

School Newsletter

TAPS STUDENT VOICE



Connect Meets - Getting to know more about our students with parents & teachers.

Hundreds of students recently met to share information about themselves with their parents/carers and their teachers. This has been in the form of what our school calls a 'Connect Meet.' Last year 100% of parents surveyed thought connect meets were very important and beneficial.

Some of our student leaders decided to ask some of their fellow students about their experience. This week at Thomas Acres Public school we had meets with parents, teachers and fellow class mates from all years K to 6. Here are some students that we interviewed to see what they felt about the connect meets. (Continued page 2)

1

RESPECT

Try your best to treat yourself and others politely and respectfully.

2

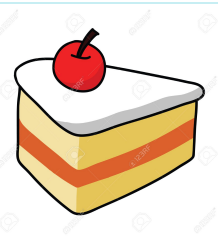
KINDNESS

Smile, say nice things, encourage, show care and compassion.

3

CO-OPERATION

Encourage team work, include all, utilise strengths.



Jokes for Kids

Why did the student eat his homework?
Because the teacher said it was a piece of cake.

Tasharn



Why did the cow cross the road? To moooove over.

Hayley



Why did the owl say 'tweet, tweet'? It was on twitter.

Tasharn.

Ashlyn in 6B said, "I felt a little bit anxious because I didn't know what to say but at the end I thought it was a great because it is a good way to show my parents what I'm doing in class." Sophie in 4M said, "Before the connect meet I was a little nervous but I was alright. I was no longer nervous after knowing that what my teacher put on my connect meet sheet but in the end I felt happy and proud because I don't usually like to talk about myself in front of people - especially adults."

Connect Meets have involved 100% of our students. Almost 80% of our students were represented by a parent and carer. Students discussed learning goals, interests, things they like and don't. Basically teachers got a great insight into starting to know their students thanks to the meetings. Half way through the year there will be another meeting Re-Connect Meets to share the learning progress of our students and at the end of the year we are working on a Celebrate meet where students can demonstrate their growth and success throughout the year.

Student Leadership

TAPS Student Leaders go to the GRIP leadership Conference.

The student leadership team and AECG student leaders attended the Grip student conference. We started developing our leadership pathway. We focused on traits such as;

- Confidence with humility,
- Others focused,
- Reliability and
- Empathy (understanding another's feeling or views).

Later we learned about making a difference to our teams and to our school. This means contributing your strengths, add a sense of enjoyment and help others to contribute.

After that we talked about making a difference to society.

Overall it was a great experience.

Halima, Bethany, Terence and Holli



Student Leadership - Part 2 Student Leaders go to Wooglemi

Thomas Acres, Ambarvale & Rosemeadow school leaders went to Wooglemi Environmental education Centre. We learned how to be good leaders and what skills are needed.

We had to co-operate while overcoming mental and physical activities. Challenging activities forced us to work together as a team. In the end we learnt about team building, communication, developing trust (we did a blindfold activity leading others through obstacle courses) and basically we had a lot of fun.

Addisyn, Georgia and Olivia.

SWIMMING

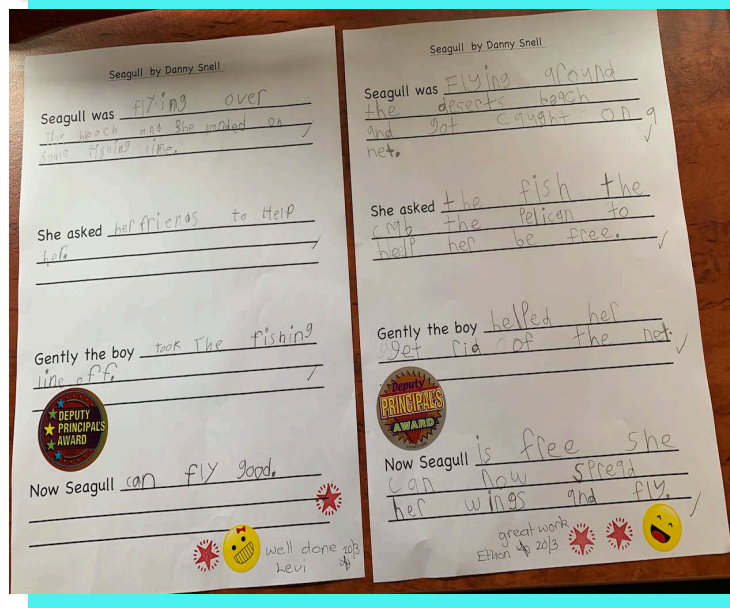
The swimming carnival was a fun day for the whole school to cool off in the pool. It didn't matter if you were a strong, weak or competitive swimmer you still got to have a go. The swimming races were extremely exciting. Our spirits were boosted, our hearts beat fast and we were on the edge of our seats. As well as competitive races we had novelties such as T-shirt races, life-saving, noodle races, boogie boarding, newcomb ball, water polo and so on. Our House captains organised vivacious war cries. Congratulations to those students who made the Zone swimming and thanks to all teachers, parents and high school students who helped organise the day. A special thanks to Miss Johnston for leading the way and organising the day.

