

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Well, wasn't our Anzac Service a fantastic event. I have never enjoyed a school ceremony more. The organisation by Mrs McColm was excellent, the morning tea from Lynne, Amanda and the other P&C ladies was fantastic and our students were very well behaved and respectful. All our invited guests were highly impressed and thoroughly enjoyed the proceedings.

The next couple of weeks have a very sporting flavour about them. This week is the beginning of Winter Interschool Sport and our Netball and Football teams are getting into shape for a very competitive season. The entire District's netball is played on our ovals and I invite all parents down to watch. 400 players on 16 courts make for a great spectacle. Our Rugby League players will be trying out for the Met North Team on Tuesday and Wednesday and we wish them the best of luck as I expect to see several of them make the grade. Rugby League players will also be involved in the 'ARL Development Cup' on Wednesday week. All our Year 4-7 students will be running in our School Cross Country next week. The Year 4s and 5s will do a 1 km loop while the 6s and 7s will do 1.5 km. Our winners, provided they meet the qualifying times, will compete in the Bramble Bay Cross Country on Tuesday 20 May.

I'm keenly looking forward to all the sports reports on parade over the next few weeks to see how well our young athletes go.

Mark Fisher  
Principal

### FROM THE LIBRARY

This term promises to be a very busy and exciting one with the library hosting two special events:

**Book Fair** – Our annual Education week Book Fair will commence on Thursday 15 May and will run for a week. The theme of this year's fair is 'Beach Party Book Fair'. More details in the following newsletters.

**Author Visit** – Our school is welcoming author/illustrator Michael Salmon on Monday 2 June. Michael will give the students a talk for an hour and from all accounts, it is very entertaining. He will display some of the 80 books he has written and select some students from the audience to participate in some of the cartoons he draws and processes involved

in writing and illustrating books. It will be a wonderful opportunity for all students from Prep to Year 7 to meet a very famous and talented Australian author. The cost per child will only be \$2 as the school is subsidising this event. Parents and children under Prep age are welcome to attend free of charge.

**Software Offer** – Ed Alive is offering parents the opportunity to purchase educational software for \$10. A brochure is enclosed with this Newsletter and orders together with payment, are due back to the library by 9 May. There are 21 Software items available for purchase and order forms are on the back of the brochure. Payment can be made by cash or cheque made payable to Taigum State School. This is the last time these offers will be available. **Book Club Issue 3** orders are due in by 7 May.

Thanking you

Theresa McArdle  
Librarian

### P&C NEWS

Just a reminder about our Mother's day stall and raffle coming up for next week. Any small donations for this fundraiser would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the uniform shop or the tuckshop. Let's hope this will be a fun event...

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the setup of the Anzac morning tea. Without your help the morning would not have been a success. Thankyou to you all...

Uniform Shop ~

Ann has just received delivery of the new shirts sporting the new embroidered school logo, however no size 8 shirts are available at this stage. Also with the cooler mornings creeping up we have our winter jackets maroon in colour also sporting the school logo great value at \$20.00.

### TUCKSHOP NEWS

For this term ONLY we will be selling Dagwood Dogs. The cost of these will be \$2.00 including tomato sauce.

Also, as of this Friday, the tuck shop will be opening for an extended time for the interschool sports. We will be selling only cold drinks and snack foods for the extra two hours that we will be opened.

As you all know the tuck shop can only run with all the fantastic people who volunteer their time, so if anyone has any spare time that you could offer us to help out in the mornings this would be much appreciated. We try and start around 8 to 8-15am and go till 12 noon. If you are interested, please come and see us in the tuck shop or in the uniform shop. Here is one for the road

Q) Why should you never upset a witch?  
A) Because you never know when she might fly off the (broom) handle!

### **ASPLEY STATE HIGH SCHOOL**

"Expo Enrolment Tours" – Wednesday  
7 May 2008

Guided tours available through our excellent facilities by a member of the administration.

**COME AND SEE WHY ASPLEY HIGH IS A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN!**

Enrolment Packages available from the Aspley High School Office.

651 Zillmere Road, Aspley

Phone: (07) 3863 9222

### **National testing for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9**

On 13, 14 and 15 May more than 200 000 students across Queensland will take part in the first national literacy and numeracy tests. The tests will see all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sitting the same tests as their Interstate counterparts, replacing the previous State-based tests. It is also the first time Queensland Year 9 students are involved in the testing.

The test results will provide useful information about how all State and non-state school students are performing in literacy and numeracy at their year level in comparison to their peers across Australia. The literacy assessment will focus on areas of reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar while the numeracy testing will cover measurement, chance and data, space, working mathematically, algebra function and pattern.

Results from the tests will be used for reports to parents, school reporting to their communities, and reporting by States and Territories to form a national overview. The tests will also help teachers identify key areas for learning during the rest of the school year.

While it's important that students perform at their best, it's also important that students

are not unduly stressed. Here are some general tips for beating test nerves:

- Get at least eight hours sleep
- Take time out from test preparation to do something relaxing and enjoyable
- Exercise and eat healthy meals regularly
- Develop a time management plan for studying
- Ask an older sibling or friend who has been through tests to give some tips on how to study
- If feeling anxious, take a few moments to breathe deeply.

For more information on the national testing, visit [www.qsa.qld.edu.au](http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au)

### **Gold Star Reading Club is here again**

- It's bigger and brighter than ever!

The Gold Star Reading Club is here again and commences on Thursday 1 May at Brisbane City Council libraries. The Gold Star Reading Club can help your child to have fun while developing their reading skills and membership is FREE! For your child to be a part of this exciting reading program, visit your local Council library and register them for Gold Star Membership. When joining, children collect the new 16 page bright, exciting and fun-filled Bumper Book which contains lots of fun quizzes, puzzles and reading ideas. After that, it's easy for them to collect gold stars and other incentives each month by:

- reading two books per month from either their school library or local Council library. (independently or with assistance).
- writing the titles of the books on their Gold Star Reading Club Progress Chart in the Bumper Book.
- visiting your local Council library each month to earn special stickers and enter competitions to win great prizes.

In August, all Club members and their families will also receive an invitation to a special Awards Ceremony. Children attending will receive a Gold Star Certificate of Participation and a cool 2008 Gold Star Reading Club medallion. The Gold Star Reading Club is a great way to encourage your children to read regularly and to enjoy some of the fantasy, humour and adventure stories available at both your school and local Council Library. Don't let your child miss out.