FROM THE PRINCIPAL

18 February 2014

Dear Parents

As I write this newsletter, I am on my first round of principal coaching which will run for the next three weeks. Unlike last year, I have reorganised my coaching schedule to allow me to be at school every Friday. That way, I am able to run assemblies as usual, catch up with what’s happening at school and write my parent newsletters for the next week. As always, there is plenty happening this week.

Friday’s Assembly
This week’s assembly will see the investiture of our captains for 2014. I have already announced their names – Mika, Beatrice, Adeline and Fusail. Last week, I spoke of the two new leadership positions we have. I’m happy to be able to name our Indigenous Captain – Kiara Yorston and our Multicultural Captain – Skyler Afa. We are very lucky to have Councillor Victoria Newton to present their badges, but she has a meeting in town so our ceremony will be at the very beginning of parade. All parents are welcome to attend.

Walking Wheeling Wednesday Launch
This Wednesday is our first official Walking Wheeling Wednesday of this school year. As a special introduction, we are having our teachers at several spots near the school to walk with our students to our campus. Teachers will be at Taigum Centro and the Salvation Army Church to escort students on foot and I’ll be at Hidden World Park on Roghan Road to ride with students to school via the bike paths. We all expect to leave those venues at about 8am to arrive by about 8:15am. When we all get to school, a sausage sizzle will be waiting for $2.50. Drinks are 50c. Our Senior Leaders will be serving and our P&C volunteers will be cooking. All students and parents are welcome to walk, ride and partake in breakfast at school.

Year 6 and Year 7 in 2014
As you know, both Year 6 and Year 7 will leave us for high school at year’s end. 2014 is the only year this will happen so we will have special arrangements for this year only. We will be having a special Year 7 shirt with each Year 7 student’s name on the back and a special Year 6 Shirt with their names printed upon it. We will have a Year 7 graduation ceremony and a separate Year 6 graduation ceremony. The dates of those two events are yet to be determined, but will fall in the final two weeks of the school year. The only joint activity we will be having is a combined Year 6 and Year 7 camp at Alexander Headland in Term 4.

Child Safety
The tragic events of last week, where a young boy was killed by his father at cricket practice, remind us of how vigilant we have to be to signs of domestic violence, especially when it is directed towards innocent children. We have very strict requirements from the Education Department about reporting suspected or actual harm to children. In fact, it is mandatory for teachers to report any signs of violence against students. Child safety authorities and the police have to be immediately notified. This is not a pleasant part of our job, but a very necessary one. Thankfully, we don’t have to do it much, but if necessary, we will not hesitate to act. It is also the responsibility of the wider community to be aware that domestic violence can occur in many places, to many families and at any time and that we all have contributions to make if we are to make our society a safer and more secure environment in which we all can live.

Mark Fisher
Principal
Students of the Week

Prep B - Sadie for always being a responsible and keen class member
Prep CD - Cooper for always completing his tasks
Year 1L - Gianni for trying his best and working well in class
Year 1N - Devine for using his ‘good manners’ in the classroom
Year 2F - Nathaniel for always having beautiful manners
Year 2HS - Dennise for always being on task and doing beautiful work
Year 2J - Vekrom for outstanding thinking skills in Numeracy activities
Year 3B - Mya for always trying to be ready on time
Year 3TM - Samuel for some wonderful strategies used in Maths
Year 4G - Gus for excellent work always in class
Year 4MI - Sahej for always being helpful and polite
Year 5WR - Lincoln for consistently working hard in Maths
Year 6S - Marcell for learning his number facts
Year 6/7G - Kheley for helpful and insightful answers during English
Year 7C - Kyawsanoo for a very quiet and conscientious attitude to completing classwork

BOOK AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their bookwork on Friday 14th February 2014.

- 1L - Darzel
- 1N - James
- 2F - Riley
- 2HS - Rivyr
- 2J - Princess
- 3B - Deean
- 3TM - Lincoln
- 4G - Lipikha
- 4MI - Akhemi
- 5WR - Tanisha
- 6S - Tayla
- 6/7G - Reianna
- 7C - Sara

FROM THE OFFICE

Just a friendly reminder that pets are not permitted inside the school grounds. Please refrain from bringing your pets onto the premises while you are dropping off or picking up your children.

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.

**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 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.

HELPERS REQUIRED
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,

Tomorrow is the launch of the Active School Travel Program, so we will be holding our Big Breakfast from 8am outside the Tuckshop. Everyone is welcome! A sausage sizzle is $2 and a drink is 50c, so come on down and enjoy a yummy brekky with us!

Just a reminder that this **Thursday 20th February** is the last day for handing in order forms for the Senior and Sports shirts. Children are more than welcome to come into the Uniform Shop to try them on for size.

Many thanks and have a great week!

Chloe Boswell
P&C President

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
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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

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<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Active After School Swimming Program (Round 1 – Lesson 3)</td>
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<td>19th</td>
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<td>19th</td>
<td>Walking Wheeling Wednesday</td>
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<td>20th</td>
<td>Prep children – Hearing Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Active After School Swimming Program (Round 1 – Lesson 4)</td>
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COMMUNITY NOTICES

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!
Queensland Cheer Elite offers American-style cheerleading and dance classes for ages 3+.

Learn to dance, jump, cartwheel and flip with the best in Brisbane at our facility at 128 Granite Street, Geebung.

*We promote the values of team work, hard work and fun whilst developing coordination, strength, flexibility and friendships!*

We are currently running recreational cheer classes for beginners who would like a taste of what cheer is all about. Classes run on Tuesdays from 4-5:30pm (ages 12-14) and Thursdays from 3:30-4:30pm (ages 5-11).

To find out more, email us at info@queenslandcheerelite.com.au or call our office on 3161 5069!

We accept members all year around and no experience is required!

www.queenslandcheerelite.com.au

**INSTITUTE for URBAN INDIGENOUS HEALTH**

IUHI are holding a Community Day on 1st March 2014 from 10.00am at Pine Rivers Park, Gympie Rd, Strathpine.

Activities include yoga, rugby league, face painting, zumba, rock climbing, AFL, arts & crafts, and sprint races. Prizes will be offered on the day.

For more details please contact Nathan Appo on 0422 130 533

**FAMILY FUN DAY & TEDDY BEARS PICNIC**

On Wednesday 12th March, families with children under 5 are invited to attend Under 5’s Family Fun Day and Teddy Bears Picnic. Face painting, a jumping castle, show bags, give aways, gold coin sausage sizzle, entertainment and lots of stalls and activities will all be free for families to enjoy. At the Bay Youth and Sports Centre oval (100 Maine Tce, Deception Bay) - bring your teddy bear and picnic rug and enjoy a great day out for families and kids.

**Under 5’s Family Fun Day and Teddy Bears Picnic**  
**Wednesday March 12th 2014 9am - 12pm.**  
**The Bay Youth & Sports Centre, Maine Tce, Deception Bay**