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Term 1 Week 6 2021

Principals Report

Welcome back everyone to what's shaping up to be a wonderful year of teaching and learning at Thornton Public School.

The term has started very smoothly and students have been very engaged in high quality learning and our Instructional Leaders, Learning and Support Coordinator, Intervention teachers and School Learning Support Officers have been super busy putting in place support programs and working with students and staff to ensure that these interventions programs are differentiated to meet the needs of each and every student in our school. Our support staff pride themselves in knowing our students and what they need in their learning.

We still currently have to follow the recommended COVID-19 guidelines for parents which will involve students being dropped off at the gate. Staff will be at the gate to welcome students. We still currently have to follow the recommended COVID-19 guidelines for parents which will involve students being dropped off at the gate. Staff will be at the gate to We still currently have to follow the recommended COVID-19 guidelines for parents which will involve students being dropped off at the gate. Staff will be at the gate to support as needed. Should visitors need to attend the school office, please ensure you have completed the QR code located at the office and sign in through our school procedures. Until we receive new guidelines Parents and carers are not allowed on school sites. We will keep you updated with any changes as soon as we receive them.

Thankyou to all OOSH families for cooperating and now entering the school via our main gate entry after 8am so that we can ensure safety of all our students at Thornton. A reminder to all families that school entry time for students not attending OOSH is 830am as supervision will not be available until this

time and if you need to drop your child off before 830am please organise care with OOSH.

Road Safety around our school is still a concern in the afternoons. We are in consultation with our Road Safety team to work on strategies that may assist but appreciate your cooperation in parking safely and walking to collect your child.

I would like to say a big thank you to all our parents, with a particular focus on our Kindergarten Parents, who have worked with us to support a settled transition to school for all our students.

Congratulations to our Zone Carnival representatives who did themselves and Thornton proud.

It is very pleasing how hard our students have been working on their return to school.

Have a great week

Stuart Wylie

Principal

Deputy Diaries

We have already passed the halfway mark for Term 1 and it has been go, go, go in all classrooms!

Kindergarten have been learning all about 'big' school, making new friends, reading, writing, counting and most of all HAVING FUN!

It was great to be able to take part in all of the PBL Reward Day celebrations held last Friday. The PBL team has lots of things in store for the rest of the year. All students are encouraged to keep on being *respectful, responsible and resilient learners*.

Thornton PS PBL affirmations kick off this week after revision of our key values; respect, responsibility and resilience. This fortnight's affirmation is focussed on '*Resilience – I strive to*

do my best!' These affirmations last for two weeks and are created by students who are in the Junior PBL team. This gives students ownership over a key initiative around positive wellbeing at Thornton PS.

At Thornton PS we have 5 ideas that we strive towards aligned with our values and affirmations. They are: I keep my hands and feet to myself, I listen, I work quietly, I follow instructions and I do my best. Please talk to your children about these and how doing your best to achieve the Lizzy 5 will result in students getting Lizzy deeds and hopefully a PBL badge down the track. Teachers have been working their hardest to ensure students are engaged in our core business of teaching and learning by establishing routines to improve all student outcomes. Well done students and teachers!!!

It has been exciting to see the quality work from around the school and have students share with their families their successes and challenges. Primary assembly is this week so please look out in your student's bags on Thursday afternoon to see if they have received a merit, PBL award or even a Deputy Principal award.

We look forward to an exciting rest of the term with lots of exciting things to happen to engage students, teachers and parents/carers. We are launching 3 way conferences later this term, which will give parents/carers the opportunity to co-create goals that your child will work towards. This builds a genuine partnership between students, parents and carers and one that will impact on the work of Thornton PS students.

Until next time,

Mr Collins and Mrs Roberts

Stage Two Report

Welcome to our Stage 2 students and families. What a busy and exciting start of the year we have had. I have had the pleasure of visiting all Stage 2 classes and have seen first-hand the fantastic work that has been happening with reading, writing, mathematics and even sport.

It has been exciting to see students embark on their BYOD learning journey. Teachers are working hard to ensure the use of devices at Thornton Public School compliments teaching and learning and provides students opportunities to be creative and critical thinkers.

I look forward to working in Stage 2 classrooms this year and celebrating student success and achievement.

Shawn Rudolph

Assistant Principal – Stage 2

Stage Three Report

A big welcome to all of our Stage 3 families to the start of the 2021 school year. Students have settled well into their new

classes and are already into the 5th week of learning. We are all looking forward to a very productive and eventful year!!

