

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

As I have said in past newsletters, much preparation for next year will happen this term. Next week, a very important sheet will be going home that allows you to give us feedback about your child's needs; their strengths and weaknesses; their friendship groups and any other information you think pertinent to placement next year. Many parents have responded in this fashion in past years and we try to accommodate everyone's needs. However, there will only be a maximum of two classes per year level, so naturally compromises will have to be made. Please keep an eye out for this form. It will be printed on bright yellow paper for easy visibility and will be included in next week's newsletter.

Included in this week's newsletter is a very different form, but I would still like plenty of parents to read and complete it. It is a parent survey about school operations. The information is anonymous and confidential and used to gauge how we are travelling as a school. Every three years, each State school in Queensland has to do a triennial school review, which is basically an internal process, but overseen and signed off by our District Director, Mr Tom Robertson. This survey, and other information gathered from parents, will complement the information gathered from students, from staff, and from the various tests and surveys that occur throughout the year. Your help with this survey will be greatly appreciated. It is printed on green paper.

I had a very pleasant evening last Tuesday at the Aspley State High School Speech Night. I spent my time listening to the wonderful achievements of the students and counting how many of them did their primary schooling at Taigum. As it turned out, there were quite a few and I was impressed with how well they had developed since leaving us. Below is a summary of how our former students went:

**Year 12** – *Craig Caugchi* - All Rounder, Sportsman of the Year, Modern History Prize, School Citizen Award; *Aaron Novley* - Graphics Prize

**Grade 11** – *Bradley Innes* - School Citizen Award, Physics Prize; *Peti Ngere* - School Citizen Award; *Andrew Fraser* - Hospitality Shield, Certificate 1 Hospitality; *Jasmine Walton* - Cultural Development Award Performing Arts, Drama Prize; *Ngarui Pearson* - ICT Award.

**Year 10** – *Marvin Babiano* - QUT Students with Potential; *Jerome Key* - QUT Students with Potential, Principal's Silver Award; *Jarrod Ritchie* - Principal's Bronze Award.

**Year 8** – *Alexandra Lascu* - Swimming Bronze Award, Athletics Bronze Award, Principal's Gold Award, School Citizen Award; *Dhanul Kottagodage* - Principal's Gold Award; *Daniel Innes* - Principal's Gold Award; *Tiany Harrison* - Principal's Silver Award; *Tara Coetzee* - Principal's Bronze Award.

A total of 14 different students from our school received awards and I congratulate them for their efforts. Five of them – Craig, Bradley, Daniel, Marvin and Alexandra, have their names on our Honour Board in the Office. On a personal note, my own son picked up the Year 10 English Award. I include this last point because I have a strong belief in the benefits of the State education system and I send my own children to State schools. Many like to denigrate State schools, particularly those in the secondary area, but I have found most of them to be filled with keen, hard working and caring staff who allow our students to fulfil their academic, vocational and personal aspirations. All our local high schools – Aspley, Sandgate, Bracken Ridge, Wavell and Craigslea offer great programmes in a huge number of areas. Choosing an education in one of these is far from the poor choice that many are happy to promote. If I might paraphrase a popular ad, it's a secondary education for the real world.

Thirty-three of our Year 6 students headed off to Kennilworth Camp this morning for three days of bushcraft, hiking, adventure and great fun. I'm sure there will be quite a few quieter households this evening in the Taigum Community with one off up north. I know the school seemed very quiet today. I'm sure the same can't be said for Kennilworth at present. We'll see them all back Wednesday afternoon, in a very exhausted state, I'm sure.

A final reminder that the Prep Orientation Day is coming up on Thursday, 5 November. Please remind anyone with Prep age students that this event will start with a discussion at 9am in the library, followed by a school tour and morning tea. All are welcome.



