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Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Warm Welcome Back

With the red carpet suitably rolled out for our amazing students over the last 2 weeks, it certainly is wonderful to have the students back in their classrooms, catching up with peers, engaging in face-to-face learning and enjoying our amazing school grounds for break times.

We are transitioning students back and drawing on the strengths they may have developed over home learning such as use of technology while also balancing breaks and time outdoors throughout the school day.

Thank you for reminding students to continue to bring along to school their drink bottle, to eat their own food at school and their hat is also coming in handy for their time out doors as the weather warms up.

Thank you to Miss Dowd for including photos below of our return, such mementos of these special milestones.

To ensure student safety please do always remember to use the main school gate for pedestrian access to the school. Entering via the staff carpark is putting yourself and your child/ren at risk. Also, as you may be parking in the Oakleigh Oval car park, we always advise to walk along the concrete path around the road to the front gate. There are increasing numbers of cars stopping at the front gate and asking student to enter or exit the car at this location. This is not safe and we ask for all community members to return to safe practices especially around school drop off and pick up time.



Address: Giblett Avenue,
THORNLEIGH, NSW,
2120

Email: thornleigw-
p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: (02) 9484 4242

Fax (02) 9481 9471

Device return - urgent request

It has been wonderful to be able to support students learning from home over the past 13 weeks. I do need to ask for your cooperation in the return of these devices as soon as possible.

Next week we have online check in assessments with all students years 3-6 and we do urgently need all devices that are still at home to be returned along with their chargers.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this.

Response protocols for confirmed cases of COVID-19

To further provided information on our schools response protocols, this information is shared through the departments website.

The department has protocols in place where it is notified by NSW Health when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a school-age student, staff member or a member of the school community who has been on school grounds during their infectious period. In addition, schools and workplaces are required to notify confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the department's internal incident reporting hot-line where the person has been on school grounds or involved in any school activities within the previous 3 weeks.

Where the person has not been on school grounds within the previous 3 weeks, there is no requirement to report these cases unless additional support and advice is required.

All confirmed cases are immediately assessed by the department and NSW Health to determine whether the student, staff or school community member has been infectious while at school, and to determine the appropriate course of action required to minimise the risk to the wider community.

Key actions include:

- contact tracing to identify all close contacts to a confirmed case – in some instances, this may require making the school non-operational while the contact tracing process is completed
- communication with parents advising them whether their child has been in contact with a confirmed case
- thorough cleaning of the school site to ensure the environment is clean and safe prior to the school resuming onsite learning.

Safety and hygiene

The department is continuing to work closely with NSW Health and other relevant agencies to ensure the best possible precautions are in place to protect students and staff in our public schools.

Schools have comprehensive infection control and first aid arrangements in place and are well practised in implementing practical strategies and standard precautions to prevent the spread of disease in our schools.

Good personal hygiene, including regular hand washing, cleaning and disinfecting and the use of personal protective equipment are vigorously applied across all schools.



Cleaning

All schools have COVID-safe plans and are taking precautions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission on-site. This includes enhanced cleaning 2 times a day in all schools in line with the latest advice from NSW Health and SafeWork Australia.

Where there is a confirmed case of COVID-19, cleaning will be carried out at the school site in line with cleaning protocols agreed with NSW Health.

Further information about the [department's response to COVID-19](#) is available here.

The advice and information on the departments website is updated regularly and is available here: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

Selective High school applications

Applications for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2023 open on 19 October 2021 and close on 17 November 2021 at

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>

The intention to apply form was emailed to year 5 families last week. If you didn't receive this and would like to please notify the office.

Final Invoices for 2021

Final invoices for 2021 will be sent home this week. We have adjusted invoices to reflect that Term 3 was delivered through home learning.

Other than Year 6, items on your invoice will be from Terms 1 and 2, there are no additional charges for Term 4.

If you have had fees in advance we have tried to use them to pay anything outstanding.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Kind Regards



Julie Granville

R/Principal

Deputy's Message

What an absolute treat it has been to have all of our students back on site this week. Welcomed like they deserved, onto the red carpet and into their classrooms.

