

Newsletter

TP
12

Strength Through Understanding

Date: 11th June

Edition: 26: 04

KEY SCHOOL DATES

26th June Last Day of Term - 2:30pm finish
13th July Start Term 3
16th July State Cross Country
2nd, 3rd, 4th September School Production

7-12 DATES

16th June GAT
24th June GW Regional Netball (7-8)
15th July VCE Information Night
27th July Yr 12 Mt Buller Camp

P-6 DATES

23rd June AFL 9's Noorat (Yr 3-4)
7th August 5/6 Rookies Basketball
28th August Yr 3 - 4 Hooptime

SAVE THE DATE

12th March 2027 Presentation Ball



Walk Safely to School Day

P.O Box 82 Timboon 3268
Telephone: (03) 5598 3381
Email: timboon.p12@education.vic.gov.au
Website: www.timboonp12.vic.gov.au
School Council President: Jeremy Doolan
School Captain: Holly Delaney
Vice Captains: Evie Gordon & Noah Clark

Timboon P-12 staff and students acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are gathered today, the Kirrae Whurrong people, and pay our respects to their elders both past and present.



Timboon
P-12
School

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As we come to the end of Term 2 and Semester 1, it has been pleasing to spend time in classrooms and see calm, purposeful learning taking place across the school. This has been particularly evident in some of the newer learning programs in the primary classrooms in their Literacy, English and Numeracy sessions, which we have been developing over the past couple of years. It was also great to touch base with many families during our recent Education Week Open Day who got the opportunity to see this in action. We have also recently welcomed visitors to see our teaching approaches, which you can read more about in this edition of the newsletter.

Semester 1 Reporting

We look forward to sharing student progress with families through our Semester 1 reports. These reports include Victorian Curriculum progress, along with our new Student Values Reporting, which was also the basis of the Interim Reports shared at the end of Term 1. Student Values Reporting provides feedback aligned to our school values of Respect, Empathy and Commitment, replacing the previous Effort and Behaviour reporting.

Thank you to the parents and carers who completed the short survey about the new Interim Reports. In general these were received positively, and we noted some uncertainty about their purpose. Interim Reports are not designed to report Victorian Curriculum achievement, which occurs at the end of each semester. Instead, they provide a snapshot of learning behaviours and values, and a useful starting point for the end of Term 1 and 3 Parent Teacher Interview discussions. This approach also aligns with our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support work.

As noted in my recent communication to families, due to industrial action, written comments will not be included on P-10 Semester 1 reports this semester. For Years 7-10, feedback and results for Common Assessment Tasks can still be accessed through Compass Learning Tasks. Year 11 and 12 VCE and VCE VM reporting will continue to include the relevant assessment information, with comments included.

Attitudes to School Survey

Students in Years 4-12 have also been completing the Attitudes to School Survey. Our preliminary results highlight positives including a strong sense of inclusion, positive peer relationships, attitudes to attendance, high expectations for success, and emotional awareness and regulation. We will now take time to unpack the survey results with students and explore areas such as student voice and agency, respect for diversity, teacher concern and school connectedness. These conversations will help us better understand student perspectives and identify opportunities to further strengthen the school experience for all students.

Semester 1 2026

Across the semester, a great deal has been achieved through our 2026 priorities. This has included further work on School Wide Positive Behaviour Support, including teaching expected behaviours more explicitly and strengthening clearer processes for supporting positive behaviour in classrooms. We have also continued to build consistency in planning, curriculum delivery and team collaboration across the school.

Thank you to our students, staff and families for your work and support throughout Semester 1. We look forward to continuing this work together in Semester 2.

MATT DODSON
PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

As educators we see our role as supporting all students to value and be aware of the factors that contribute to their own wellbeing. Taking care of one's physical and mental health will provide a good foundation for both learning, and positive, respectful relationships. As a school, we are investing in a structured, school-wide wellbeing approach to support our students' social, emotional, and physical health alongside their academic growth. Through implementing Wellio and teaching SWPBS behaviours alongside the Respectful Relationships curriculum, we deliver interactive, relevant life-skills education. We also continue to work to establish routines, minimise distractions, and help our students direct their time, energy to focus on their learning.

