



Taylor Primary School

Term 2 Week 10 Newsletter- June 2023

Hello Taylor families

After a chilly few weeks, it's hard to believe we're halfway through the year; time flies when you're having fun and learning lots. We have had two new additions to our school using our Indigenous artwork by artist Eddie Longford. The glass panels in the front office area have new transparencies and the staff hoodies and zip up jumpers are a welcome addition during the colder months.



School Review

Next term, Taylor Primary School will be involved in the School Review Process. As we near the end of our 5 year strategic plan focused on improving reading, writing, and student wellbeing. School Review is a school improvement practice that provides us with an avenue to identify the effectiveness of our planning and management of school resources to improve student outcomes, evaluate progress towards Directorate and school priorities through using multiple sources of data. The review process creates a report based on the National School Improvement Tool and documents the 'next steps' to be incorporated into annual action plan. The school review team will be keen to speak with parents/carers to seek their input between 4-7 September (Week 8). We'll be asking for interested parents/carers mid-way through next term.

Collaborating in Science with Namadgi School



Preparing our students for high school is an important goal for our 5/6 team at Taylor. Taylor Primary is collaborating with Namadgi School to build relationships and understanding of high school for our year 5/6 students. In week 7, year 5/6 were fortunate to have a visit from a group of Namadgi student scientists, including ex-Taylor students Ruby and Lilja. They demonstrated how to make a lava lamp which was a great experiment linking to year 5/6 learning on the properties of liquids. It was also a great opportunity to learn more about the passion projects program at Namadgi, which includes the NASA science program. Thanks to Mr John Mantinaos from Namadgi, for organising this wonderful learning opportunity. We are looking forward to further collaborations in the future.

Combined Bands For Year 5 and 6 Ukulele

Our year 5 and 6 ukulele students participated in a combined bands rehearsal at Theodore Primary in week 5 with three other primary schools. This was not only a great opportunity to perform as part of a larger group of musicians but allowed students to collaborate with other schools and to develop their musical skills and confidence. Our ukulele players will also take part in combined bands rehearsals in term 3 and we are excited that Taylor will be hosting the year 5 rehearsal. Further rehearsals will be scheduled for term 4 in the lead up to a concert at the end of the year. Thanks to Mrs Robinson and Claire from the Instrumental Music Program for supporting our young musicians.



Staffing Ms Deanne Sattler joins the Taylor teaching team as the 1S class teacher for the remainder of the year. Mrs Monique Swinbourne is expecting her second child and we wish her well as she begins her maternity leave in August. I'd like to thank Monique and Mrs Annette Raats for their outstanding work with year 1 so far this year. They have mastered seamless team teaching.



Professional Learning

Our teaching and support staff have been involved in some professional learning during the term. Teachers are continuing to be involved in the Structured Word Inquiry Project, observing teachers and SWI lessons this week at Arawang Primary School. Teachers and support staff have also been involved in Team Teach; training that supports practical strategies for nurturing a positive behaviour environment.

During the holidays several of our staff will be attending the National Literacy Conference to be held in Canberra. Annette Raats and Kirsty Kobus will present a workshop on SWI and our journey to date at Taylor. Best wishes to Annette and Kirsty for the presentation.

Reporting student achievement

Yesterday, you should have received your child's semester 1 report via email (or hard copy in Preschool). Please contact the front office if it hasn't arrived in your email. Although formal interview times are not scheduled this term, please contact your child's class teacher should you wish to discuss any aspect of the report. Our specialist teachers Mrs Patterson (Teacher Librarian), Ms Turvey (STEM), Mrs Wood (PE) and Mrs Robinson (Performing Arts) have included their semester overviews in the See Saw posts. We do hope you find these informative.

2024 Enrolments

Shortly families will be notified of their enrolment application outcome for 2024. Preschool, kindergarten and year 7 offers for 2024 will be emailed to families from Monday 24 July. Applications received after 2 June may receive an offer later in the year. If you have not yet enrolled your child for 2024, please do so online at <https://bit.ly/3Zqhoj9> Need help or have a question? Call the Enrolments Helpline on 6205 5429 or email education.enrolment@act.gov.au or contact the Taylor front office on 6142 3000.