Riana & Stevi

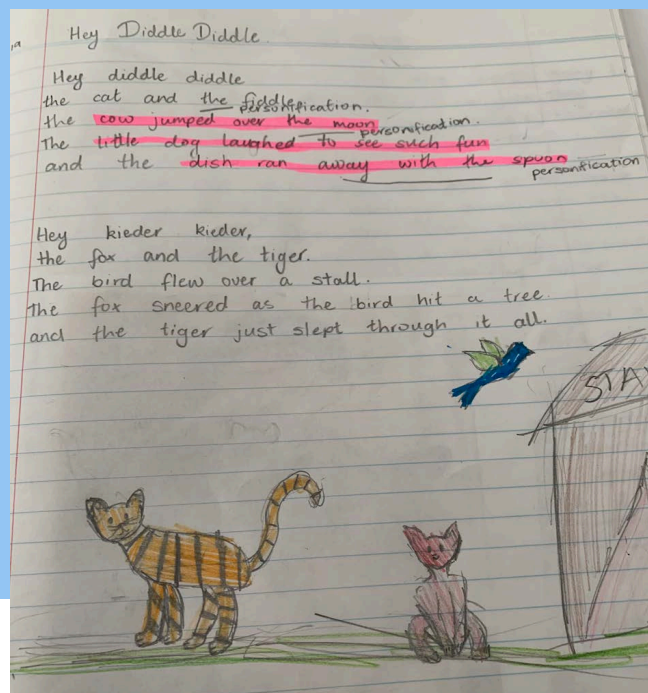


MORE STUDENT WRITING

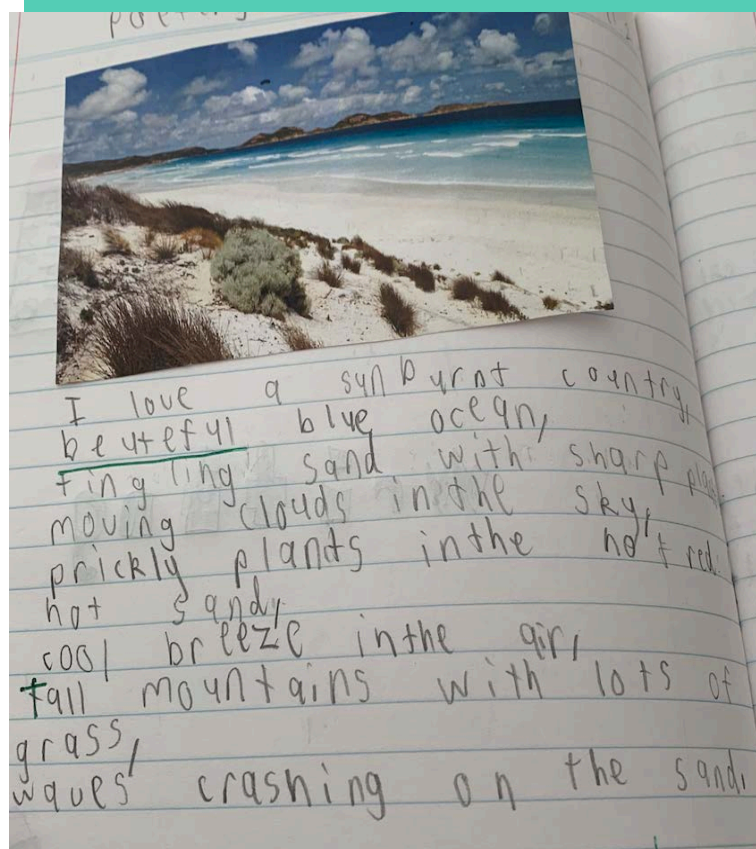
Ethon & Levi - Team P



MORE STUDENT WRITING - Irene 6B



YET MORE STUDENT WRITING - Liam 6B



PRINCIPAL IN BRIEF

Celebrations

Swimmers to Zone were - Shayley Fratus, Stevi Wagner, Isabella Holden, Zara Tabbouch, Vanderlei Jutt, Rowina Mataiti, Tate O'Keefe, Alice Semenov and Marsha Dzmitranok. - Congrats all.

