

**ENROLL NOW!**

[www.zanshin.com.au](http://www.zanshin.com.au)  
**0408 440 615**

**ZANSHIN**  
MARTIAL ARTS





## Parent & Carer eSafety Webinars - 2023

All parents and carers of an ACT public school student are invited to attend an eSafety information session designed to develop their knowledge and skills in supporting their child with digital technologies. This webinar will look at understanding the current eSafety issues children and young people are experiencing, how to support your child to be safe online, resources for preventing and responding to online issues, and where to go for further support.

Families are invited to attend one or more of the following sessions held online from 6.00-7.00pm:

	Primary	Secondary
Term 1	21/2 or 23/3	23/2 or 21/3
Term 2	9/5 or 8/6	11/5 or 6/6
Term 3	1/8 or 31/8	3/8 or 29/8
Term 4	17/10, 14/11 or 16/11	19/10, 14/11 or 16/11



[bit.ly/3TyRaZx](https://bit.ly/3TyRaZx)

Scan the QR Code or type in the address for more information and to register for one or more parent and carer eSafety webinars.





### REBELS COME & TRY TRAINING SESSION

COME AND EXPERIENCE A TRAINING SESSION

### YEARS 2-6

TUESDAY  
7TH MAR

6:00 TO  
7:30PM

TNA  
WERE ST  
CALWELL

FREE AND NO NEED TO REGISTER  
DROP-OFF OR STAY AND WATCH  
FOR ALL NEW AND EXISTING PLAYERS  
BRING A FRIEND  
PRIZES TO BE WON

## Hockey ACT's 2023 Come & Try Weekend!

### COME & TRY (Northside)

Saturday 18th February, 2023

9am to 12pm

National Hockey Centre, Lyneham ACT

### COME & TRY (Southside)

Sunday 19th February, 2023

9am to 12pm

Tuggeranong Hockey Park, Greenway ACT



[www.hockeyact.org.au](http://www.hockeyact.org.au)



# FAMILY FUN QUIZ NIGHT?

**SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY**  
**GORDON COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**5PM TO 7PM**

GROUPS OF UP TO 10 - \$10 PER HEAD  
ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO THE GORDON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
TO REGISTER EMAIL - [FAMILYFUNQUIZNIGHT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FAMILYFUNQUIZNIGHT@GMAIL.COM)  
BRING A PICNIC (ALCOHOL FREE EVENT)





# SCOOT! ON FRIDAY

**3:30-5:00 PM**



After school program for years 3-6  
at Gordon Community Centre





**lanyonvalley**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH