Dear Parents

It's great to be back at Taigum State School after three and a half weeks of principal coaching. The year is really in full swing and it's great to see all the good work happening in every classroom. As I write this newsletter, there are only a couple of weeks left in our first term so I'll need to report on some of the activities left and some of the ones scheduled for early in Term 2.

Our Easter vacation this year is a bit unusual. We finish this term on Friday April 4 and have the usual two week break, but the Monday when we should be coming back to school is actually Easter Monday. Our first school day will be Tuesday 22 April. To further complicate proceedings, the Friday of that week is Anzac Day. That gives us a three day week to start the term. Undoubtedly, many of our families will take advantage of these circumstances to have a three week vacation, effectively shortening Term Two. However, once we get into Term Two proper, the only other interruption in the ten week period is the Queen's Birthday Holiday on Monday 9 June (Week 8)

Parent/Teacher Interviews
I know we have publicised these quite a lot lately, but it is very important that as many parents attend as possible. We all know that communication can be a huge problem so these interviews are an essential channel for information flow in both directions. Teachers learn as much as parents in these sessions. The interviews begin at 3pm in our Hall. For parents coming around the halfway mark, about 4:30pm, I have organised a visit from the coffee van. All interviews will be finished by 6pm. I hope to see hundreds of parents.

Easter Hat Parade
The Easter Hat Parade, a traditional event on the school calendar, will occur on the last day of term, Friday 4 April. This year we will be running it a little differently. It will not be a competition with prizes for best examples, but rather a fun event where we are encouraging students and their families to make hats out of materials that can be recycled. That will be quite a challenge, but I'm sure plenty will rise to it. Also different this year will be each grade level performing a song. All are welcome to attend and more information will be out shortly to the P-3 students who will be taking part.

Anzac Day
Our school Anzac Day ceremony is one of the highlights in our district and we get many attendees from retirement homes and community groups as well as our own students. This year our ceremony will be on Thursday 24 April, starting at 10am. Once again, all are welcome.

Inter-House Cross Country
As the weather cools and we head towards Term 2, we come into the cross country season. Our Inter-House Carnival will take place on Monday 28 April (Week 2). It is open to all students in Years 4 – 7 and the students in Year 3 born in 2005. The younger students will run 1km and the older groups 1.5km, with both courses run completely within our school grounds. Students who finish high in the placings may be nominated to run in the Bramble Bay Cross Country in June. Mr Cran and Mr Martin will be running training sessions every Tuesday and Thursday at 8am for students to do some practice. More information will come home about all of these things shortly.

Mark Fisher
Principal
Students of the Week

Prep B - Mason for creating and representing patterns
Prep CD - Japji for good listening and following instructions
Year 1L - Erem for working well in reading groups
Year 1N - Sean for being keen to learn
Year 2F - Konnor for excellent work in English learning about noun groups
Year 2HS - Yuvraj for excellent listening and making a fantastic start in 2HS
Year 2J - Danica for fantastic manners and always following school rules
Year 3B - Shee Shee for her positive smiling attitude to all her work in class
Year 3TM - Brock for reading very well and using his reading strategies
Year 4G - Quinn for a consistently good work ethic in class
Year 4MI - Jericho for always striving to improve his learning by setting personal challenges
Year 5WR - Dylan for showing persistence in maths problem solving and for having a good attitude to school
Year 6S - Marcell for getting 100% for speed maths tests all week
Year 6/7G - Kurtis for terrific contributions during Science lessons. Very insightful!
Year 7C - Andrew for working hard to complete English and Science assessments
LOTE - Majenta

BOOK AWARDS

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

- 1L - Alex
- 1N - Anneke
- 2F - Ger Kler Htoo
- 2HS - Anushka
- 2J - Cameron
- 3B - Shee Shee
- 3TM - Raymond
- 4G - Sharmaine
- 4MI - Maya
- 5WR - Tracy
- 6S - Adrian
- 6/7G - Zoe
- 7C - Alana

FROM THE OFFICE

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.
Please remember all students must wear a swimming cap and rash vest so 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.

FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop is open on Fridays between 8.15am and 11.30am.

HELPERS REQUIRED
We are always looking for extra volunteer help in the Tuckshop. In order for the school to continue to provide this valuable service to the children we are asking if you have any time to spare on a Friday and are able to volunteer in the tuckshop, please leave your name and contact details with the office.

Many thanks,
Lisa Virtue
Tuckshop Convenor

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.

**FROM THE LIBRARY**

**BOOK CLUB NEWS**

Thank you to those families who ordered from Issue 1 of Scholastic Book Club. Books have been received and handed out.

For those children whose books were unavailable, Scholastic hopes you enjoy your gift of a free book and have supplied you with a Credit Voucher for the same value as the unavailable book. The Credit Voucher can be used instead of money to purchase a book/s to that value from any future issue of Book Club. Remember to include the credit voucher with your order form when you wish to redeem this value.

Issue 2 will be sent home with your child this week. Please place any orders in the collection box which is located in the administration office.

**Closing date for Issue 2 orders is Wednesday 26th March**

“*You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You’re on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who’ll decide where to go.*”

― Dr. Seuss, *Oh, the Places You’ll Go!*

**FROM THE P&C**

Hi Everyone

Not long to go now until the end of term, and our Easter Raffle! Raffle tickets were sent out at the end of last week, so please hand all tickets (sold or unsold) into the uniform shop by Thursday 3rd April. Prizes will be drawn on the 4th April, during Parade. Good luck!
The P&C sold refreshments during Interschool Sports last Friday. Due to the hot weather it was a great success. Thank you to the Senior Leaders who helped out. You did a great job girls. Thank you also to Ms Wise for helping out. Mrs Weldon and I were swamped and your help was greatly appreciated. We will be selling refreshments again during Round 3, so don't forget your money.

Many thanks and have a great week!

Chloe Boswell
P&C President

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<td>18<strong>th</strong> Active After School Swimming Program (Round 2 – Lesson 4)</td>
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<td>19<strong>th</strong> School Banking</td>
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<td>19<strong>th</strong> Walking Wheeling Wednesday BIG BREAKFAST</td>
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<td>20<strong>th</strong> Active After School Swimming Program (Round 2 – Lesson 5)</td>
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<td>21<strong>st</strong> National Day of Action Against Bullies</td>
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<td>24<strong>th</strong> Parent–Teacher Interviews</td>
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COMMUNITY NOTICES

NORTHS JUNIOR EAGLES RUGBY UNION CLUB

Norths Junior Eagles Rugby Union Club invites boys from Taigum State School to our

**Come Try Rugby Extended Program**

at our Shaw Rd [Wooloowin] playing fields.

Every Friday at 5 pm (U6-9) and 6 pm (U10-17) from 28th February to 4th April (end of Term 1)

**No cost. Come along and try our style of Rugby**

Contact: Club Registrar at registrar@northsjuniorguayb.com.au or visit our website at: www.northsjuniorguayb.com.au or contact us by Mob: 0407780424

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http://www.facebook.com/taigumss