A big congratulations to all of the students who demonstrated such wonderful sportsmanship and persistence at our recent competitors only swimming carnival. A big thankyou to Mr Eneliko for organising such a wonderful day! A reminder that Year 6 High School enrolment forms have been handed out to students and are due back by the end of week 8. If your child did not receive a form, please make sure that you notify the front office so that one can be arranged for you.

Meegan Kavanagh

Assistant Principal - Stage 3

3D



In 3D we have had a fantastic start to 2021. We have settled into the year and are looking at having a successful year.

In history we have been learning about our country's first people and how their culture can be seen living today. We used our knowledge to create amazing dot artworks. Our English has been flourishing by learning creative and interesting vocabulary to hook readers into our writing by using sizzling starts. 3D have enjoyed learning and practicing their times tables through song and building our skills through games. In the last two weeks we have started working with 3H to build our



critical and creative thinking through STEM challenges by refining and improving our designs for each challenge.

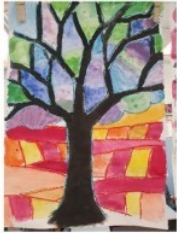
We are looking forward to continuing the great work throughout the year.

Luke Drain

Classroom Teacher

3H

3H has had an amazing start to the year! We have settled very well into new routines and learning activities. So far, we have been loving singing our times tables, learning new ways to add and subtract, creating beautiful artworks and making our writing more exciting. We have especially enjoyed using our devices to help our learning - particularly in maths and researching Australia's first peoples. We are excited to be working with 3D to build our critical and creative thinking skills through STEM challenges each week. We have achieved amazing things over the past 5 weeks have an incredible year ahead of us!



Alison Hanley
Classroom Teacher

Welcome to 3R!



It has been an exciting time in 3R!

The students are enjoying the new routines and independent learning expectations, now that they are in primary.

We have been working hard in all areas of literacy and students have set their learning goals already. Ask your child what they are striving to improve on this term.

This week has been particularly exciting as student brought in their devices and are now learning research skills and enjoying learning games on studyladder.com.au. We are looking forward to an exciting year together!



Eleanor Ridder
Classroom Teacher

3R

3T

In 3T, we are reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl.

For visual art, we have been learning how to make mixed media artworks. We have been refining our technique for using oil pastels and water colour paint in our portraits of Willy Wonka.

We learnt that applying pressure when colouring with oil pastels will make colours vibrant. We also experimented with adding water to paints to change colour and texture.

Shaun Trindall
Classroom Teacher



reading needs and interests. Reading strategies we have learnt are Making Connections, Predicting and Questioning which help us comprehend the text we are reading. Our novel study is "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing". We are learning to by Ninja Fact Masters by mastering our times tables recall. 4AweSome!

Erinne Allen & Hannah Stanton

Classroom Teachers

4L

4L Term 1

Welcome to 4L for 2021! It has been a really busy start to the year, but the legends in 4L have taken it all in their stride. Being the big kids of stage 2 now, we have been focusing on setting a good example for each other, with our strong work ethic so far and our constant kind words. We are already in the swing of things with routines, and now have BYOD to add to the creativity and chaos that is room 15. This semester we are using the Microsoft 365 suite as a learning platform and will be using Microsoft Teams. The students are so excited and have already begun building problem solving skills, or as Mr Lynch calls it "troubleshooting life".

As well as all of this we have been getting into the garden and have begun helping each other out with some of the first TPS produce. The canteen are loving it. Mrs Pumpkin is our new class mascot.



Thomas Lynch

Classroom Teacher

4A

Well done to all students in 4A for making such an impressive and responsible start to year 4!

Students have settled into the classroom and have hit the ground running. It's great to see so many students already producing work they are proud of and are sharing with their families at home.

We are all looking forward to a great year in 4A!

Andrew Atherton

Classroom Teacher

4AS

4AS has had a settled start to the year getting introduced to the routines and expectations of Year 4. We have been learning about the importance of collaborative learning and working in teams and partnerships using Kagan structures such as Rally Coach and Knee to Knee partners. Reading conferencing is a focus this term and we are learning to make good choices of book selection to suit our

4M

4M have been working hard this term to work in our learning teams and form strong relationships. We have been very focused on learning about being respectful, responsible and resilient workers. To show about the longevity of our traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, we created a paper chain to show the length of time Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have been in the country (red/black/yellow) compared to European people (the single blue chain at the end!). We have also worked collaboratively with 4AS to learn all about binary numbers and how computers interpret

instructions! 4M is really looking forward to using BYOD to complete online activities each day to extend their knowledge.