The school has been alive with a beautiful buzz of learning with students back in the classroom and playground.

Classrooms have been full of laughter and learning with some engaging learning experiences planned by teachers. Thank you to all the teachers at TWPS for your enthusiasm, dedication and truly inspiring lessons during Term 3 as we learnt from home. A MASSIVE thank you to all our parents, families and friends who supported our children at home, it certainly took a village.



How wonderful to see all these happy faces back in the classroom.

Kindergarten continued investigations, engaging in learning through play.

Stage 1 met their new mealworms. I have already had so many meaningful conversations with the Year 1 and 2 students about their new learning. Some mealworms even have names.





Year 1 utilising our amazing outdoor spaces during a movement break.

Year 3 enjoying being back together with their friends and learning alongside each other.



P&C
Thank you to our wonderful P&C for providing a very special surprise to all our families on their return to school. It is evident from around the community that the spoons have become part of the growing Westleigh Spoonville family.

The Spoonville family in Westleigh – provided by the Chai family, who have offered for any other TWPS spoons to join their growing community.

Year 5 2021 Leadership timeline

It has reached that exciting time of the year when our Year 5 students have the opportunity to nominate for prefects, sports captains and band captains. The timeline for Term 4 leadership is:

4 th November	Year 5 leadership talk
22 nd November	Student leadership nominations
29 th November	Student leadership speeches and elections
2 nd December	Sport Captain nominations, speeches and elections

School Captains and Prefects

Role Description:

- Provide a positive role model and leadership to the student body.
- Represent the student body at school and community functions.
- Actively participate in school assembly programs.
- Chair student council meetings with the assistance of the teaching staff as requested.
- Encourage students to take pride in their school.
- Assist any student in need when necessary.
- Willingly help teachers and the community when requested.

Essential Criteria:

- Ability to speak confidently in public.
- Ability to maintain acceptable standards of work and behaviour in class and school activities.
- Maintain a standard of dress and grooming as deemed appropriate by the principal.
- Demonstrate(d) school spirit and pride by:
 - Wearing correct school uniform.
 - Following the school rules.
 - Participating in a number of school activities.
 - Showing trustworthiness, courtesy, reliability and helpfulness.

Agreement:

Elected captains / prefects agree to relinquish their position and badge if in breach of school rules, selection criteria or failure to carry out roles and duties.

N.B. the Principal reserves the right to make the final decision in regard to appointment of candidates and the relinquishing of duties.

Election process 2021.

Due to COVID guidelines we will be filming all 16 nominated students' speeches on Monday 29 November for viewing and voting live. The students will be filmed over zoom whilst Year 2-6 watch from their classrooms and then vote.



Sports Captains

Role Description:

- Provide a positive role model and leadership to the student body, especially in sport.
- Actively participate in sports programs.
- Encourage all students to take pride in their school.
- Assist any student in need when necessary.
- Willingly help teachers and the community when requested.
- Organise and support events for carnivals as necessary.
- Assist organising relay teams for swimming and athletics carnivals.
- Present sports awards as required.
- Relate house news as required, e.g. sports points at assemblies.

Essential Criteria:

- Willingness to speak at assemblies and other functions as requested.
- Ability to maintain acceptable standards of work and behaviour in class and school activities.
- Maintain a standard of dress and grooming as deemed appropriate by the principal.
- Ability to fulfill sports contracts.
- Demonstrate school spirit and pride by:
 - Wearing correct formal school uniform or sports uniform at all times.
 - Following the school rules.
 - Participating in school sports activities.
 - Showing trustworthiness, courtesy, reliability and helpfulness.
 - Having exemplary sportsmanship.
 - Encouraging teamwork and team spirit.

Agreement:

Elected captains agree to relinquish their position and badge if in breach of school rules, essential criteria or fail to carry out their stipulated role. The principal reserves the right to make the final decision in regard to appointment of candidates and the relinquishing of duties.



