Dear Parents

With our new school year well under way and all our students settled into their classroom routines, it is a good time to talk about some of the other parts of our school’s operations, but first an update on our School Captains for 2014.

2014 School Captains
I wrote about the selection process last week and this week I am able to announce our Captains for 2014. They are as follows:

School Captains: Beatrice Rodriguez and Mika O’Bery from Year 7
Vice captains: Fusail Dean and Adeline Key from Year 6

These four students did a tremendous job during the selection process and I expect great things from them through the year. Already our captains have spoken on assembly and explained some of the ways they will work in their final year at school. All four will be presented with their badges on the assembly on February 21. This year, we are also going to add two new captain positions to our list of school leaders to better represent the diversity of our students. We are going to appoint an Indigenous Captain and a Multicultural Captain, both of whom, will be chosen by me from the Year 7 group. I will announce their names next week, once their parents have been informed.

Active School Travel
2014 marks the second year at our second turn of being an Active Travel School. The Active Travel programme is run in conjunction with the Brisbane City Council and its goals are having more students walking, riding or catching public transport to school and decreasing traffic congestion. When it is done well, it is a win for the school and a win for the community. Our students get fitter and our roads get quieter. At Taigum State School, our big focus is what we call Walking Wheeling Wednesday where we encourage everyone to try to walk, to ride, to scooter, to bus, to train or to car pool to get to school on Wednesdays. Of course, we’d like all students to do that every day but that gets difficult for some families so we concentrate on the Wednesdays. Our first official Walking Wheeling Wednesday will be next week, February 19 and I’d love to see just about everybody involved. I shall send a letter home to our Preps and new students, informing them in more detail of how the programme works. This week on assembly, we will be launching the programme for 2014 with Roadstar, Red and Green coming to entertain and educate us as only they can. Those who have seen these three before will know how much fun we are in for. Come along and enjoy the show if you can.

Active After School Swimming
Late last year, we applied for Federal funding to run sports programmes for our students after school. We were successful with our submission and we will be able to run these activities through the year. For Term 1, we have chosen swimming. For the next seven weeks, a swimming coach – Pyet, from the Zillmere PCYC will run learn to swim classes for our youngest students. Those classes will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, with each child receiving seven free one hour lessons. We have had a good response to this initiative and have no spare places this term, but we will be running the swimming programme again in Term 4. Terms 2 and 3 activities are yet to be confirmed, but I will let you know what will be happening as soon as firm arrangements are in place.
Interschool Sport

Interschool sport is available to all students in Years 4 to 7. This term we will be playing touch football. The boys will play at Bracken Ridge State High School and the girls on our school oval at Taigum. We had our first trials on Friday and our coaches were overwhelmed with the interest shown, especially from the Years 4 and 5 students. The season consists of six rounds, played over three Fridays (2 rounds per afternoon), the dates of which are as follows:

- Rounds 1 and 2: Friday 28 February
- Rounds 3 and 4: Friday 14 March
- Rounds 5 and 6: Friday 28 March

Should there be rain, the Fridays between these dates will be used to make up the missed matches. Students new to interschool sport will be able to purchase the Taigum State School Sport shirt from the Uniform Shop. This special shirt has their name and a number of their choice printed on it to recognise their effort, involvement and commitment to interschool sport.

Mark Fisher
Principal

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**Students of the Week**

- Prep B - Jorjah for being our first sound champ!
- Prep CD - Ysabella for following class rules and always doing her best work
- Year 1L - Trang for being a respectful and friendly class member
- Year 1N - Cathy for working conscientiously in class at all times
- Year 2F - Rhiana for being an involved member of the class during warm-ups
- Year 2HS - Savitha for working really hard in Year 2. Well done!
- Year 2J - Azariah for working really hard in Year 2. Well done!
- Year 3B - Harsimran for excellent participation in class
- Year 3TM - Jaimey for fantastic behaviour and participating well in class
- Year 4G - William for participating well in all class activities
- Year 4MI - Akhem for having the neatest book work and outstanding class manners
- Year 5WR - Nicholas for a great start to Year 5 by working hard and listening well
- Year 6S - Shaunmanning for working very well every day with great attention to bookwork
- Year 6/7G - Trieste for a terrific effort during maths
- Year 7C - Stephy for actively involving herself in all aspects of schooling
- LOTE - Sara

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**FROM THE OFFICE**

**SCHOOL SWIMMING**

Please remember all students must wear a swimming cap and rash vest so please remember to pack these items along with your child’s togs and towel.

Only those students with an illness substantiated by a letter from their parent or a medical certificate will be excused from swimming lessons.

Class swimming lessons for your child are held on either Monday or Tuesday. Please ensure they have packed their swimming items. If your child is wearing their swim wear to school, it is their responsibility to remember a change of underwear for after their lesson. The office will no longer be making phone calls home for these items.

**PERSONAL DETAILS UPDATE**

If you have recently changed your address, contact phone number or emergency contacts, please complete a form at the office to update your details.
ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is absent from school due to ill health or other reasons, please phone the Absence Line on 3632 9866, or alternatively, send an email to admin@taigumss.eq.edu.au or a note to your child’s class teacher.

For auditing purposes all student absences must be explained.

TAIGUM STATE SCHOOL
UNIFORM POLICY

- Students must wear school uniform at all times unless directed by staff.