At Timboon P-12 School, we stand on the traditional lands of the Kirrae Whurrong people. We renew our commitment to truth-telling, to deepening our understanding of First Nations perspectives, and to nurture a culture grounded in respect, inclusion and meaningful action. Our school has acknowledged the theme "All In", alongside National Sorry Day, these important occasions provide opportunities for reflection, learning and continued commitment to reconciliation and understanding within our community. From May 26, we observed National Reconciliation Week by inviting Aunty Leanne Sumner, an Indigenous Elder from our community, she highlighted that this is an important time for all Australians to reflect on our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to consider the part each of us can play in advancing reconciliation.



We have commenced the Year 11 Semester One Exams and students completing a Unit 3 and 4 subject will sit the GAT (General Achievement Test) on Tuesday 16 June, and Semester 2 will begin on Monday 15 June.

A reminder to families that accurate attendance records is essential. The school requires students to maintain a consistent attendance percentage to ensure satisfactory completion (an 'S' result) for each subject at VCE and VCE VM. Please check your child's attendance on Compass and notify the front office of any discrepancies as soon as possible.

The Course Counselling process will start this term and Year 10 students will also take part in their first formal exams this term. A number of students have also participated in the VET Taster program to support their pathways, thanks to Darren Mounsey (Careers Coordinator) for his organisation and support throughout the facilitation of this program. As we approach the end of Semester One, students will have the opportunity to request subject changes for Semester Two. This is also an excellent time to begin having conversations at home about future pathways. We encourage families to discuss interests and goals with their Year 9 students, particularly in relation to VCE and whether undertaking a Unit 1 and 2 subject next year may be a

beneficial option. Our Year 9 students will be undertaking Morrisby testing, which will assist them with thinking about future pathways. We encourage students to speak to the adults in their lives about their careers and pathways as we enter the subject selection process for 2027. We will hold our VCE information night on July 15.

Sport continues to be a highlight, with excellent attendance and participation in Greater Western Region Cross Country, congratulations to Alby Jones, Aysha Hollick, and Rory Hollick who made it to the State Cross Country Championships. We also saw fantastic participation at the recent HSSSD Football/ Netball competition. Students across 7-12 embraced the extracurricular sport with enthusiasm, demonstrating great school spirit and a willingness to get involved.

SOFIA ALEEM
7-12 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Winter definitely started last week, and we needed to call wet weather timetables and close grassed areas. Wet weather timetable is called when it is too wet for students to play outside during recess or lunch. Students stay in their own classrooms and engage in indoor activities such as board games, construction or drawing. When the grounds become very drenched and muddy we close grassed areas for play. Students managed these restrictions very well last week and I applaud them for adapting to these restrictions and following the expectations.

Speaking of wet weather and mud, please provide some spare clothing in your child's school bag. Accidents happen, and we had several students who needed dry, clean clothes last week. There is a collection of unnamed school jumpers outside my office if you need any spares. These will go to TOPS at the end of term.

TAP activities have been a feature of recent weeks. The Years 3&4 students visited two farms as part of their *Paddock to Plate* Humanities program in term 2, and the Years 1&2 classes added to their learning about seasons by visiting local farms. We have the final *Paddock to Plate* excursion for 3A coming up on Friday.

Our primary Science specialists, Belinda Quick and Nigel Mottram, organised an incursion from Earth Ed Specialist STEM Centre. Years 1&2 students learnt about Robotics and Years 3&4 students engaged in a session on Rock Cycles, learning about geology.

Our Year 4 students visited the Gnurad-Gundidj campus of the School for Student Leadership and took part in a range of activities organised by the students attending the school this term.

The Prep -2 classes enjoyed an excursion to Warrnambool to see the play *Where is the Green Sheep?* This was followed by lunch and a play at Lake Pertobe.

In addition to these excursions, students have participated in sports events, including the annual Tri-Sports day and District, Division and Region Cross Country.