Ben McLean

Classroom Teacher



5M

5M have had a great start to the year establishing our routines and expectations. The class created our new class crest based on our PBL values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience, as well as our class rules; Be Kind, Be Respectful and Try your best.

Aaron McLoughlin

Classroom Teacher



5C

5C has had a brilliant start to the year and have been focusing on being kind to others and setting goals. Students spent an afternoon learning about the life of Stephen Hawking and about his achievements. They had to then complete a self-portrait of themselves with lots of ideas that come from their minds. Things such as their dreams for their future, favourite books and what they wonder about the universe.

Joseph Carlon

Classroom Teacher



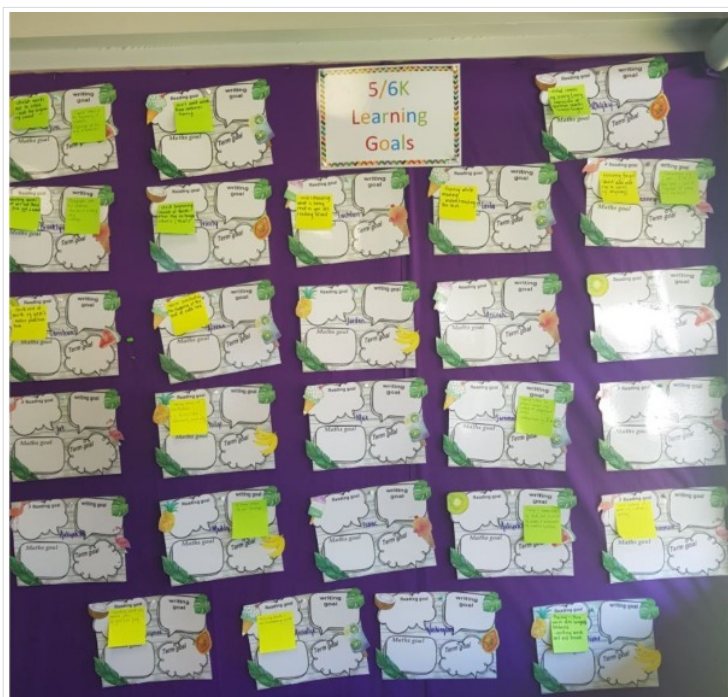
5W

5W have begun 2021 in a wonderful manner. The students and Miss Watson have been working hard on getting to know each other and are enjoying learning about each other's interests and skills. All students are to be commended on their enthusiasm towards their learning and their strong desire to know more. Daily learning activities are in full swing now and students are well aware of classroom routines and expectations. The students are extremely excited for BYOD this year and have

been busy learning about being more aware online through the unit 'Cyber safety'. This week 5W have been closely looking at their writing, reading and mathematical abilities and setting individual learning goals.

2021 is going to be a fantastic year for 5W, there is so many wonderful events to look forward to for year 5.

Amy Watson
Classroom Teacher



6E

5/6K

5/6K have been getting to know each other through a variety of classroom activities. One of these activities involved joint problem solving which led to some fantastic discussions amongst the group. Now that the term is well and truly underway, we have been setting our learning goals in reading, writing and maths. We are all anticipating that these goals will be achieved by the end of Term 1. I can feel that 5/6K are going to have a great, productive year!!!

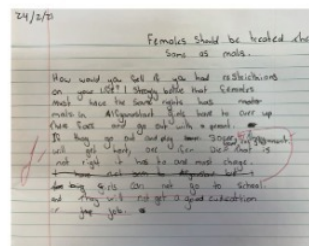
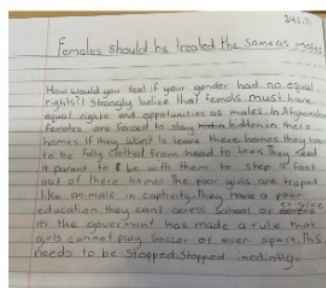
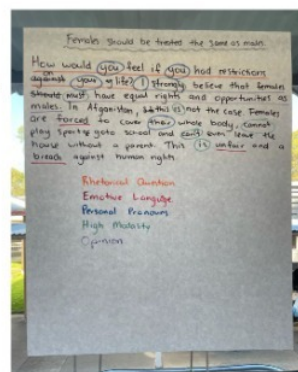
Meegan Kavanagh

Classroom Teacher & Assistant Principal - Stage 3

6E - Persuasive Writing

This term, 6E are studying the novel "Boy Overboard" by Morris Gleitzman to understand and be aware of life from a different point of view. This is an emotional story of a family living in Afghanistan who live through inhumane conditions and face inequality to a degree we do not see in Australia.