- Students may wear a watch or plain studs for pierced ears. **No other jewellery is to be worn.**

- Students are required to wear a swimming cap and sunsafe shirt over swimming togs during lessons.

- The following types of clothing may not be worn to school i.e. fluorescent clothing, clothing that is not sunsafe or contains offensive/inappropriate slogans or images.

- Shoes must be **enclosed** and black. Students without suitable footwear may be excluded from playgrounds and class activities. Footwear must allow safe and comfortable movement by students when playing.

Regards
Lynne Tunny
Deputy Principal

C2C TEXTS

Students in Years 3-7 are required to use a number of texts during English lessons. It is necessary for students to own or have access to these texts. Parents may purchase these texts for their children, or participate in the Student Resource Scheme which allows students access to all required texts during class time.

**The cost of the Student Resource Scheme is set at $20 per student for the entire year.**

If texts are purchased, the cost ranges from approximately $35 to $110 depending on the student’s year level.

**If you wish to participate in the Student Resource Scheme please make your payment to the office by 28 February 2014.**
FROM THE LIBRARY

The library is open first break every day, and second break Monday and Tuesday only.
Remember - “The more you read, the more you’ll know. The more you know, the more places you will go.” Dr Seuss
We hope to see you soon.

FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop will be open on Fridays between 8.15am and 11.30am. The new tuckshop menu can be found on the Taigum SS website or you collect a copy from the office.
We are always looking for extra help so if you have some time on a Friday and would like to volunteer in the tuckshop, please leave your name and contact details with the office.

Many thanks,
Lisa Virtue
Tuckshop Convenor

FROM THE P&C

Hi Everyone,

I hope we're all settling in well to 2014! I'd like to thank the parents who were able to make it to our Welcome Morning Tea last Friday. We all enjoyed some yummy refreshments and had a nice chat! I'd like to say a special THANK YOU to Charlotte, Emily and Tayla; our Student Leaders who helped us out so beautifully!

Tonight sees our February P&C Meeting, at 6:30pm, in the Staffroom. I hope to see you there!

Many thanks and have a great week!

Chloe Boswell
P&C President

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Hello,

I run a youth group at The Salvation Army called EPIC. EPIC is for kids in Yr 3-6 (Yr 7’s can come in Term 1). It’s on every 2nd Friday, from 5:30pm till 7pm. At EPIC we play fun games, do crazy challenges and talk about God, Jesus & the Bible. At 6:30pm, all the family is invited back for a family feast. The cost for EPIC is $4 per child or $10 for a family (that includes dinner). EPIC starts on Friday night, February 14th

Have a good one!
Steve Unicomb

STUDENT COUNCIL

ICY CUPS

Icy cups will be on sale this Thursday, 2nd break, from the hall canteen.
Cost is still only 50 cents.
SCHOOL BANKING

Don’t forget that Wednesday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can then be redeemed for a range of great, exclusive reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 2014

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<td>12th</td>
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<td>Active After School Swimming Program (Round 1 – Lesson 2)</td>
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<td>14th</td>
<td>Sport Trials</td>
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<td>17th</td>
<td>Bramble Bay Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>18th</td>
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COMMUNITY NOTICES

NUNDAH WAVELL SOCCER CLUB

Play Soccer and Have Fun!
Join Nundah Wavell Soccer Club
Sign on Saturday 8 February 8am-1pm &
Wednesday 12 February 6pm-9pm
at the Uniting Church Hall, 59 Simla Ave, Geebung.
Boys and girls both welcome. Mixed teams U6-U14, U15/16 boys & U15/16 girls. Affordable registration fees.
Opportunities for local and state representative teams. Home ground Marchant Park Ellison Road, Chermside.
Pre-enter registration details online before sign on day. For more information, online registration & FAQ visit www.nunwavsoccer.org Or email info@nunwavsoccer.org

Leading children’s choir, Voices of Birralee, invites young singers to join their Bardon program.

2014 enrolments are now open for the following ensembles:

Birralee Piccolos – Prep – Grade 1
Birralee Kids – 7 to 10 year olds
Birralee Singers – 10 to 13 year olds

Voices of Birralee is a non-profit organisation, nurturing a child’s love of singing in a fun educational environment. Tuition is given by professionals who are highly regarded and experienced in their field. A strong emphasis is placed on holistic education, building social and cognitive skills, emotional resilience, confidence and musical expertise.

Rehearsals for Piccolos and Kids will commence Wednesday afternoon 5 February 2014 and Singers on Thursday afternoon 6 February 2014 and are held at 57 Carwoola St, Bardon. Other days and venues are available if the Wednesday or Thursday programs do not suit you. Please visit our website www.birralee.org to enrol or for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you!

CONFIDENT KIDS AND TEENS

Confident Kids is a fun, interactive group program for kids aged 5-14 years designed to boost confidence, emotional resilience, social skills and brain power. Kids learn simple strategies to reduce worries, anxiety, self-doubt or negative thinking so they achieve their full potential. The Confident Kids program provides children with self-esteem tools to keep confidence steady and strong throughout their life.

Program includes parent support and workshop. Facilitated by experienced psychologists who are passionate about helping kids be all they can be. Places are limited so if you are interested please visit www.confidentkidsandteens.com.au or email info@positivefamilies.com.au for an information pack, or phone us on 3368 1307. Medicare and Private health fund rebates apply.