I must also mention the *Wizard of Oz* rehearsals every Wednesday that are now well underway. All Years 3 to 6 students are learning songs and dances for the production, while some students have larger parts to learn.

All these special activities enrich our students' classroom learning programs and create special memories. I extend my appreciation to Andrea Vallance for coordination of the TAP activities, to those who have hosted our students at their farms, and to the staff who contribute the time and effort to plan and organise these special activities for our students.




MICHELLE NORTON
P-6 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Catch Up Club

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday in L4,
1st lunch

Bring along a friend, your lunch, your homework or overdue classwork.

A teacher will be there to help you with your work



Word Origins Visit

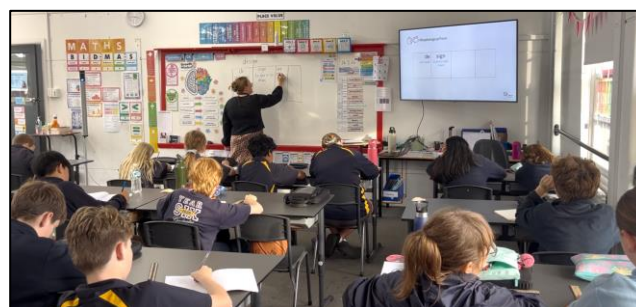
On Tuesday, 26 May, we welcomed visitors from two schools in Koroit and Colac to observe the implementation of the spelling program *Word Origins* at Timboon P-12 School. Anita Pender modelled a lesson in 6C for both visiting groups, which included the principal and a leading teacher from each school. Matt Dodson, Michelle Norton, and I were also in attendance, so 6C certainly had quite an audience.

Word Origins is an evidence-informed program developed by the Dyslexia-SPELD Foundation (DSF). It is designed to support the next stage of spelling, reading, and vocabulary instruction for students in middle to upper primary school and beyond. Designed to complement any high-quality structured phonics program, *Word Origins* develops students' understanding of the morphological patterns of English, the etymology (language of origin) of words, and the impact these elements have on spelling, reading, and vocabulary knowledge.

Everyone who observed the lesson was extremely appreciative of the opportunity to see *Word Origins* in action, ask questions, and discuss the practical implementation of the program afterwards. We are very proud of the 3-6 team for being leaders in this space. The way students engaged in the lesson was a testament to the teachers' dedication and commitment to implementing the program so effectively.

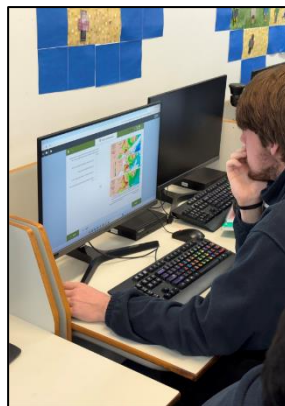
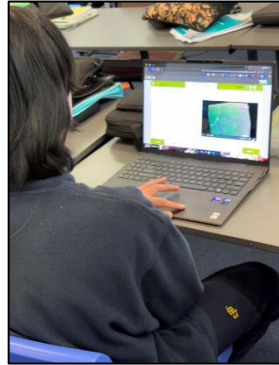
We are excited to continue sharing our teaching practice both internally and externally as we further refine the delivery of *Word Origins* moving forward.

Terri Hibbert
Learning Specialist 5-8



The Australian History and Australian Geography Competition.

Years 7 to 10 students took on the challenge of participating in The Australian Geography Competition and The Australian History Competition. The geography assessment was completed online with questions focussing on sustainability, interpreting graphs and data, landforms and landscapes as well as liveability and migration. The history competition was in booklet form and required students to read information and look at sources such as artworks and architecture. The students were then asked to answer questions based on continuity and change, cause and consequences as well as chronology. We would like to congratulate all students who took part and we eagerly await the results.



Phonics Plus Observation Visit

Recently, the Prep-Grade 2 teaching team had a visit from Cherie Kilpatrick to observe our teaching of Phonics Plus. Cherie is our Senior Education Improvement Leader (SEIL) who supports schools and school networks to drive consistent, system-wide approaches in school improvement. Matthew Dodson, Michelle Norton, and Terri Hibbert (5-8 Learning Specialist) also took part in the observation visits. There were a lot of different people in our classrooms that day to observe our teaching practice, which was exciting!