Band Captains

To share leadership roles at Thornleigh West Public School, selection/election of band captains will be mindful of the policy of sharing leadership roles between as many students as possible. Due to the select number of students in a band, band captains may also hold another position within the school leadership area, but first consideration should go to students that hold no or only minor leadership positions, e.g. SRC rep, sports vice-captain. It is recognised that the first priority is for the band director to be able to appoint band captains that fulfill the role description and essential criteria below. Two students per band are selected, one boy and one girl (on condition they meet criteria below).

Role Description:

- Provide a positive role model and leadership in the band.
- Represent the band at school and community functions as required/ requested.
- Actively participate in band programs.
- Encourage students to take pride in band activities.
- Assist any student in need when necessary.
- Willingly and actively help when required and / or requested.

Essential Criteria:

- Satisfactory attendance and punctuality at band practices and rehearsals.
- Ability to maintain acceptable standards of behaviour in band and school activities.
- Maintain a standard of dress and grooming as deemed appropriate by the band director and principal.
- Showing trustworthiness, courtesy, reliability and helpfulness.

Agreement:

Selected captains agree to relinquish their position and badge if in breach of the selection criteria or failure to carry out roles and duties.

N.B. The principal in consultation with the band director reserves the right to make the final decision in regard to appointment of band captains and the relinquishing of duties.



Child Protection

This Term all our students from K-6 will be involved in the mandatory subject Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE). Part of our school's PDHPE program includes mandatory child protection education. Some of the content taught in child protection education deals with sensitive issues. The school will teach this content in an age appropriate way.

For more information about child protection education go to the Child protection and respectful relationships education section on the Department of Education's PDHPE website. If you would like more information, please contact the school.

Child Protection Topics

Kindergarten	Year 1 and 2	Year 3 and 4	Year 5 and 6
Protection Yes and No Feelings Body Parts Touch – Permission/ Unwanted touch – NO Warning Signals Safe and Unsafe situa- tions	Year 1 Topics: Relationships Rights & Responsibilities Feelings Body Parts Touch – Permission/ Unwanted touch – NO Networks Saying NO Prepared to GO Year 2 Topics: Kinds of Touch Caring for Others Protection Privacy Safe and Unsafe Situa- tions Happy/unhappy Secrets Telling Persistence Assertiveness	Year 3 Topics: Recognising Abuse – Protection and body arts Physical / Sexual Abuse Relationships – Bribes and threats Protective Strategies – Networks and safety strategies Year 4 Topics: Recognising Abuse - Identifying safe and unsafe situations Body Parts Feelings & Warning sig- nals Relationships - Bullying Rights and responsibili- ties Protective Strategies – Secrets and seeking help Assertiveness	Year 5 topics: Types of relationships Personal rights Coercion Body parts Emotional abuse Risk situations No Go Tell Networking Community support. Year 6 topics: Expectations of gender roles Rights and responsibili- ties Harassment Physical/sexual abuse and their effect Indicators of risk Responding to risk situa- tions Talking about it Personal networks My strategies.

Check in Assessment Year 3 – 6

Check-in assessments are an online assessment for students in Years 3 to 9. They are mapped to the NSW Syllabuses and National Literacy and Numeracy Learning Progressions. There are two assessments:

- reading
- Numeracy

Each assessment is designed to be quick and easy to administer, consisting of between 40 to 50 multiple choice questions. Our students will be participating in the online Check in assessments during Week 5 and 6 of this term.

OC Assessment (*Students in Year 4 in 2021*)

The Opportunity Class Placement Test has been rescheduled to **Wednesday 17 November 2021**. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be **computer-based** and held at school.

This test is only for those students who have applied for the Opportunity Class in 2022.

Test day - Wednesday 17 November

Students should wear school uniform, including a jumper if it is a cool day and a hat.

Students sitting the test should arrive at the school no later than 9.00 am. Test coordinators and/or test administrators will direct students to the test room.

Students who arrive late may be allowed to take the test but will be required to finish at the same time as other students.

Students found to be cheating risk disqualification from the test.

Nicole Dowd



R/Deputy Principal



P& C News

Next Meeting – Tuesday 23 November, 2021 at 7:30pm.

