

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

The Year 7 students returned from camp on Friday afternoon, after having a great four days at Tallebudgera. Though they were all very tired, they told me of the fun they'd had, especially the trip to Sea World and the water activities, and they made the usual complaints which are always about food. Fancy having to eat vegetables! Our camps are now over for 2008 and we are already planning new venues for 2009, but more about that at a later date. Term Three has now begun in earnest and all classes have settled into a pattern of work that will continue for the next nine weeks, save for the two days holiday in Exhibition Week. Over the winter vacation you would have read your child's Report Card so you will be very aware of their strengths and weaknesses. Our teachers are also aware of these and will be concentrating on every student making improvements across the board. You will get the opportunity to discuss student progress with class teachers at our Parent-Teacher Interview evening on September 8. Of course parents are welcome at any other times to talk to teachers about any issues that arise.

Taigum continues to be part of the Brisbane City Council's Active School Travel Programme and our 'Walking Wheeling Wednesdays' will be happening through Term 3. Last Wednesday, even though it was rainy, we had 60% of our students walking, riding or car pooling. This is a great result. It looks like this Wednesday will be wet also, but I'm sure we will do well once again. The following Wednesday, July 30, we are having a 'Big Breakfast' to highlight active travel, so mark that day in your diaries – a hot breakfast for \$1 for all students and parents at 8am. Included in our newsletter this week is a local area guide to walking, cycling and public transport which might be of use when planning your trip to school. We are currently looking for parent volunteers for the next part of the programme, the 'Walking School Bus', which is a pair of adults walking a group of students to school. If you can help out with this once a week, we'd love to hear from you. BCC provides reflective vests, water bottles, mobile phones and training for all parent volunteers in the programme.

I have seen plenty of promotions for 'Christmas in July' in the media. I think the

idea behind it is to try to replicate the Christmas feeling in the middle of the year. It is interesting that we need a special reason to be pleasant to each other and feel good about the world. I suppose this is difficult with all the negative reporting of events, the sensationalising of the worst in people and the constant predictions of doom, whether from global warming, disease, disaster or terrorism. This highlights to me a very important function of schools. That is, to provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment for our young people. I like to think of the school as a sanctuary where we can provide a buffer from the harshness of everyday life. Our teachers try to do this in their rooms and I know that parents are very supportive of this idea. I was talking to a former student of mine the other day. He is now 29 and still sees the years he spent at primary school as the most enjoyable of his life. I hope that we can provide this same experience to our generation of students.

Today being the 21 July, it is the 39th anniversary of Apollo 11's moon landing. This is my favourite moment in history in my lifetime. On 21 July 1969 President Richard Nixon said, "For one priceless moment in the whole history of man, all the people on this Earth are truly one". That's the only proper Christmas in July, I have ever experienced.

Mark Fisher
Principal

SCHOOL BANKING

There will be **no school banking** this Thursday, 24 July.

P & C NEWS

Hello Everyone. Welcome back to school for Term 3. We hope you all had a great break.

First of all, once again this year, Taigum State School has signed up for The Bracken Ridge Plaza's School Rewards Program. I'm sure many of you are aware of how it works. The school receives \$500.00 just for signing up and we are also in the running for \$10,000 (first prize). There are 8 local schools participating and you can earn points for our school for each purchase made at the plaza stores. All you have to do is, every time you or your

family make a purchase, simply place your receipt in the "**Taigum State School**" box at the Plaza. It's that simple. So, get your grannies, granddads, aunts, uncles, cousins or even your friends involved, and do your shopping at the Centre that is supporting our school. Just think what \$10,000 could do for our kids.

Also, our Annual Fathers Day Stall and Raffle will be held again in September, so any donation, however big or small, would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the Uniform Shop.

Our monthly P&C Meeting is being held this Tuesday 22 July at 9.30am, straight after Assembly in the Staffroom. All are very welcome to attend, so drop in for a tea/coffee and a chat. It's always nice to see some new faces.
Have a great week
P & C Committee

FROM THE TUCKSHOP



Show Time ~ Show Time ~ Show Time

Tuck shop is going to bring the Ekka to you this year with our special "Taigum Tuck Shop's Terrific Show Bag" filled with Healthy Choice Selections. It will be on sale from the Tuck shop on Tuesday 5 August for \$4 per bag. So, please look out for your order form coming to you soon.

As of Tuesday 22 August, our new and improved Tuck Shop Menu will be up and running. We hope that our students are able to enjoy a great selection of foods.

The Tuck Shop is currently running low on volunteers, especially Thursdays. We lost a volunteer from our Thursday roster to full time work (a big thanks must be extended to Ducky for all his help), so if you are looking to help out in any way please come and see us in the Tuck Shop or the Uniform Shop. If Thursday doesn't suit you then we do have other days to fill. Hoping everyone has a great week.
Tuck Shop Committee



STOPPING AT BUS STOPS

Are you aware that since December 1999 the term "No Standing" was replaced with "No Stopping" and drivers must not



No stopping sign

stop on that part of the road to which the sign applies?

These signs are normally found near crossings, intersections and bus stops and sometimes have restrictions, for example:

7:00 AM to 9:00 AM, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM School Days or Buses Excepted.

There may also be a yellow edge line which also means stopping is not allowed. These lines can be used either on their own or together with the no stopping signs.

If you must park near a bus stop, be aware of the distances before and after the zone. Motorists must not stop within **20 metres before** a sign indicating a bus stop (the approaching end) and **10 metres after** the sign (the departing end of the zone). The only exceptions to this are when other parking control signs apply for this area.

If you would like more information on this or any other road/child/bike safety or other transport issue, please phone Queensland Transport on 1300 360 135.

Fancutts Tennis Academy

will continue the tennis program at the school courts during Term 3 on Wednesdays.



Beginners 3 – 3.45pm Players 3.45 – 4.30pm. Friendly Tournaments/Hot Shots for trophies are on Saturdays 11am – 1pm during school term. All enquiries contact Fancutts on 3857 2922 in office hours.

Bracken Ridge Junior Cricket Club Sign On Days

will take place on Saturday 2 August from 10am to 12 noon and Saturday 9 August from 11am to 1pm at McPherson Park, Denham Street (next to Bracken Ridge State School). The season starts on 11 October (Term 4). Boys and Girls from age 6 to 15 are welcome to sign up. Full season fees are \$120 per player or \$180 total for two or more players. Half season cost is \$100. If you are unable to go to the ground to sign on, forms are available on the website at www.brjcc.org.au or email teams@brjcc.org.au for further information.

Choirs are cool, want to know why?...

The Queensland Youth Choir is holding an information evening on Wed 23 July for young people aged 5 to 25 with an interest in singing. For info and to register interest go to www.qldyouthchoir.com.au or phone 3257 4905.