

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

It is my great pleasure to inform you that Education Qld, in response to our large influx of enrolments this term, has appointed a new teacher to our staff, effective from today. A new Year 6 class will be formed immediately and classes from Years 4 to 6 will have to be restructured to accommodate these changes.

At present, our upper school classes and their enrolments, look like this:

Yr 4 - 29 Yr 4/5 - 25 Yr 5 -28
Yr 5/6 - 28 Yr 6 - 36
Yr 7 - 2 classes of 25

With the new class it will look like this:

Yr 4A - 25 Yr 4B - 25 Yr 5A - 25
Yr 5B - 25 Yr 6A - 22 Yr 6B - 22
Yr 7A - 25 Yr 7B - 25

As you can see, the immediate effect of the new teacher will be smaller class sizes and conversion of both composite classes into straight year levels. Mrs Christine Gould will be the new Year 6B teacher. Mrs Gould has worked in Year 3 in Semester One and in our SEC since then. She will start today but will spend her first week setting up her new room, writing curriculum programmes and consulting with other teachers. This week will also be spent organising the movement of students into these classes. Mr Swales and I have talked with all class teachers, the students and some parents but we will contact in writing, all parents whose children will be moving. I understand that a move at this time of the year is less than perfect, but the end result will be better for all concerned in the longer term.

Housing the new class has led to a complete revamp of 'C' Block and adjoining rooms. Mrs Gould's Year 6s will be using half of the former library area. The other half has been converted into an activities room and computer lab. Mrs McArdle's former work room is now Steve's, the Chaplain's Room and what we call the tower (at the end of 'D' Block) will be used solely for LOTE lessons with Mr Buekema. I think with these changes we are using the school's facilities and resources much more effectively and ultimately providing a much better environment for our students.

Interschool sport is starting on Friday for three weeks this term and five weeks in Term 4. It is great to see that approximately 80 of our upper school students are involved which is about 60% of the total. All will be playing touch football, the girls at Bracken Ridge State High School and the boys

at Nudgee College. As always, buses are costly items to hire and the summer interschool season will cost \$40, which can be paid in two \$20 installments. I am looking forward to hearing of Taigum State School's touch footy exploits over the next couple of months.

Speaking of money, last week our voluntary contributions invoices went out and I was impressed with how many families responded so quickly. As I said last week, all monies are channeled directly into resources for students. Thank you to all who have contributed and keep up the great support.

With the warmer weather rapidly approaching, it is timely to remind all students and parents that we take sun safety very seriously so we want all students to be wearing hats at all times in the playground. Our simple rule of 'no hat no play' is enforced strongly so as to protect sensitive skin from the harshness of our Queensland sunlight. Please don't forget this important safety rule.

Below are the details of our new service to parents, our eNewsletter. This will be sent directly to you by email thus cutting out the huge problem of newsletters getting lost before they get home. I encourage you to participate in this online newsletter by registering on their website. 21st Century communication has finally arrived.



Mark Fisher
Principal

eNewsletter

As a part of our school's ICT focus, we are excited to inform you that we are going to offer interactive, graphically rich, full colour electronic newsletters to all our parents as of this week.

The concept of eNews is similar to the printed paper newsletters which we already send out each week, but with added benefits. eNews is personally delivered directly to your email inbox via the Internet. Those who currently do not have internet access at home will still receive our traditional paper newsletters.

The eNews service will contain our normal weekly newsletter but will also have more information on Academic, Health, Sport and other areas that may interest you as well as colour pictures, added inserts and much more of the students' own work that can't be fitted on our A3 paper copies. Also the whole family can share the success stories of your children as these eNewsletters can be forwarded to anyone else you choose who has an email account.

To sign up for our eNewsletter please type in the link below into the address bar of your browser. Australian Newsletter Services has made the signup process automated and it only takes a few minutes to follow the prompts. Your email address will only be used to send out school eNews and nothing else. It will not be passed on to a third party.

http://mailouts.austnews.com.au/subscription/taigum_ss_signup.html

If you experience any difficulties please feel free to contact AustNews IT department on 1800 245 077 or email help@austnews.com.au.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

A gigantic THANK YOU to all those who knitted squares for us. The rugs have been completed and will go overseas soon.

Student Council are also organising a "Generously Giving Gold" for World Vision's Child Poverty Programs. We are asking each child to bring in a \$1 coin to make an outline of India – which is where the money will go – about 3.5 metres, and then we will fill it in.

Thanks everyone
From the Student Council

FROM THE (NEW) LIBRARY

Our new library is up and running and all comments to date have been very favourable! Although some areas are still in the throes of being completed, classes and lunch time sessions have resumed. Older library monitors are taking the younger students through the various areas during lunch times this week and student lunch time activities will resume next week.

Gold Star Reading Club

The Gold Star Reading Club is continuing and new members are always welcome. All it takes is to complete the registration form and take it to your local library. Please let me know if you do join, so your 'gold star' can be added to our display.

P & C NEWS

Unfortunately, due to a lack of volunteers, we have to cancel the Fathers' Day Stall.

On the positive side, we will be having a Fathers' Day Raffle, with absolutely fabulous prizes up for grabs for our wonderful Dads! For the class that sells the most tickets, each child will receive a McDonalds meal voucher. Raffle tickets will be sent home this week, and need to be back by Wednesday next week.



If you can spare an hour or two a week, please let

Lynn or Mara know; the P & C exists to benefit everybody's children, so come on and lend a hand, and have some fun at the same time.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Have a great week P & C committee

BRIGHTON SPRING FAIR on 14 SEPTEMBER

The Brighton Spring Fair will feature great rides, stalls, delicious healthy food and loads of FREE entertainment, PLUS thousands of dollars in prizes to be won. Also, watch politicians and community leaders battle it out in the CAMEL CUP!! Go to Brighton State School, 2 North Road, Brighton on Sunday, 14 September, from 10am to 3pm! To download order forms for discount all day ride passes, or the colouring competition entry form go to www.brightonss.eq.edu.au/SpringFair/stalls.htm

REDCLIFFE LEAGUES SOFTBALL

Redcliffe Leagues Softball Association is holding a FREE Come & Try Softball Day on Saturday 13 Sept 2008 from 10.30am to 3.00pm at Betty Paxton Fields, Talobilla Park, Boardman Road, Redcliffe.

The "Come & Try" Day is being held in an attempt to recruit new players of all ages to Association clubs. Participants will be invited to participate in any of the following sessions organised by qualified coaches and sign on with a club of their choice (bring along a hat and shoes - and a glove if you have one). 10.30am - Learn how to catch and field, 12.30pm - Learn how to pitch, 1.30pm - Learn how to bat. Please visit the Brighton Roosters Softball Club information table for more information on your local club or phone our Club President, Graham McLeary on 3269 6531 or Secretary Tracey Rhys on 3269 9919 (a/h).

