



TAPS NEWSLETTER

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www.thomasacre-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Mr S Pope

Deputy Principal: Mrs C Flamos

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Reports are coming

Attention students and parents.... Half yearly reports are just around the corner. In fact they'll be making their way home in week 10 on the 5th of July.

You'll notice a few differences. Students will get an overall grade for Key learning areas and subjects within English and Mathematics. They will also receive an overall description for their effort ranging from excellent to poor (of course you would encourage your child to aim for good or excellent).

At Thomas Acres PS our students are given a tick against various 'I can' statement for each learning area. This fits well with our '**Formative Assessment**' journey, which aims to involve students more effectively in their own learning. In all our classes teachers and students are starting to use and expand on **learning goals**, **success criteria** (I can statements) along with **feedback** and **checking in** strategies between teachers and students. Students are starting to demonstrate an ability to reflect on and talk about what they need to do to progress in their learning.

As a school, we have tried to make this process more reflective of our school reports hence the 'I can' statements.

Parents please note that while overall achievement (Outstanding, High, Sound, Basic and Limited) in each Key Learning Area is important and it is good to know that our children are doing well I would encourage you to **celebrate growth**, hard-work and a **positive attitude**. These are the things that overtime at school and beyond will make the biggest difference and will prepare students for a successful and resilient life.



SCHOOL SECURITY

1300 880 021

24 Hours

THIS WEEK AT TAPS Week

Fri 22nd June Wk
8

GALA DAY

Fri 29th June Wk
Stage 1 9
Bonnie Vale
National Park

Fri 6th July Wk
10

Last Day of
Term 2

STUDENT'S

ABSENCE OF

THREE (3) DAYS

OR MORE

REQUIRES A

DOCTOR'S CERTIFICATE

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
FOR THE LATEST EVENTS
AT TAPS

www.thomasacre-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
UPDATED WEEKLY

As it is now 'report' season I would like to take this opportunity to thank our hard-working and **dedicated staff** who care about their student both in class and across the school. Our **amazing teachers** continue to improve in their teaching (because of their commitment and passion to be the best they can be) by providing quality learning experience to engage, support and extend our students. Our staff seriously aim to support and improve all of our students and their **tireless effort** in this is to be commended.

Thank you too, to our students for your **hard-work**, good manners, ability to work with others and **positive approach** to learning so far this year. Thanks also to those of you who have made great progress and changes in your behaviour and learning this year. Keep trying boys and girls and never give up. **Education** has the **power** to open many doors in your future.

Lastly thanks parents and carers who support and encourage their children and teach them those **life skills** and **values** that help them to be successful at school and life. (I'd like to give also a special thanks to our **parent volunteers** in the classrooms, in the canteen and P&C, who also make such a difference to children across the whole school.)

EDVENTURE should be a great learning Adventure

As of this week all students K-6 will be involved in one **EDVenture** session a week in one form or another.

EDVenture is about giving students what they want (learning related of course). We all do better and get more involved in things that we enjoy or that interest us. We are aiming to provide some additional fun and choice to our students learning.

In Kindergarten students have the opportunity to rotate between a range of exciting activities in a play base environment. Some of these include cooking, beading, toy construction, box construction, percussion, art, dance and yoga.

In stage 1 students rotate every two weeks between a range of engaging activities that they indicated I nterest in. These include cooking, drama, dance, art, drumming, computers and coding.

In years 3-6 children have had a say about what they'd like to learn. This formed the basis of our successful EDVenture taste tester day a few weeks ago. From this our students got to select their favourite learning experiences which are woodwork, coding, islander dance, art, engineering/lego, science/cooking, drama and craft. Our dance students will continue to be involved in their passion for 2018. All going well the 10 week program will be extended in 2019.

More learning time is coming in Term 3 (less morning assemblies). Quick ... get to school... class is starting at 8.55am sharp.

Next term we will be collapsing all **morning assemblies** except for Mondays (more on that in a moment). Here at TAPS we don't want to waste a single minute of learning. For Tuesday through to Friday we will ask students to head straight to class when the music starts at 8.53am. Students will go straight to their class and meet their teacher there. This will mean we gain an extra 10 to 15 minutes of learning time each day (Tuesday to Friday). It is now more important than ever that children don't come to school late. As now late comers will miss out on even more vital learning time. (The morning is prime time. Research supports this for young learners.)

School executive and support staff will be placed around the school to ensure all students get to class sensibly and quickly.

Monday morning assemblies will still continue for the whole school so we can share messages, set the tone and give out Character Education (PBL) awards and information.

Reconnect Meets (Half Yearly interviews)

Next Term in week 2 we will once again meet with students and parents to celebrate learning, discuss reports and student learning goals and their progress. Students will once again play a key role in celebrating goals achieved and setting future goals. Parents and teachers will also communicate with each other and students to plan for future success.

Naidoc Week Soon

Once again Naidoc Week approaches and it is a great chance to celebrate our indigenous students and culture. Naidoc week will run at TAPS from Monday the 2nd of July through to Friday the 6th of July. Students will get to see a special performance on Monday the 2nd. There will also be a whole school assembly on Tuesday the 3rd. Over the week students will be engaged in learning to develop their knowledge and understanding of our Indigenous culture and history.

Grandfriend's Day & Book Parade & Open Day

In week 3 next term it is officially Education Week. On Thursday, the 9th of August we will be hosting our open day - grand-friend's day and book parade. (Yes all at once... it will be a big one). Stay tuned for more information and free up the date if you can.

Morning and afternoon drop off – it's illegal to leave the car. Pedestrians please use the crossing

Once again it has come to my attention that parents are parking outside the school in the drop off zone. Please note that this is illegal and both the police and RTA have been asked to patrol this. Also, and more importantly it can be dangerous for our students. On another matter, some students and families cross the road in the afternoon. This is also illegal and dangerous. Please tell your children to cross at the pedestrian.