Our writing task this fortnight is to write a persuasive letter to the Afghani government. The purpose is to try and convince them to make a change to the inequality women face. As a class, we have started by drafting an introduction. Students can refer to this environmental print when drafting their own introduction independently.



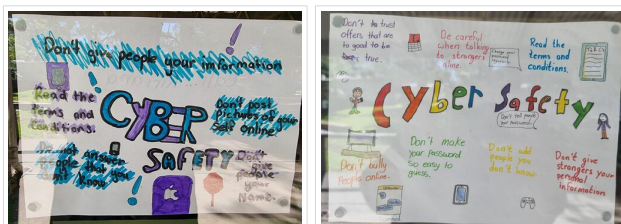
Jayden Eneliko

Classroom Teacher

6F

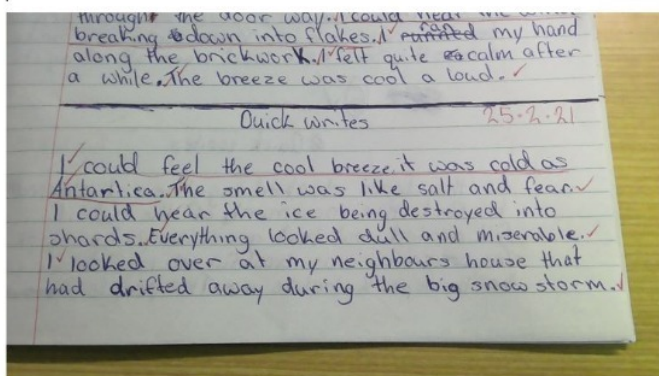
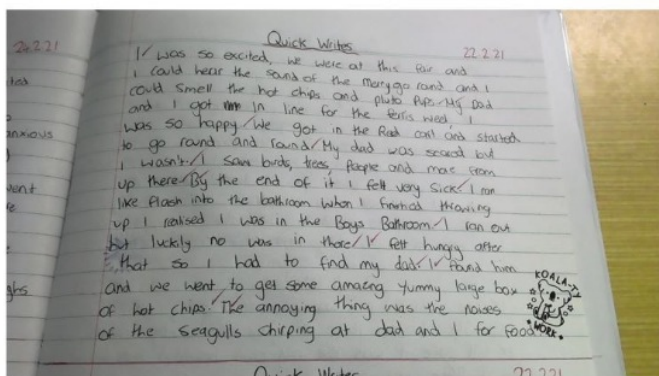
6F have been learning about how they can be safe while using the internet. We have used our knowledge to create posters to display in our class window to remind us of how we can stay safe online.

Kate Fincher
Classroom Teacher



60

60 have been working hard on being descriptive writers. Using the Writing Process we are learning to plan, draft, revise, edit and publish our work. Here are two of our quick writes which help us to practise being descriptive writers.



Anne Osborn
Classroom Teacher

Library News

Welcome back to another year at Thornton school library. This year we get to welcome Samantha Sharman into our library. Sam is currently doing her Masters in Teacher Librarianship and we will be sharing the position with me.

Our library lesson format will be 30 minutes for Early Stage 1, Stage 1 and Stage 2. Stage 3 will have a 45 minute lesson. Please check with the class teacher as to which day during the

week your library lesson is scheduled. I would like to remind you that all K-2 students must have a library bag to borrow. It is also preferable that years 3 -6 bring a library bag for borrowing as it helps maintain the quality of our books.

Premiers Reading Challenge officially starts today. All students are given the opportunity to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). Children in K-2 will be doing the challenge in their classrooms and we will record all books read for them. Children in years 3-6 will be doing the challenge independently in class, in the library and at home. Students are given the opportunity to borrow a PRC book from our library, read it over the week and record the details.

I am still chasing up overdue loans from last year. It would be appreciated if these could be returned as soon as possible. Books not returned from last year will affect student borrowing this year.