Mark Fisher  
Principal

## TAKE THE LOW CARBON DIET

Everyone has a part to play in addressing climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Queensland Government's *Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland* has set a target to reduce the State's household carbon footprint by a third by 2020. One way that Queenslanders can reduce their individual carbon footprint is by participating in the Low Carbon Diet program. The program provides information and resources to encourage Queenslanders to work together to reduce their carbon emissions and contribute to the global climate change solution. The 30-day program helps people save money, energy and our environment by challenging households to reduce their carbon emissions by 2000 kilos a year. Some simple actions that households can take include:

- only use the dishwasher when it's full
- wash your clothes in a cold water wash

- hang washing on the line rather than use a dryer
- turn off the lights
- change to energy saving light globes (CFLs)
- encourage others to live ClimateSmart

If your household is serious about wanting to address the impacts of climate change in Queensland, now is the time to take action – register your interest for the Low Carbon Diet by visiting the ClimateSmart website at [www.climatesmart.qld.gov.au](http://www.climatesmart.qld.gov.au)

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN



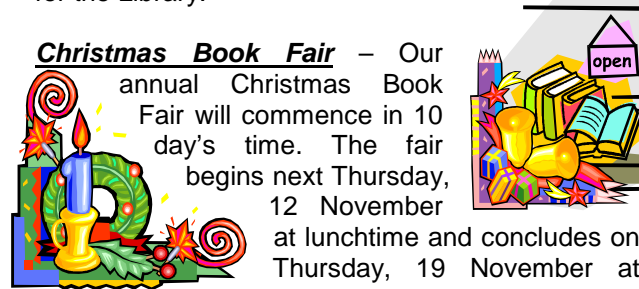
This Friday night, 6 November, The Salvation Army at Taigum is holding an event called Momentum Eventum. It is for high school kids, but Year 7's are invited to attend as well. It is going to be heaps of fun with a jumping castle, a band, heaps of competitions and prizes, the Top 20 Disco Song Countdown and other cool stuff. It goes from 7pm till 9pm and costs \$5.

Steve Unicomb

## FROM THE LIBRARY

**Book Club Issue 7** orders have arrived back at the school. They will be distributed to students today (Monday, 2 November). Thank you for your continuing support of Book Club. Through the commission we receive from Scholastic, we are able to purchase extra resources for the Library.

**Christmas Book Fair** – Our annual Christmas Book Fair will commence in 10 day's time. The fair begins next Thursday, 12 November at lunchtime and concludes on Thursday, 19 November at 9am.



**Colouring-in competition sheets** are now available from the Library. Entries are due in by Friday of next week to allow for the judging of all the entries and the awarding of prizes. Each class winner will receive a \$5 book voucher which can be spent at the Book Fair. Winners' names will be announced at Assembly on the Tuesday during the fair.



**Overdue Library Books** – Thank you to all those students who have returned their overdue books. As there are only four weeks of Library left for this year, it would be great help if **all overdue books**

could be returned to the Library as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Theresa McArdle  
Librarian

## STATE OF ORIGIN JERSEY RAFFLE



We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who supported the State of Origin Jersey Raffle. Without a doubt, this has been the biggest raffle we have run so far. The P&C collected a huge amount of \$3519.

Unfortunately, there can only be one winner and that person is Nicole Deadman of Brighton. Congratulations Nicole! You are highly envied by many.

Congratulations must also go to the person/s who sold the most tickets. Thank you to the parents of Trey Decourcey from the ECDU for selling \$190 worth of tickets. We'd also like to acknowledge the efforts of one of our Year 6 students, Bron-yur Thompson, who sold 160 tickets and another ECDU student, Edison Hausler-Doo for selling \$120 worth. Well done.

## SCHOOL BANKING

We'd like to remind everyone that students can do their banking at school every **Thursday**.

Student banking teaches children how to develop good saving habits at an early age. It's easy - children can open up a Commonwealth Bank [Youthsaver](http://www.commbank.com.au/youthsaver) account and make regular deposits while they're at school. If your child doesn't have an account with the Commonwealth Bank, please obtain a pack from the school office.



## WAVELL STATE HIGH SCHOOL

*Orientation Day for students*

*in Year 8 2010*

**Monday 7 December 2009**

**Assembly Hall**

**Telopia Avenue, Wavell Heights**

**8.30am for 8.45am start**

**3.00pm finish**

**(Morning Tea provided for parents at 10.00am)**

**Students to bring/wear:**

Primary School Uniform

Notepad & pens

Morning Tea & Lunch

**Shop Hours – Monday 7 December**

Stationery 2.00pm – 7.00pm

Clothing 3.00pm – 7.00pm

Used Clothing (D Block) 3.00pm – 7.00pm

*Applications still welcome.*

*Enrolment Enquiries: Contact : Jane Bedewi,*

*Enrolment Officer on 33500328*