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Thanks, Congratulations & Well wishes

Thanks to Miss Vamvas and Mrs McKay for providing our **Jnr Dancers** with the opportunity to perform at the Rugby League on Sunday during halftime. The students were amazing with both talent and attitude despite the day being long, cold and windy. Thanks also to students and parents for getting them there.

Best wishes to our **Snr Dance** who were once again successful in being selected to perform at the Ultimo Dance

Festival. Well done Mrs Byrne on your hard work and well done too boys and girls. I'm looking forward to seeing them perform next Tuesday.

Good luck to our **Debating team** who are going to Bradbury PS today to debate. I saw them at our school a few weeks ago against Curran PS and I must say I was very impressed with their efforts to communicate and persuade. Good luck today and thanks to Miss Collins and Mrs Puntoriero for coaching and providing this opportunity.

Well done to all our students involved in **Public Speaking** in a class or stage level. Next week our school winners will represent us in the Zone Public Speaking final. Alannah Bruin and Lacey Johnson will represent Stage 3 and Ella Burgess and Dani Moyer will represent Stage 2. Thanks teachers and students for your efforts and work in public speaking. I especially loved those children who had a go (public speaking is actually one of the scariest things that most people will attempt). A special thanks to Mrs Sannio and Mrs Houlton for your leadership in this area.



Dear Parents and Caregivers

We have had a significant increase in students **arriving late** to school in the past couple of weeks. School begins at **8.55am** and it is a school expectation that all students be at school by this time unless there is a very valid reason.

It is extremely important that your child arrives on time so that they don't miss out on valuable learning and disrupt class routines with their late entry into class!

On the other hand, we have also noticed that there have been many students arriving to school before 8.25am. Please note that official playground duties do not start until 8.25am and that your children have minimal supervision if they arrive before then. We ask that you discourage your child/children from coming too early unless they are in the Drumming or Boomwhackers groups.

Please be mindful that school finishes at 2.55 and we really do appreciate the parents who pick up their children on time. Again, supervision is minimal after this time. If you do happen to have an emergency where you can't pick up your child/children on time, please call the school to let us know.

Thank you

Sean Pope (Principal)

Starting A Child in Kindergarten 2019

Thomas Acres Public School

Thank you for considering enrolling your child at Thomas Acres PS. For us to get to know each other we would like to invite you and your child to the following events in 2016



Kindystart Sessions



Date	Time	Children	Parents
Tuesday 30 th October	2pm -2.50pm	Kindergarten rooms	School Library for Welcome Afternoon Tea
Tuesday 6 st November	2pm -2.50pm	Kindergarten rooms	School Library for Literacy Information Session
Tuesday 13 th November	2pm -2.50pm	Kindergarten rooms	School Library for Maths Information Session

Orientation Day

Tuesday 20th November 9.30am – 11am

Children: in the Kindergarten classrooms

Parents: in the School Hall where you will receive Information as well as an Orientation Pack



HAVE YOU VISITED OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE RECENTLY?

Our website is updated regularly with all the latest school news and events taking place. You can pay online using the Parent Online Payment (POP) option, you can print out the Calendar, download spare notes and much, more. Why not visit today to keep up with what's happening.



YMCA Ambarvale

OSHC

Available at
**Ambrosia
Cottage**

The YMCA is a childsafe organisation, we acknowledge that we are living our safety value for children and young people.

Before + After School Care + Vacation Care

We value and respect parents as partners in the care and education of children. Our program follows the National Quality Framework, offering a range of exciting activities that encourages independent learners.

ENROL today to secure your child's place!

ymcansw.org.au/ambarvale



0437 360 281



oshc.ambarvale@ymcansw.org.au

YMCA NSW

EMPOWERMENT/HEALTHY LIVING/SOCIAL IMPACT



Managing Challenging Behaviours Collaboratively

The popular programme developed by Dr. Steve Walker, Brief Therapy Solutions

Workshops for parents with children diagnosed with ADHD, Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD), Conduct Disorder (CD) or challenging behaviours

What you will learn....

- ♦ Child development and the link to seriously challenging behaviours
- ♦ How to look for and identify lost skills in your child
- ♦ Parents as partners in managing behaviour
- ♦ Strategies to reduce outbursts
- ♦ How to make a difference in your child's challenging behaviour

Next workshop series commences on 1st August 2018

Dates Every Wednesday from 1st August 2018 until 19th September 2018.

Venue Ruse Public School, Junction Road, Ruse.

Time 10 am – 12 midday

Presenters Carmel Flavell - Manager Quality and Inclusion
(Master Child/Adolescent Welfare, BA (Socio/Women's Studies and Certificate IV in Training and Assessment) and
Nicole Humphries - Operations Manager,
Wollondilly/Wingecarribee/Camden (Bachelor Social Science (Social Welfare)).

There is no fee charged for this course. All sessions need to be attended; there is NO childcare available for these workshops. Please call Nicole at Community Links Wellbeing on 0408 678 383 or email at info@communitylinks.org.au to book your place. Please note these workshops are not for people employed in the sector, it is for parents and carers only.



Important Calendar Dates for June

June 2018						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
28	29 Stage 3 Art Excursion 08:00am	30 Kindergarten 2019 - OPEN DAY 02:00pm	31	1 Zone Cross Country All day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY All day	12	13	14 Kindergarten Excursion All day Regional Cross Country All day	15 P&C Pyjama Day 09:00am	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 PSSA Gala Day All day	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Stage 1 Excursion All day	30	1

Please see our
school website
for more details