Please feel free to pop into the library mornings or afternoons if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Want to know more about what is happening in our library? Check Oliver library. Students can access this through their student portal. Here you will see library messages, featured authors, reading lists, online links and new resources. Students can check out what they have on loan and review their favourite books. We also have a subscription to World Book Online for students to use at home and school. This can be accessed through the student portal or online –

The log in details are - www.worldbookonline.com

ID : thorntonps

Password : thornntonps

Caroline Foster

Teacher Librarian

Jump Rope for Heart - Years 1 and 2 students

Jump Rope for Heart kicks off this term!

Jump Rope for Heart is a fantastic physical activity and fundraising program that has been run by the Heart Foundation for over 36 years. It's a great way for your child to keep fit and learn new skills, but it also helps raise funds for vital heart research and education programs.



Since Jump Rope for Heart started in 1983, schools like ours have raised more than \$104 million for the Heart Foundation's lifesaving work.

In less than a week our school has already raised over \$2000!

It's important you [register your child online](http://www.jump rope.org.au/parents), so they can receive the full benefits of the program and participate in online fundraising, simply follow the link below to get started.

Students will be skipping during sport and PE lessons as well as during their lunch and afternoon tea breaks, during this time you can share their online fundraising page with family and friends to help raise money for this great cause.

We will hold our school Jump Off Day on *Friday 23rd April (Term 2)* this will mark the end of the program and is a chance for everyone to come together to skip and show off their newly learned skills.

Prizes that students have earned throughout the fundraiser will be handed out approximately 3 weeks after the Jump Off Day (Week 5 Term 2). The Heart Foundation reserves the right to substitute prizes if necessary.

Thank you for supporting the Jump Rope for Heart program, if you have questions please contact your child's teacher.



Clean Up Australia Day - Friday 5th March

This Friday is Clean Up Australia Day. The school will be participating in this great event and ask that if you can send a set of gloves for your child if you have them available only.

Clean Up Australia inspires and empowers communities to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment. What was started thirty years ago, by an "average Australian bloke" who had a simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard has now become the nation's largest community-based environmental event.



Wheelie Wednesday 3-6

All students in 3 - 6 are invited to bring a scooter and helmet to school Wednesday 1st March and participate in our Positive Playgrounds Program. Ms Nelson along with a bunch of other teachers will be out supervising students riding scooters on the basketball and netball courts only each Wednesday.

3 - 6 students can bring their scooter and helmet to school on Wednesday and store them safely near the Wellbeing HUB. Students need to come directly to the school and hand their scooter over to Ms Nelson. Scooters can then be collected from Ms Nelson at the end of the day. Please put a name or tag/label/item on your scooter to help identify it.

At lunch and afternoon tea time a course will be set up on the courts and students can ride around safely. The course will not involve any jumping.

ALL students MUST have a helmet. No Helmet No Riding No Exceptions.

Looking forward to seeing lots of students there Wednesday for a fun time.

Thanks

Ms Nelson

Canteen - Flexischools

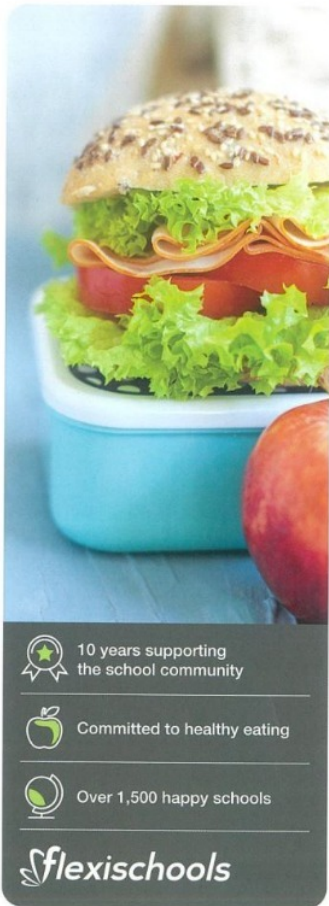
If you are wishing to place a canteen order for your child please find information below in regards to logging into Flexi schools. As it is a busy App sometimes there are delays so if possible if orders can be placed by the evening before you are wanting the order to ensure it comes through to the canteen.