Phonics Plus is a daily literacy program used in Foundation (Prep) to Year 2 to help students build strong reading and writing skills. The program was developed for the Victorian Government by a team of experts in literacy. Our Primary AP, Michelle Norton, was also a member of the writing team. Phonics Plus teaches the connection between letters and sounds in a clear, structured way, helping students develop confidence in reading, spelling and handwriting. Students also practice reading decodable texts to build fluency, accuracy and expression, while dictation activities support them to apply their learning in writing.

The observation highlighted the strong teaching and learning happening across our school. Cherie and the observation team were appreciative of the opportunity to visit classrooms and shared positive feedback about what they saw. A big thank you to all Foundation-Grade 2 teachers for their work in implementing the Phonics Plus program this year, especially Prep A, 1A and 1/2B for hosting the observations. At Timboon P-12, we will continue

to strengthen our teaching practice through ongoing professional learning, coaching and collaboration to ensure all students receive high quality literacy instruction.

Petra Beekman
(Prep-year 4 Learning Specialist)



A protozoa tea!?

Following our visits to the HDLN nursery in Term One learning about plant propagation and growth, today our Year 9/10 AgHort were joined by Kylie Treble, the owner of The Place of Wonder / REAL Pizza and Pasta, who challenged students with the question, "What is nature?" The importance of connectivity and bio webs was introduced as students assumed various roles in an environment and learnt the importance of keystone species like birds and fungi as organisms lived and thrived in areas with healthy soils and bountiful water. Kylie showed students the difficult to grow endemic species that she was establishing under a drip irrigation system in the school's greenhouse and explained that she was trying to repopulate areas around Port Campbell where native species were not thriving or were under constant pressure from introduced species like rabbits. The drip irrigation system, funded by TOPS as part of a user agreement with Biolinks Port Campbell and Timboon P-12 School was investigated and students learnt how the plants could absorb water from the drip line on the propagation benches. Kylie gave the students some great pointers for working in the School's Kitchen Garden including planting in buttons and introducing a biologically active protozoa tea to encourage worms to live in the garden beds. How fortunate are our students to have someone with Kylie's effervescence and enthusiasm for plants as a passionate educator in our community!



Year 1/2 exploring seasonal changes

Our Year 1/2 students have been learning about seasons and changes all around us so we thought we'd TAPify their investigations and take them on a field trip to Brad and Bec Couch's farm at Brucknell.

Brad and Bec explained that theirs was a seasonal farm, meaning that their 350 cows calve and produce milk according to the grass curve. The Couch's cows produce milk when the most grass can be directly eaten by the cows, with excess seasonal grass preserved in spring as silage or hay to be fed to the herd when there is less feed available. They have just started calving after drying their cows off so that the cows, farm and Couch family themselves could all have a rest before calving started again.

Jackey Tejano from ProviCo, described what happens to the Couch's milk when it leaves the farm and explained that the milk is dried into powder to be used for products such as yoghurt, ice cream, nutritional powders, chocolates, dried milk products and animal milk powders.

Brad and the students toured the dairy hub, learning about the history of the farm, farm layout, old dairy, new calf sheds, old / new farm equipment, and the herringbone dairy with stall gates where some of the teachers were 'milked'.

Bec described seasonal changes including what the cows were doing, calves, water, grass, hay, silage, plantations and tracks.

To reinforce their learning about changes, the students then had to identify which changes were Natural, Managed or Constructed with some very interesting conversations taking place. The field trip concluded with Bec supplying some Haigh's Chocolates with a quick quiz on farm facts.

Thanks Brad, Bec, Ruby and Jacky, we learnt heaps!



Year 1 & 2 TAP into Farming Seasons Excursion

The Years 1 and 2 students were lucky enough to visit a farm recently. This was to see their learning about seasons in action. Students learnt about how farmers use natural, constructed and managed elements of the environment to look after their animals as well as how the changes in weather affect life on the farm.

