

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Due to the wet weather and the forecast of another day or two of rain this week, we have chosen to postpone the House Athletics Carnival until the first Thursday back at school in Term 3, July 16. The ovals are still quite waterlogged from the rains earlier in May and at present they are very boggy with several large puddles evident. For reasons of safety, especially with shot put and high jump, we will have to wait for drier conditions. It is disappointing to have to do this, but the weather is beyond our control.

Letters will be going home to the parents of students in Years 2 and 3 who will be changing classes for Term 3. Mrs Rebecca Campbell has been appointed to Taigum SS for Semester 2 and her new class, 2C, will be up and running from 14 July in Room 19 in 'C' Block. Eight students from 2B will join with the Year 2s from 2/3H to form the class. Three students from 3J will go to the new 3H (formerly 2/3H) to make the two classes the same size. Eleven students in total will be moving. I prefer not to do this mid-year, but the new arrangement will have a much better student-teacher ratio and we expect this very big positive to outweigh the inconvenience of the change.

It appears that the worst of the swine flu epidemic is behind us. We have been extremely lucky at our school to be not affected at all. However, there still remains some risk so precautions will continue though a little more low-key. Below is the complete text of the latest bulletin from the Department of Education and Training. Please familiarise yourself with the main points so you are aware of what is occurring at the State level.

Impact of Human Swine Flu management on Queensland Schools

You may have heard recent media reports that national authorities have moved to a new "protect" response phase to manage the outbreak of H1N1 Influenza 09 (also known as Human Swine Influenza) in Australia.

Queensland's Deputy Premier and Health Minister Paul Lucas said Queensland would move to the new protect phase from Monday (June 22) but would keep its policy of school exclusions and school closures in place until the end of term on Friday (June 26).

Queensland's Chief Health Officer Dr Jeannette Young said the extra week of possible school closures followed by school holidays provided a circuit breaker, further lessening the spread and the potential impacts to the Queensland community.

Dr Young has advised that Queensland's efforts to restrict the spread of H1N1 Influenza 09 have been very effective and will continue until the end of Term 2 on 26 June.

It means that until Friday 26 June our school will:

- *continue to be prepared to act quickly to close the school to students if advised to do so by Queensland Health*
- *continue the current guidelines for seven-day time-out for any students returning to Queensland from areas of concern, including Victoria.*

Because the seven-day time-out guidelines for students ends on 26 June, there will be no restrictions on students entering Queensland from areas of concern including Mexico, the United States of America, Canada, Panama, Japan, Chile and Argentina or students that are returning from Victoria after that date.

In addition study tours and International Student Programs will no longer be affected by H1N1 Influenza 09 after 26 June.

For further information please contact the school or visit the Education Queensland website at www.education.qld.gov.au For further information about H1N1 Influenza 09 (Human Swine Influenza) contact 13 HEALTH or visit www.health.qld.gov.au/swineflu Education Queensland is working closely with Queensland Health and will continue to be guided by the advice provided by their medical experts in relation to any situations where action by schools would benefit the school and broader community.

Although we are in the final week of term, the school is still a very busy place. We have assembly and Aussie World excursion on Tuesday; Walking and Wheeling and Report Cards for Wednesday; Disco on Thursday and last day of term on Friday. We will all need a holiday after that!

The Report Cards will go home with students on Wednesday afternoon and these are the first formal written records of our students' first semester results for the year. Please ensure you see your child's report when it comes home and feel free to discuss it with your child's teacher or admin, if you feel this necessary.

Our school disco will commence at 5:30pm for eating and 6:15 pm for dancing on Thursday evening. As usual we will be using the Salvation Army Church as our venue. The theme is 'Socks and Scarves', so we can all rug up and not look out of place. Entry is \$5 per family and it should be fun. Unfortunately, I am part of a national sport meeting in Melbourne on Thursday and I will miss the disco. Mr Swales, of course, will be a very able

replacement. I'm sure all the students will fill me in on Friday about how the night was.

To end, having survived flood, disease and a strike in the last 10 weeks, I wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable winter vacation and I will see all our students back at school at 8:45am on Tuesday 14 July ready for the start of Term 3.



Mark Fisher
Principal

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Taigum Community Church and The Salvation Army, North Brisbane, both have teams of people who love to pray for our community. Both churches want to pray for our school. If you would like people to pray for you or your family, for any reason, you can pass your prayer requests on to me. I'll pray for you and I'll pass it on to the prayer teams at both of the churches. You can email your requests to me at steveu@su-chaplain.com or write them down and give them to the school office to be passed on to me.

I also wanted to tell you what I've been up to this term. I've been running a course called 'Friends for Life' with five Year 3 students. It's a great course about feeling confident and brave and helping us through the difficult things that we face. This week we are having a party to celebrate finishing the program.

Steve Unicomb

FROM THE LIBRARY



Gold Star Reading Club – our membership in the Gold Star Reading Club has now reached thirty-four! Congratulations to our eight newest members! Gold Star runs until the beginning of September so new members are always welcome. If students can please let me know when they join the Gold Star club, their name can be added to our Gold Star Wall of Fame.

Overdue Library Books – with the school holidays just days away, I ask for your help in returning all overdue books back to the Library. Some students' books are still overdue from last term and it would be great help for all books to be returned before the holidays. Thanks to all those students who returned their overdue books last week!

Kind regards

Theresa McArdle
Librarian

SCHOOL DANCE



Socks and scarf dance
Food available from 5:45pm
Dance begins at 6:15pm
Finishes at 8:15pm

Entry fee – still only \$5 per family



Remember to wear your scarf and socks, and bring your family

P & C NEWS



Our 5c and 10c fundraising is now in its third week. Last week I said I would tell you the fundraising totals of each class but I



forgot we still have one more Friday in this term, so I will announce the class totals in the first Newsletter next term. This week, the class coming first is 3J, second is 5G, and third is 4D. Don't forget we still have another 16 weeks to bring in coins, so there is still plenty of time to catch up.

At this stage, we are still seeking more volunteers for the tuckshop. Our most popular days seem to be either Tuesday or Thursday. We need at least 4 volunteers per day. If you haven't filled out a survey yet and would like to, please ask for a copy from the office.

The first Tuesday back, we will be having a P&C meeting at 9.30am in the staff room after assembly. New faces are always welcome. I hope to see you there.

Have a great week.

Therese Peachey
P&C President

CONSIDERED VOLUNTEERING?

Parent Aides of the Royal Children's Hospital visit families in their homes to provide parenting, social and emotional support and assistance.

Do you:

- Have a willingness to commit to families who find parenting challenging?
- Have a car, phone and spare time?
- Enjoy working in a supportive team?

If so, call Sharon at the Parent Aide Unit on 07 3636 7524 for further information.