Rugby League - Wow .. Vandy Jutt & Preston were both selected for the Campbelltown team.

Character Education - so far we've covered respect and kindness. This week we are looking at co-operation. Parents it would be great for you to support your children with these values.

Coming Up

K-6 assembly 28th March 9.30am

Winter Gala Day Try outs - 29th March

Stage 1 Excursion- Taronga Zoo 3rd April

Kindy - Teddy Bear Picnic 4th April -

Gala Day (summer) - 5th April

Easter Hat - 11th April

Staff Development Day - no students 29th April

Cross Country Carnival - 10th May

Reminder

Parents & students please use the crossing at all times. Many of you or your children are not using the crossing. Police have been asked to patrol.

Helping parents talk to their children about Christchurch

by Michael Grose



Last Friday's shooting of innocent people in two Christchurch mosques is an event that has shaken people to the core worldwide.

The event itself, and the continued reporting can impact heavily on children and young people, bringing emotions such as sadness, confusion and anger to the surface. It's important at times like these that they feel supported by loving parents and caring teachers.

Sometimes parents struggle to know the right approach to take with children when tragedy strikes. With this in mind we've created an article that you are welcome to share with families in your school community. It outlines how parents can respond constructively to the Christchurch shooting. Please feel free to share in your school newsletter, website or other communications.

We hope this is a helpful resource for you and your wider school community.

For more advice and other great articles go to - parentingideas.com.au/schools

This sight has a range of great ideas for parents including topics from anxiety to appropriate use of technology.

Road safety



Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children and others safer during drop-off and pick-up times during the school week:

- Make sure your children are fastened in the correct child car seat for their age and size and that it is fitted correctly.
- Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.
- Watch for flashing lights on buses. They let you know that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road. A 40km/h limit applies when school bus lights flash.
- Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Always park and turn legally around schools. Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous during busy school drop-off and pick-up times.
- Drop your children off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school's designated drop-off and pick-up area. Never call out to them from across the road – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
- It's safest for children to get out of the car through the Safety Door, away from passing traffic. This is the rear footpath side door of the car.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on safetytown.com.au

Week 1		
MON 15 APR	EXCURSION Multi Sports Day Join us for indoor team sports at Mount Annan Leisure Centre including b'ball, volleyball and soccer!	\$80
TUE 16 APR	DAY CAMP BYO Wheels Day Get your Learner plates on for a cars themed day where we will learn about car safety, create our own number plates, design our own cars, plus relay races.	\$55
WED 17 APR	WORKSHOP Fit Kids Boot Camp Fit kids are healthy kids! Massive tug of war challenge, boxing game and strength training. Learn the importance of good nutrition and make your own healthy treat.	\$70
THU 18 APR	DAY CAMP Easter Craft Exciting Easter crafts, Easter hat parade, Easter egg hunt and chocolate making.	\$55
FRI 19 APR	Public Holiday - Centre Closed	
Week 2		
MON 22 APR	Public Holiday - Centre Closed	
TUE 23 APR	WORKSHOP First aid for kids Have fun while learning practical first aid skills. A hands-on experience that helps you become a first aid super hero.	\$70
WED 24 APR	DAY CAMP Anzac Day A day of learning the importance of commemorating Anzac Day. Make some Red Poppy Wreaths from recycled materials, plant some rosemary and bake delicious Anzac Biscuits.	\$55
THU 25 APR	Please visit our website for other locations running Vacation Care on this day	
FRI 26 APR	DAY CAMP Bake, Bake, BAKE! Make and decorate your own cupcakes, create a recipe scrap book to take home, and participate in a fun range of group games!	\$55
Week 3		
MON 29 APR	DAY CAMP Science Day Watch a paper mache volcano erupt, make your own slime and play dough + walk on water experiment.	\$55





*Activities and prices are subject to change. Visit us online for most up-to-date information including times, dates, descriptions, terms and conditions.

BOOK ONLINE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE!