Thank you to Bec and Brad Couch for hosting such an enjoyable day. Thanks also to Andrea Valance for organising the event and to those parents who came along to support.

Years 1 and 2 Team.



Student responses:

When we went to the farm we to put our finger in the milking cups. It was super fun because it was nice. After that we went back to the shed and listened to the people talk and put our hands up if we had a question. By Alena

We were listening about information of how they made butter, cheese, yoghurt and we got to see some powder from ProviCo. It was really interesting and fun. They told us how many cows they had and they had 350 cows and some newborn calves. By Mae

Farmers use troughs to take care of the cows. The cows get the water out of a trough that has a bobble in it that measures how much there is left. Farmers plant trees to keep the cows cool. They plant more than one line of trees because if you plant only one row, there will be less shade. By Louella

Reading with Preps

This was a great experience to get to know some of the prep kids. I read to Noah and Tiffany, both of them listened and loved my story. After I read to them, they read to me. By Graciella

We read books with preps. I liked reading to preps because they enjoyed it. It was nice showing them some of our work and giving them ideas for the future. When they read to us, I liked listening to them spell out some words and it reminds me of myself in prep. It was an interesting experience. By Ethan

They were awesome, they listened to everything that I wrote and their favourite part was when the tiger was trapped in the cave. The preps reading was so good, they sounded out the words and they were just so good. I like that they had a go at the words and they both finished their books. By Belinda.

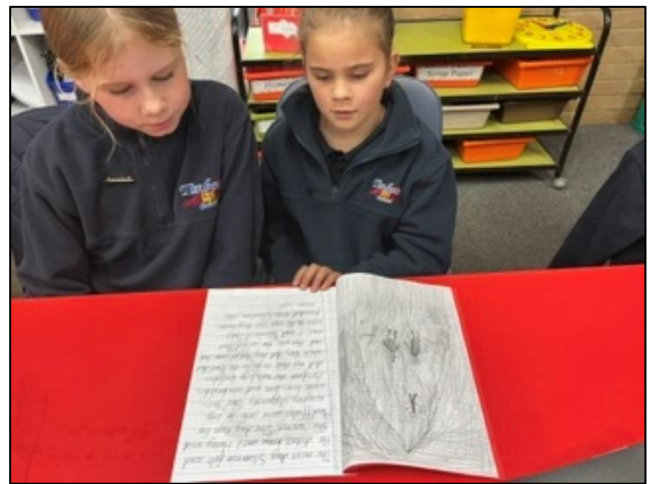
Buddy Reading

It was very nice, my partner was very involved and gave good feedback. I quite liked their stories, it was adventurous and exciting, maybe a little confusing, but it was very good. My favourite bit of their book was that they'd added 'a blurb' and 'about the author'. She also said I read very well, but I need to work on my voice and sometimes I even added or left words out. By Dusty

I thought that sharing my narrative with 3A was extremely fun. My partner's narrative was good and funny, it was about a hippo and a snake at a playground. My partner also thought my story was good even though they were very different. She read fluently and the story was written neatly. By Marne.

My buddy thinks my story is about making friends and solving problems. The experience was really exciting because I feel like telling my story to others now. They wrote their stories beautifully. It was fun sharing my story with my buddy. By Nathan

I read my book (narrative) to Jett and Morris. They read their books and I thought they were amazing! It was a wonderful experience and I liked it very much. I hope we can do it again because I like sharing my work with other students. I think I'm going to be a writer in the future. By Adelaide.



Excursion to School for Student Leadership

Grade 4s were privileged to attend a local learning project day at Gnurad-Gundidj campus. Timboon students were greeted by Year 9 student leaders, buddied up with them and then proceeded to rotate through a selection of engaging mindfulness activities with their mentor leaders.

It was gratifying to witness our grade 4 students being open in their conversations with these trainee leaders and willingly participating in a range of activities outside their comfort zone. Even the downpours could not dampen the enthusiasm and excitement that grew throughout the day.