This week, we welcome back students from Year 2-6 to TWPS! The TWPS P&C (Thank you to Mel Hogan for co-ordinating this), in collaboration with TWPS, has a special welcome back well-being surprise for families, watch this space.....

TWPS P&C Meeting Wrap Up

The P&C met last Tuesday 19 October, 2021, via Zoom. It was fantastic to see so many members joining in robust, collegial discussion on many topics including air quality and high-efficiency particulate air filters, strategic planning, and privacy policy. P&C Meetings are always a great way for the community to catch up and hear about what's happening in the P&C and the wider school community! At the Meeting last week, the membership agreed to update the names of P&C bank accounts to reflect the current name of our organisation, to enable the new TWPS P&C website, and to utilise the DocuSign electronic signature system.

Welcome to New Members

We are delighted to extend a very warm welcome to our five new members who have joined since the close of the General Meeting in August, 2021. These members became financial at the close of the meeting last week and we look forward them attending and fully contributing to many future meetings.

TWPS P&C Website

We are delighted to report that the TWPS P&C has a brand-new Google Sites website. You can now find us at twpsbandc.org. Thanks are extended to TWPS P&C Member, John Hogan, for his work on the new website and to all the Subcommittee Convenors for their assistance with updating the website content. Thanks also to P&C Members involved in the TWPS P&C Technology Working Group and the TWPS P&C Executive Committee for testing and providing feedback on the new website. We hope you'll enjoy our fresh, new website!

Election of Vice President

We are excited to announce that TWPS Member, Gary Capell, was elected to fill the TWPS P&C Vice President position that has been vacant since June, 2021. Gary comes to us with a wealth of experience as a past P&C Secretary and is our resident technology guru having been heading up the Technology Working Group in recent months! We can't wait to work with him to continue to progress the aims of our great Association.

Gingerbread House Kit Orders

Gingerbread house kits can now be ordered online via Flexischools. There are traditional, gluten-free, and chocolate gingerbread house options available for the bargain price of \$40.00 each (all products are made in Australia and are egg, dairy, nut and palm oil free). Orders must close on Tuesday 9 November, 2021 at 5:00pm sharp. Gingerbread houses will be available for Covid-19 safe collection at Oakleigh Oval on 1 and 2 December, 2021. If you have any questions please contact Niluka Chinniah at twpsband2011@gmail.com. So don't delay, order your gingerbread houses today!

Volunteering at TWPS

We are always excited to have new members involved in the P&C. We have several events planned over the year ahead, Covid-19 restrictions permitting. So, if you can spare some time, whether it's five minutes or five days, your help would be appreciated. Our membership fee is only \$1 and can be paid via Flexischools at any time. If you would like more information on the P&C or how you can become involved, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

twpsbandc@gmail.com

Meera Seemampillai

TWPS P&C President

From the Community



HORNSBY DISTRICT LITTLE ATHLETICS season starts on 1st November.

Come join us for some fun and fitness.

Visit www.hdlac.org.au for all the information and to register.

School Travel for 2022



2022 school travel applications are now open

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before the end of term 4. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications and current entitlements are updated and remain valid. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2022.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. Note: some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

School Student Transport Scheme site change

On 1 October 2021 the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) information and application portal was moved to **transportnsw.info**. This will assist families to find all their travel information in the one place.

Travel from Term 1 2022

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) open at the start of Term 4 2021 for travel in 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a difficult period for local bus operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations increasingly difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel on a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Please also remember that students using Opal cards must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).

Further information can be found at transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel

Enquiries can be submitted at transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback



**Transport
for NSW**

SCHOOL ZONE

Road Safety



Term 4 - 2021

Welcome to the final edition of the School Zone newsletter for 2021! In this edition we will share some bus safety tips for both drivers, parents and carers.

NSW has one of the largest bus fleets in Australia. Buses can't stop quickly because they are large and heavy vehicles, so it's worth remembering the following tips.