Students currently enrolled at Taylor Preschool are not required to reapply for kindergarten at Taylor unless placement was granted for the preschool year only. A survey to preschool families has been distributed to confirm arrangements for kindergarten in 2024. Please contact the front office if you need the survey emailed again.

Taylor Garden Project

We are excited to announce that the P&C has been successful in gaining an ACT Environmental Grant to continue to create a sustainable garden space for the whole community. This will make a significant contribution to our next steps. We are looking to continue with some projects such as relocating the worm farm, purchasing and erecting a greenhouse, remodelling/repurposing the chook shed and creating a yarning circle.

Thank you to all the parents, students and staff who attended our second working Bee at the start of June. After a cool start to the morning, the eager crew got to work and completed stage one of the project. Thanks to Justine and Jaimi for the planning and design work; and Adam and Steve for their invaluable guidance and machinery to support the garden project. We'll host another working bee, possibly later in term 3. Look out for the information in the newsletter and on Facebook and SeeSaw. Above are some images of garden club students planting in the new pots.



School Sport

This term Taylor students have enjoyed more sporting opportunities. K-2 students have been participating in table tennis clinics with Gecko Sports and year 3-6 students have enjoyed volleyball clinics.

Congratulations to Estrid, Celsey, Fletcher, Tindra, and Harry W for their outstanding participation in the **ACT Cross Country** carnival at Stromlo Forest Park on Thursday 15 June.

In term 3 we look forward to holding our Taylor Primary School Track and Field Carnival at Woden Park for our year 2-6 students and a day of fun activities for Preschool, Kindergarten, and year 1. More information and permission forms to follow next term.

Extracurricular activities



Students at Taylor Primary will again be participating in the **Children's Book Council of Australia's (CBCA) Shadow Judging Program**. Students participating from 5/6 will read the 6 books shortlisted for the Picture Book of the Year Award. Using the same criteria as the CBCA judge's students will analysis these books and vote for the picture book that they feel meets these criteria the best. Students will also have the opportunity to make and share a creative response to the shortlisted books. Thank you to Mrs Patterson for working with the students on this project.

This year, a group of students from years 4-6 will be participating in the **'Step into the Limelight' mass choir** as part of the Gala Performance. On Wednesday 6 September (week 8), they will be participating with schools from Southside ACT public schools as part of a celebration of 50 years of the Instrumental Music Program. Further information on these performances will be provide in term 3. Thank you to Mrs Robinson for leading the students in this project.



Thank you to the P&C who hosted the recent special lunch 'dogs and donuts'. Special thanks to the parents and carers who assisted to make and distribute the lunches which were very much appreciated by the students.

School crossing safety - The P&C has recently written to the ACT Government and our local representatives to raise safety concerns about the school crossing and seek improvements. Thank you to P&C members Vic Duffy and Kial Stewart for attending the meeting and a number of parents who contacted the P&C to express their concerns. Some ongoing assessments of the area are continuing. If you experience any issues or have any views about the crossing, please let the P&C know via email taylor.pac.act@gmail.com

Big skills for small bikes – Register for the July and September course now!

Families can now register for the big skills for small bikes course run by Pedal Power ACT. Big skills for small bikes is a learn to ride course for younger children aged 3-8, which focuses on teaching parents and carers how to get their kids riding confidently and safely. This is a beginner course best suited to kids who are not yet riding on their own unaided. The course includes 5 separate 45-minute sessions delivered each morning from Monday to Friday. Courses in the July and September school holidays are currently open for registration. More information on the course including dates, registration and pricing is available on the [Pedal Power Website](#).

Calendar dates for Term 3 (full term calendar attached)

Week 1 – Monday 17 July - Whole School NAIDOC week celebration

Week 3 – Friday 4 August - Senior Assembly (3-6) hosted by Year 5/6 (W/L) Hall, 9:15-9:45am

Week 4 - Wed 9 August – Friday 11 August – Scholastic Book Fair

Week 5 - Science Week (all week)

As always, your feedback is welcome. Please contact us via email admin@taylorps.act.edu.au or on 6142 3000.

Kind regards,

Linda Francis – Principal

30 June 2023