This was all made possible with thanks to Andrea Vallance who applied for funds to our local TOPS (Timboon Opportunity Shop) who then kindly funded this worthwhile experience.



PANCAKE DAY

During week 5 on Monday, May 18th the Year 11 VM students held a pancake day for the secondary students. It was to celebrate IDAHOBIT day. IDAHOBIT day stands for International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersex Discrimination and Transphobia.

It was a very successful day. From fluffy pancakes to a variety of toppings, all customers were satisfied. Everybody in the class played their role and we made a total of \$250 profit.

These funds will be donated to the Minus 18 foundation which is an organisation that is striving to create an Australia where all young people are safe, empowered, and surrounded by people that support them. We managed to source a speaker and played some music that everybody enjoyed very much and lightened the whole mood in the kitchen and outdoor space.

We would like to thank everybody who purchased pancakes and helped us bring this to life. We look forward to running a similar event for the primary students in the terms to come.

Written by the VM students in Year 11



CANTEEN TERM 3 ROSTER

Week 1 13 th – 17 th July	12:30pm – 2:30pm
Mon 13 th	Ashlyn Zalun
Tues 14 th	Maryann Pender
Wed 15 th	Kelly Knight
Thurs 16 th	Sheryn Vogels
Fri 17 th	Amy Marshall Chrystal Johnson
WEEK 2 20 th – 24 th July	12:30pm – 2:30pm
Mon 20 th	
Tues 21 st	Liz Loving
Wed 22 nd	Bree Jones
Thurs 23 rd	Anna Cunnington
Fri 24 th	Selina McConnell
Week 3 27 th - 31 st July	12:30pm – 2:30pm
Mon 17 th	
Tues 18 th	Tony Bird
Wed 19 th	Camille Nicholls
Thurs 20 th	Fabiola Travi Ponce
Fri 21 st	Bonnie Doolan
WEEK 4 3 rd – 7 th August	12:30pm – 2:30pm
Mon 3 rd	
Tues 4 th	Kelly Knight
Wed 5 th	STUDENT FREE
Thurs 6 th	Tanya McKenzie
Fri 7 th	Renee Whiting

District Cross Country



Congratulations to the following students for advancing to the Division Cross Country. Callum Nicholls, Emilio Haig, Nelson Cook, Gretel Hollick, Maggie Pender, Marni Thomson, Isla Dickinson, Will Smith, Esther Couch, Ivy Tutungi, Hudson Bell, Harriet Handcock, Daisy Parsons & Milla Loughnan.



DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY



Regional Cross Country

An amazing achievement by Callum Nicholls 9th, Esther Couch 16th & Gretel Hollick 29th. All the best to Callum who will represent our school at the State Cross Country next term in Melbourne.



Timboon proudly represented the district at the **CDSSA Tri-Sports in Camperdown**, competing across **football, netball, and soccer**. Students showed teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the day, supporting one another and giving their best in every match. It was a fantastic day of competition and community, and our students should be congratulated for the way they played and conducted themselves.



Timboon Shark Tank (Grade 5/6 ICT)

Our Year 5/6 students are excited to showcase the innovative solutions they have been developing through ICT this term. After weeks of designing, creating and refining their ideas, they are ready to present their inventions to the community at our Shark Tank Showcase.

We warmly invite students, families and community members to join us in the **School Library** on **Monday 15 June from 12:00pm–1:30pm.**

The event will begin with an introduction to our Sharks before visitors have the opportunity to move around the showcase, meet the teams and hear students pitch their ideas. Whether you can stay for the entire event or just drop in for a short time, we would love to see you there.

Our Sharks will select their favourite invention, while visitors can cast their vote for the People's Choice Award. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the creativity, problem-solving and entrepreneurial thinking of our students as they tackle real-world school and agriculture-based challenges.

Come along, be inspired by our young innovators, and help us recognise the ideas that could make a difference in the future!



Year 5/6 students present...



Timboon Shark Tank!



Come and see the incredible inventions developed by the Year 5/6 students as part of their learning about solving problems with digital technology in ICT!

Everyone Welcome!

Monday 15th June

12.00pm-1.30pm

School library

