



## UPWEY SOUTH Primary School

Dear Students and Families of Class 1C,

Hello. My name is Tanya Howell. I am so excited to join the amazing Upwey South Learning Community in 2025.

Today you would have received correspondence from the school stating that I will be the classroom teacher of Class 1C for 2025. I am writing this letter to introduce myself, and begin the process of building meaningful relationships with the students and families in our class.

Meeting a new teacher and moving up into a new year level can make us feel excited, but also a little bit nervous. To assist you in becoming more comfortable about this change, I would like to tell you about myself.

I was born and raised in sunny South Africa, and lived in the outer western part of Johannesburg. In April this year, my husband Owen, and our two boys Jonah and Danny embarked on an adventure of a lifetime and moved to Victoria, Australia. It has been the best decision, and every day we are grateful to be here.

I graduated with a Bachelor of Education Degree, majoring in Early Childhood and Junior phases at the end of 2021. In South Africa, I taught four year-old kinder full time in 2022 and 2023. Since moving to Victoria in April, I have been working as a casual relief teacher in a few different primary schools, across all year levels. Most recently I have been working at Mount Dandenong Primary School. This transitional experience has been so beneficial as it has allowed exposure to the Victorian Curriculum, and an insight into the exciting learning cultures across the Dandenong Ranges. When we meet in-person some of you or your family members may recognise me, as I am also currently the Early Childhood Teacher for the three-year-old sessional group at Upwey Pre-School, where I will finish off at the end of this term.

In joining Upwey South Primary School, I aim to create a nurturing and supportive learning environment for all students. I encourage students to take on new challenges and set goals for their learning. "The more we practise, the better we become".

I thank you for welcoming me to the school, and look forward to getting to know you all.

Please note I will be popping into the school on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December to say hello to the students during the school day. For any parents/carers who may have the opportunity to visit the school on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December** or **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**, I will be at Upwey South Primary School all day on these dates. I will be available to say hello both before and after school.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Kind regards,

Tanya Howell 😊