

Dear Parents

I thought that this week I would update everyone on all the various activities that are happening at school that I haven't reported on lately.

Our Walking Wheeling Wednesdays have been well patronised with the one on Day 2 of the term being our best yet. 76.8% of students were active travellers on that day. Last week we dropped off a little with only 67% participating (see below). The upper school have been our champion walkers and riders. Year 7A had a 100% two weeks ago and our 5/6 and 6 classes are regularly around the 80% mark. Very shortly, the second phase of the Active School Travel Strategy will begin with Bicycle Safety Courses for our Year 5 students. Notes have already gone home to the children involved who will have four 1 hour lessons on how to look after their bikes and tips on riding safely. They also get a free safety check from the Strathpine Bicycle Centre. I must thank Councillor Victoria Newton who has very kindly subsidised the cost so our students only have to pay \$5. The first lesson begins on May 20.

Walking Wheeling Wednesday Results

April 30

Class	%
Prep A	38.89
Prep B	63.16
1	64.71
1/2	59.09
2	74.07
3A	56.52
3B	61.90
4	81.82
4/5	75.00
5	61.54
5/6	73.91
6	80.77
7A	73.68
7B	66.67
Total	67.10

Believe it or not, Education Qld has already started the process for transfers in 2009. A staffing officer came out last week to discuss the implications for us. I am pleased to report that overall we expect little change to the personnel we already have. Of course, enrolment numbers can change that, but it looks like 2009's staff

will not be very different. In the shorter term, there will be a few changes as our SEC teacher Mrs Mammoliti will be taking leave at the end of term to have her second child and Mrs Hoad will be coming back to Year 3 after maternity leave.

Parents often comment on the coverage schools get in the local papers (Chronicle, Bayside Star), usually because we miss out. 2008 has been a bumper year for the students, parents and staff of Taigum State School. So far, we have had 7 articles and photos in the papers with one more next week, I believe. The subjects of these items have been quite diverse including Active School Travel, Adopt-A-Cop, ICT, Sport Training and Meet the Principal. It's good to be noticed and have exposure in the broader community for the good things we are doing here as often the media only comments on the negatives in education. I'm glad we are able to show lots of the positives. I thank all the people involved in promoting these initiatives and I hope we continue to excel through this year and long into the future.

Thursday is Cross Country Day for our Years 4-7 students and I invite all interested parents to attend. Our first race will commence on our oval at 9:30 am and all races should be completed by 11 o'clock. Please see below for the full itinerary.

Cross Country Thursday 8 May		
Group	Start Time	Distance
Yr 4 Girls	9:30 am	1 km
Yr 4 Boys	9:40 am	1 km
Yr 5 Girls	9:50 am	1 km
Yr 5 Boys	10:00 am	1 km
Yr 6 Girls	10:10 am	1.5 km
Yr 6 Boys	10:20 am	1.5 km
Yr 7 Girls	10:30 am	1.5 km
Yr 7 Boys	10:40 am	1.5 km

Mark Fisher
Principal

FROM THE LIBRARY

Book Club Issue 3 is due this Wed 7 May. Orders, together with payment, need to be sent to the library. Payment can be made by cash, credit card or cheque made payable to Taigum State School.

Ed Alive Software Offer closes this Friday 9 March. Payment, together with your order, needs to be sent to the library. Payment can be made by cash or cheque made payable to Taigum State School.

Book Fair – Our May Book Fair commences next Thur 15 May. Opening times will be published in next week's Newsletter. A colouring competition will be held in conjunction with the Book Fair and Scholastic have donated a \$5 Book Fair voucher for the winner of each class. Competition entries are available this week from the library.

Michael Salmon's Author Visit takes place on Mon 2 June at a cost of \$2 per child. Parents and children under Prep age are most welcome to attend free of charge. There will be a selection of Michael's books for sale after the visit and Michael will be happy to autograph any book purchases.

Thanking you

Theresa McArdle
Librarian

P&C NEWS

Just one last reminder about our Mother's day stall and raffle, all donations must be in by tomorrow Wed 7th. Also, keep those raffle tickets coming in. All sold and unsold tickets must be returned by Wed also... Great prizes are on offer.

The stall will be held on Thurs 8th and Fri 9th morning at 8.15am-8.45am outside the tuckshop lovely gifts are priced from 50c-\$5.00 so don't forget that special mum. Raffle will be drawn on Friday morning.

During the first week of June we will be holding a fundraiser for a pie drive. Menu's and price lists will be sent out so look out for those in schoolbags.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Ann has received stock of the new Library bags, great value at \$5.50 each, and don't forget our winter jackets for these cooler mornings only \$20.00 each.



Not in front of me!

The car in the next lane has a driver who realises it's left turn only and wants to come into mine... Well, not in front of me!!

My lane of traffic has stopped. A car from the other direction wants to turn across us to the side street... Well, not in front of me!!

A bus has indicated to leave the bus stop and although I am supposed to give way... Well, not in front of me!!

The traffic ahead is slow and congested, the lights have turned amber and I accelerate because... Well, not in front of me!!

All these examples cause congestion in the other lanes as well. Please be considerate as you may need to change lanes one day and you may get the driver who thinks "**Well, not in front of me!!**"

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.

LOST PROPERTY

Could all parents of Prep children please check that your child has the correct jumper as another child is missing theirs.