



Thornbury

Primary School

A Creative and Diverse Community Growing Together





WOMINJEKA!

Celebrating Diversity

We value and celebrate our diversity and the unique learning opportunity that the Aboriginal culture and language program brings to our school. Our program won the coveted *Outstanding Koorie Education Award* at the 2019 Victoria Education Excellence Awards.

TPS is additionally enriched by the option of a Steiner learning stream.

Our students are vital and active participants in school decision making. We listen to them and model gender equality and respect through our interactions with each other.

School Vision Statement



A creative and diverse community growing together

TPS's vision is integral to the work we do and is the foundation of our school community. Our vision is to develop student-centred learning that is engaging, respectful and culturally inclusive. We promote academic and social wellbeing so that students can reach their full potential.

Commitment to Child Safety Standards

TPS follows clear and explicit guidelines that detail school community expectations for child protection and safety. Mandatory actions are taken when the safety of students is, or potentially are, compromised, based on recommendations from the Victorian Department of Education.

School Review: Annual Implementation Plan Goals

In 2018, our School Review Panel recommended the following key directions for the next School Strategic Plan:

Literacy; increase outcomes for all students in writing with the aim of at or above levels in similar schools.

Wellbeing; increase students' sense of safety within the school.

Student engagement; increase students' involvement in their learning.

LEARNING AND TEACHING

TPS offers two learning streams, and all students learn Woiwurrung, the language of the Wurundjeri people. All TPS programs follow the Victorian State Curriculum.

Mainstream

At TPS we work towards a differentiated learning approach - we recognise that all learners are individuals. While Literacy and Numeracy are core parts of the Victorian Curriculum, we believe that students should also express creativity. In our classes, students have ownership of their work, set their own learning goals, receive feedback on their effort and celebrate their achievements. They are challenged every day.

Steiner Stream

We are proud to be one of only a handful of schools that offer a Steiner Stream option within the setting and requirements of a Victorian government school. Based on the education system developed by Rudolph Steiner, it is a holistic approach to learning incorporating the arts. Parents/carers who plan to enrol their children in this program should familiarise themselves with the aims and practices of the Steiner Education Australia Program, and the TPS Steiner model, to understand the commitment involved.

Croxton Multi-Age Program

Croxton School conducts a Multi-Age program at TPS. This program caters for primary-aged students aged eight to twelve (grades four to six) who have an intellectual disability. The program is staffed by a full-time teacher and Ed Support staff member. All activities and tasks are implemented in line with the Victorian State Curriculum.

Aboriginal Culture and Woiwurrung Language Program

Students at TPS study one of the oldest living cultures in the world through the Koorie Language LOTE Program and Culture classes. TPS's Aboriginal studies program links with each class' main lessons. The program also focuses on key events throughout the year, such as Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC, as well as significant local and national Aboriginal people and groups.





Deadly Behaviour
Respectful Relationships
Student Voice
Child Safety Standard

Visual Art
Performing Arts
Gardening
Physical Education
Digital Technologies
Aboriginal Culture and
Woiwurrung Language

Visual Art

The visual arts program at TPS is a weekly program for all Mainstream classes. Students enjoy painting, drawing, ceramics, printmaking, sculpture, threads and textiles. Students typically study a new local or international artist each term. Steiner Stream students have a weekly craft lesson. All children display their works at the annual TPS Arts Festival.

Performing Arts

All students have a weekly class which involves music, singing, dancing, drama and performing. The objective is to develop students' enjoyment and understanding of music in a group setting. The performing arts classes are often a catalyst for students' participation in our Thornbury Instrumental Music Experience.

Gardening

TPS' Gardening Program is a curriculum aligned, garden-based program that uses school kitchen gardens to integrate practical experience with science learning. Thanks to our garden educators, all TPS students get the chance to learn practical gardening skills and cooking lessons. They also study ecosystems ecology and gain knowledge and skills to understand and adapt to environmental and social change.

Physical Education

All TPS students take part in weekly physical education classes. Students are encouraged to participate in games and activities that promote teamwork, communication and cooperation skills. Games also emphasise fitness and the development of fundamental motor skills through non-competitive skill-based games.

Digital Technologies

TPS uses iPads and Chromebooks, Google Suite and Seesaw to enhance and assist learning in the Mainstream classrooms. We use ICT for collaborative work, assessments, story creation, presentations, inquiry learning, music-making, photography and film-making. ICT is used appropriately within the context of the Steiner Stream.



WELLBEING

Student wellbeing is central to all that we do at TPS.

Respectful Relationships

The Respectful Relationships curriculum, developed by the Victorian Government, supports schools and early childhood settings to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours. It teaches our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence. TPS also follows clear and explicit guidelines that detail school community expectations for child protection and safety.

I Am Deadly

At TPS we say *Marramb-ik Deadly* (I am Deadly). Our students aim for *Balit Narrun* (Strong Spirit). School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support is a framework that brings together school communities to develop positive, safe and supportive learning cultures. We use our community

language of “Deadly” to explain our expectations at TPS. Students, staff and members of our school community are encouraged to live and demonstrate our Deadly Values: *Respect, Trust, Working Together, Integrity* and *Perseverance*.

Barra Yana Dhumba: Stop, Walk, Talk

To promote a more self-reliant, responsible and safe atmosphere at TPS we use the Stop, Walk, Talk technique. Our students are empowered to stand up to behaviour that they feel is offensive or unwanted. Barra Yana Dhumba also decreases bullying. Students learn three simple steps: One: show through words and gesture to stop. Two: walk away if the problem continues. Three: talk to an adult if the issue is still not resolved.

COMMUNITY

A feature of TPS is its creative and passionate community. Cultural awareness, the arts and a sensitivity to the environment are a feature of school events. Community groups include the Enviro and Comms teams, Social Committee, Craft Group and Friends of TIME.

Garden & Play

Created by the hardworking school community, our considered playspace includes a veggie garden, native food garden (including Garden Club), chooks, trees, sculptures and murals featuring students' work.

Celebrating Community: Events and the Arts

TPS prides itself on recognising our history by participating in events such as Sorry Day and NAIDOC Day. The annual Arts Festival and annual seasonal festival, along with many music events, provide students with opportunities to create, perform and exhibit.

Thornbury Instrumental Music Experience (TIME)

TIME is unique to TPS. Students can join vibrant, contemporary and dynamic musical programs. They can access a range of music groups and lessons during school hours. The success of TIME is reflected in the fact that two-thirds of TPS students study at least one instrument at the school. TIME holds multiple concerts a year and has a strong focus on original composition.

Respect • Trust • Working Together • Integrity • Perseverance

Thornbury Primary School is unique for its Aboriginal language and culture education, and its multi-stream teaching options. The arts and the environment are also central to the school's passionate and engaged community.

Thornbury Primary School acknowledges that it meets and works on the land of the Wurundjeri people and that sovereignty of the land of the Kulin Nation was never ceded. We pay respects to their Elders, past and present, and acknowledge the pivotal role that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play in the Australian community.



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