Set up your account

- 1 **Download the Flexischools App**
Note: for iPhone and iPad please select 'Allow' notifications.
- 2 **Login/Register**
 - **Already a Flexischools user** – Enter your details and login. To save your login details select 'remember me'.
 - **New Flexischools user** – Click 'Register', enter your email address and follow the instructions in the email to set up your account. Once your account is set up, add new student; search for their school, enter student details and select their class.
- 3 **Top Up Your Account**
 To make ordering fast and simple, you can set up automatic top ups in your 'User Profile'.

Order

- 1 **Place your Order**
 On the app home screen, scroll down to view your school services such as canteen and uniforms. Then **swipe left and right** to view all available services.
- 2 **Make your Selection**
 Find the service and press 'Order', then select the items you wish to order.
- 3 **Make Payment**
 Select your payment option and complete payment to place your order.



- Children know what to expect in the classroom because they were there the previous day.
- Children recognise they are a part of a community; their peers and teachers expect and include them.
- Ongoing, extended conversations and learning are able to be built upon.
- Children learn to increasingly control their emotions simply by being in a consistent environment and on schedule every day.
- Absences can add up before you know it. Just missing out on 10% of the time can equate to 20 or more days of lost instruction. Even if these absences are explained or unexplained they all represent lost time in the classroom and a lost opportunity to learn. Missing out on these days at school can create gaps in their learning that are harder to fix later.
- Regular attendance at school for every student is essential if students are to achieve their potential, and increase their career and life options. Parents have a legal responsibility for the regular attendance of their child.
- Thornton Public School tracks whole school attendance weekly. If you receive a text message about your child's absence please respond with a reason. If no response is received a phone call from your child's class teacher will follow. If your child is an attendance concern, a school attendance meeting will be scheduled.

Freezy Friday



Ms Antonet Ziliotto
 Attendance Coordinator



Attendance

The Social and Emotional Benefit of On –Time Regular Attendance

There is significant benefits from consistent, on –time school attendance.

- A predictable schedule builds the confidence at home and school.

Competitors Only Swimming Carnival

This year, TPS held a competitors only swimming carnival at East Maitland Aquatic Centre. Students and teachers were blessed with a bright and sunny day to enjoy the pool and show off their swimming abilities. It was great to see up to 90 students attending this year with 19 talented swimmers making it through to the Maitland Zone Swimming Carnival.

Well done to all Thornton students that competed. I hope to see more at our carnival next year!

Mr Eneliko



https://thorntonps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1073/play_strong_thornton_flyer_2020.pdf

Girls Rugby League

GIRLS COME AND TRY CLINIC
 Ages 5 - 17 years
 Somerset Park Sporting Fields
 Sunday the 7th March
 10.00am - 12.00pm

For more details and to register go to:
<http://www.playstrong.com/play/>
 type in postcode 2322 to locate the clinic.

NRL

Zone Swimming Carnival

In stark contrast to the sunny day we had at our competitors only swimming carnival, TPS Maitland zone swimmers had to endure heavy rain and winds during their carnival. This didn't stop our school succeeding in multiple events throughout the day.

Successful swimmers will be informed by Mr Eneliko in the coming days about the Hunter Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to all of our students for representing Thornton Public School with pride.

Mr Eneliko



Cadets

TS TOBRUK

RECRUITING NOW

FUN, FRIEND AND WATER ACTIVITIES

The ANC is for youth turning 13 to 18, if you're turning 13 this year you can join now.

Cadets experience exciting personal challenges and opportunities for growth in an adventurous maritime environment.

- Teamwork
- New friends
- Leading and helping others
- Sailing, Boating, Seamanship skills
- Water safety
- Navy Ceremonial

The ANC is supported by trained staff who assist Cadets to conduct an exciting activity program. Navy and community groups fund and help support the ANC.

JOIN NOW
 CONTACT: 0413 757 693
www.navycadets.gov.au

Thornton Playgroup

Nutrition Snippet

WHAT IS THE HEALTHY LUNCH BOX?



A one-stop-shop for everything you need to know about packing a healthy lunch box.

Here's what you'll find on the [website](#):

- [Interactive lunch box builder](#) that helps parents and kids plan and pack a healthy lunch with foods they like.
- Lots of quick and easy [recipes](#) and [snack ideas](#).
- Informative [blogs](#) about healthy eating for the family.
- [Sign up](#) to receive the Healthy Lunch Box e-newsletter for ideas, updates and recipes.

healthylunchbox.com.au

 **Cancer Council**
Healthy Lunch Box