Useful driver tips

- Lights flash on buses to warn motorists that buses are picking up and dropping off passengers (often school children)
- Slow down to 40km/h when overtaking or passing a bus displaying flashing lights
- A driver can help keep children safe by:
 1. Sticking to the speed limit and following the road rules in school zones
 2. Slowing down to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing
 3. Looking out for children crossing the road near bus stops in school zones or along bus routes
 4. Giving way to buses when they merge back into the traffic



Useful parent and carer tips

Children are most at risk in the minutes after getting off the bus. Below are some ways you can help reduce this risk:

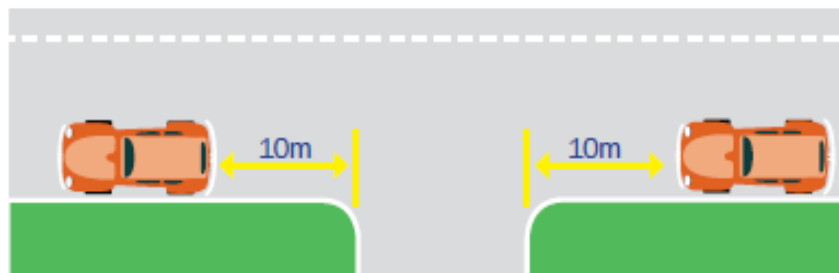
- Always drop off/pick up your child on the same side of the road as the bus stop (but not in the Bus Zone)
- Meet your child at the bus stop (remembering to stand back from the kerb)
- Wait until the bus has gone before choosing a safe place to cross the road



Parking Rules

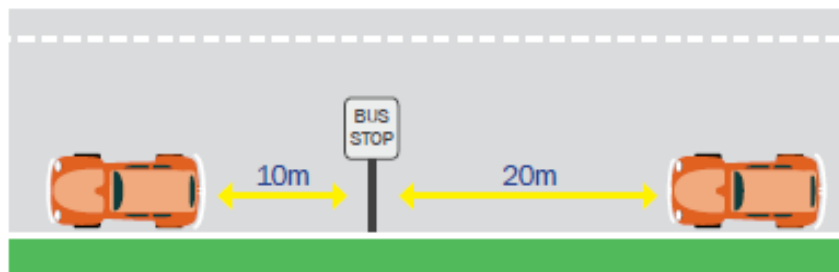
Please park safely and legally on the streets around your school. Park legally so you do not incur parking fines and demerit points. Council's Traffic Compliance Officers enforce parking around schools. If you park contrary to the road rules you will be fined!

You cannot stop or park your vehicle:



Within 10m of an intersecting road at an intersection without traffic lights (20m with traffic lights), unless a sign states you can park there (see image at left).

PENALTIES FROM: \$464
Demerit Points apply in School Zone



Within 20m before and 10m after a bus stop (see image)

PENALTIES FROM: \$349
Demerit Points apply in School Zone

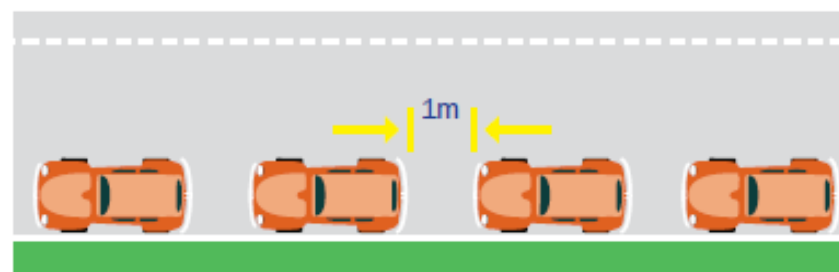
Parallel parking

This is the usual way to park unless signs tell you otherwise. You must park in the same direction as the adjacent traffic and parallel and as close as possible to the kerb.



You can NOT park across driveways or pedestrian kerb ramps. A vehicle can be parked up to the wings on the driveways or ramp (see image)

PENALTIES FROM: \$349
Demerit Points apply in School Zone



You should park at least one metre from any other parked vehicle and entirely within any marked parking lines where provided (see image)

PENALTIES FROM: \$116