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Important Dates: Term 2, 2019

7 May	Cross Country Carnival—Years 2-6
8 May	Adopt a Farmer Mufti Day
9 May	Mother's Day Gift Stall
10 May	Mother's Day Breakfast
10 May	PSSA Starts
14 May	K-6 Assembly
15-17 May	NAPLAN—Year 3
21—22 May	NAPLAN—Year 5
23—24 May	Band Camp
28 May	K—2 Assembly
4 June	Kindergarten 2020 Information night 6.00pm
5 June	Kindergarten 2020 School Tour—9.00am

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This Week's Update

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you had a lovely break and are recharged for another term.

Staffing News

This term we welcome Miss Chant who has been appointed permanently to TWPS. She will be teaching 4K. Miss Chant is an asset to the team. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Mrs Kennedy's hard work and dedication to 4K last term.

Congratulations to Ms Dowd who is TWPS permanent Assistant Principal. She gained this position through merit selection and we are excited have her on the leadership team.

Finally congratulations to Miss Waldron who is now a permanent teacher at TWPS. She gained this position through merit selection. We are honoured to have Miss Waldron on our outstanding teaching team.

Sport News

Congratulations Joseph Kim on your excellent results at the State PSSA Swimming Championships.

1st place

- 11 years 50m freestyle,
- 50m breaststroke (broke the record)
- 50m backstroke,
- 50m butterfly (broke the record)
- 11-13years 200m Individual Medley and 5x50m Freestyle relay.
- Senior boys 200m IM

7th place

- 11-13yrs 100m freestyle.

Joseph was awarded the most outstanding swimmer and the Ian Tomas Shield. We are proud of Joseph and his excellent results.



Community Grant

Thank you Mr Kean for the community grant of \$18,000. We used this money to install the synthetic turf! This area is now well used by the teachers and the students enjoy it at lunch.

Adopt a Farmer Initiative

The Department of Education and TWPS is supporting the 'Adopt A Farmer' initiative to be held across the nation on Wednesday 8 May 2019. As you are no doubt aware, farming communities are doing it tough with crippling drought in NSW and Victoria and both drought and flooding rains in Queensland. We have all been touched by the tough conditions farmers, their families, their animals and communities are experiencing.

Many of our learning communities have been enthusiastic supporters of drought relief drives to date. Students continue to lend a hand to help in creative ways.

Continuing this good work, there is an ambitious goal – to have a gold coin mufti day drive on Wednesday May 8 2019, to raise \$800,000 nationally. All proceeds will go to farmers.

Adopt A Farmer Mufti Day

- When: Wednesday 8 May
- Wear: Mufti (closed shoes please)
- Cost: Gold coin donation



It is great to be back!

Chantal Mamo
BTeach BEd MA Creative Arts

NAPLAN Update

NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills.

There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

NAP NATIONAL
ASSESSMENT
PROGRAM

acara AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM,
ASSESSMENT AND
REPORTING AUTHORITY

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy

Deputy's Message

End of term Events

ANZAC Day, Easter hat parade, Principal's Morning Tea

It seems just a short while ago now that we had quite a few special events at Thornleigh West that brought us together. Our ANZAC service where students had the utmost respect throughout the service as we showed our gratitude for the sacrifices so many have given.



Our Principals morning tea was a chance to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of Aussie of the Month students and also students receiving their bronze and silver citizenship awards. Students enjoy spending their morning tea with Mrs Mamo and a special reward for their achievements.

Students and Teachers alike had a wonderful time not only parading at the hat parade on the last afternoon of term, but also the chance to design and make their hats with their older buddies. Our buddies program sets up partnerships between students and is an opportunity for students to meet regularly, develop some target areas such as reading or playground games, while also having a 'buddy' in the school that is there to support and nurture friendships. Thank you to the P&C for running such a fabulous raffle too!!

Mothers' Day Stall

Our Mother's Day stall is on again this year, **Thursday, 9 May**. Each class will have an allocated timeslot to visit the stall for the students to purchase gifts. As well as being a fun and convenient shopping opportunity for the children, the MDFDGG (Mother's Day Father's Day Gift Group) have raised significant funds and provided some notable additions to school facilities over the last few years. Your support of these stalls is greatly appreciated and directly provides these improvements to school and student facilities.

1YC Interviews

1 YC interviews are open for booking until Friday this week.



Your unique code for these interviews is

edv8t

Enter once logged on to the website **schoolinterviews.com.au**

You will be able to select Mrs Young / Mrs Cooley, check their availability and select an interview time. You will then receive an email confirmation of your booking.

Teachers can log on and make a time for you if you need them to, send in a note or call the teacher to arrange a time.

Bookings **close 3 May**, ready for interviews in week 2 of term 2.

Kind regards,

Julie Granville

Deputy Granville

Mothers Day Gift Stall

Thursday May 9th, 2019

The Mothers Day Fathers Day Gift Group will be holding their annual gift stall on the above date (Term 2, Week 2) in the school hall from 9am to 3pm. Each class will visit the stall at a designated time and will have 15 minutes to select and pay for their gift and have it gift wrapped.

We will shortly be asking for your help on the day either with serving at the stall or helping at the gift wrap station. With close to 600 students at the school these events cannot run successfully without the help of our school families so your time is greatly appreciated. Come for an hour or stay for the day, refreshments will be provided throughout the day for our volunteers. A roster will be on Sign Up later this week. (details to follow via Facebook)

Available gifts and prices can be viewed on our website at <https://www.twpsmdfd.com/>

Please note this is not an online shopping site.

For further details or any questions please email us at mdfdgg@gmail.com.

Thanks very much.

MDFDGG Committee.

Mothers Day Breakfast



This event will be an opportunity for the children of TWPS to share a special breakfast with their mothers, grandmothers and other special women in their lives.

Ticket price: Adult \$14 ~ Child (Under 12) \$6

Two 45 minute sessions

A variety of hot and cold foods will be available.

Please indicate when purchasing a ticket if you require Gluten Free.

Choose one of two sessions. Ticket numbers are limited and can be purchased online only at Flexischools.

To make this special event possible we require volunteers to assist. Please register at <https://signup.com/go/xzasvCN>.

From the Community

A colorful poster for the Pennant Hills Public School FETE. The background features a geometric pattern of triangles in shades of blue, purple, and yellow, with scattered confetti and stars. The word "FETE" is prominently displayed in large, bold, blue letters. Above it, "Pennant Hills Public School" is written in a smaller, dark blue font. Below "FETE", the date and time "Sunday 26 May | 10am-3pm" are written in a light blue font. Further down, the location "Infants site - Trebor Road" and the weather note "(Rain, hail or shine)" are written in a dark blue font. A red rounded rectangle contains information about an "ONLINE SILENT AUCTION" running from May 19 to 26, with a link to "32auctions.com/phps". The poster is decorated with various balloons: a red one with "White Elephant", an orange one with "Food Stalls", a yellow one with "Sweets & Jams", a blue one with the school crest and "plants", a red one with "Craft", a blue one with "Music", an orange one with "Café", a yellow one with "Cakes", a red one with "Toys & Books", a blue one with "Carnival Rides", a yellow one with "Games", and a blue one with the school crest. The school crest is a shield with a book and a torch.