Dear Parents

Last Friday was the National Day of Action Against Bullying. In the two weeks leading up to that day, our teachers in class and me on assembly, have been highlighting our Responsible Student Behaviour Plan and, in particular, our school's anti-bullying strategy ‘The High Five’. Most of our students know it well and can recite it back – Ignore, Talk friendly, Walk away, Talk Firmly, Report. The challenge, of course, is using it at the right times. Many of them are very good at doing this as well. We also need parents to report this sort of information to us as the sooner it’s dealt with, the sooner it is stopped. In general, we are all pretty good at dealing with the verbal and physical bullying we encounter because it is visible and often witnessed by others. However, cyberbullying can be much harder to detect, can happen any time and is very easy to do if someone is so inclined.

The availability and affordability of smartphones enables a great percentage of primary school students to have the ability to text, email or to use Facebook to send messages of all types to all sorts of different people, without adult supervision. Luckily, most students use these avenues responsibly, but we have to be especially vigilant for those who do not. The Education Department has cyberbullying policies in place to which we adhere. They also have a division called the “Reputation Management Branch” that monitors electronic messaging that might damage the image of a school if it were posted on a blog or Facebook page. The branch is run by a former police officer and has the power to close accounts, shut down websites and direct the police to intervene in the more serious cases.

Here at school, we ensure phones are handed in to the office in the morning and picked up in the afternoon so they are not available to students to use in any inappropriate ways through the day. We follow up any reports about out of school hours cyberbullying and we ensure social media sites are blocked on our school computers. However, the best way to ensure primary school students use electronic media correctly, is parent supervision. There is no substitute for that. We all play important roles in child protection and the system is strong if we all do what is required of us.

The Federal Government has a number of excellent sites developed to assist students, parents and teachers navigate the online environment. I have listed several below. I recommend you explore them with your children if you have concerns about cyberbullying.

Cyberbullying Resources

The Australian Government's Cybersafety Help Button
The Australian Government's Cybersafety Help Button provides internet users, particularly children and young people, with easy online access to online safety information and assistance available in Australia. It offers counselling, reporting and educational resources to assist young people deal with online risks including cyber-bullying, unwanted contact, scams and fraud, and offensive or inappropriate material. Users have the option to TALK to someone about online issues that are of concern, REPORT cyber-bullying or inappropriate online content directly to popular social or online game sites, and LEARN about good online safety practices. The Help Button is easy to install and use, and can be downloaded for free onto school and library networks, personal computers and mobile devices. www.cybersafetyhelp.gov.au

Cybersmart Program
The Australian Communications and Media Authority’s Cybersmart Program is a national cyber safety and cyber security education program designed to encourage participation in the digital economy by providing information and education which empowers children to be safe online.
The Cybersmart website provides cyber safety education and awareness for children, young people, parents, teachers and libraries. The website features all Cybersmart resources, news and practical information, videos, activities and teacher resources including links to comprehensive training. [www.cybersmart.gov.au](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au)

**The Easy Guide to Socialising Online**
The Easy Guide to Socialising Online provides information about the online safety features of different social networking sites, search engines and online games. This includes step by step instructions on how to report cyber-bullying, abuse and inappropriate content directly to social media sites. [www.communications.gov.au/easyguide](http://www.communications.gov.au/easyguide)

**ThinkUknow**
The ThinkUknow website is administered by the Australian Federal Police and provides cyber safety information, advice and tools for youth, parents, carers and teachers. [www.thinkuknow.org.au](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au)

Mark Fisher
Principal

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### Students of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep B</th>
<th>Harun for being a responsible, hard working class member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep CD</td>
<td>Aarnab for working responsibly and staying on task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1L</td>
<td>Samuel for contributing to class discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1N</td>
<td>Adam for always working hard to produce pleasing work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2F</td>
<td>Harith for writing very descriptive and entertaining sentences in Journal Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2HS</td>
<td>Rivyr for great work in Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2J</td>
<td>Zaki for a great improvement in classroom behaviour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3B</td>
<td>Matthew for a good effort in Visual Arts work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3TM</td>
<td>Kavinila for writing an interesting narrative in History on ANZAC Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4G</td>
<td>Sharmaine for settling in so well to her new school and producing excellent work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4MI</td>
<td>Aungnaingwin for always trying to learn new words in English and Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5WR</td>
<td>Paris for making a big improvement in her number facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6S</td>
<td>Shyanne for always being willing to have a go – ready and waiting (with a smile) for a challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6/7G</td>
<td>Kade for being very attentive during English lessons, contributing answers and sharing his writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7C</td>
<td>Connor for impressive work in reading groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BOOK AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their bookwork on Friday 21st March 2014.

- 1L - Samuel
- 1N - Gree Na
- 2F - Robbie
- 2HS - Chloe
- 2J - Princess
- 3B - Jordan
- 3TM - Riley
- 4G - Hope
- 4MI - Olivia
- 5WR - Lyric
- 6S - Carl
- 6/7G - Shakira
- 7C - Zamiesha
ICAS TESTING

The Australasian Schools Competitions are run by the University of New South Wales. This year, Taigum State School will be taking part in 4 competitions: Computer Skills, Science, English and Mathematics. These competitions are only available to students in Years 3 to 7.

All of the competitions provide an opportunity for students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. Each student receives a Certificate and a detailed results letter. The entry fee is $8.00 for each student per competition entered.

Letters were sent home to parents/carers of children in Years 3-7 in February. If your child wishes to participate in any of these competitions please return the nomination form and entry fee to the office by Tuesday 22nd April 2014. (First day of Term 2)

All entries close on this date.

EASTER HAT PARADE

The Easter Hat Parade will be held in the hall during Assembly on Friday, April 4, from 9.00am. Parents and carers are welcome to join us for this exciting event where students from Prep, Years 1 and 2 will be singing special songs before they parade their Easter hats.

Prep students will be given the opportunity to make their Easter hats during class time whereas students in Years 1 and 2 will need to make their hats at home. It is not compulsory to make a hat. If you do make a hat to be part of this special event, please try to use recycled materials (except for eggs and egg cartons). The parade will not be a competition as it has been in previous years. The Easter Hat Parade will be a proud moment during which your child will sing a special song alongside their classmates.

If you have any questions relating to this event, please contact your child’s class teacher.

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.
SCHOOL SWIMMING

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 OUR SENIOR LEADERS

DEADLY SPORTS

On Wednesday the PCYC community put together a delightful day of fun, games and Indigenous activities, which they called ‘Deadly Sports’. Year 7 children from Taigum State School and several other local schools including Boondall, Virginia, Wavell, Bald Hills, Zillmere and Bray Park took part in ‘Deadly Sports’. We all went there to learn, to have fun and to keep active.

Many athletes from various sports were there. There were two superstars Diddy and Rav, from the QLD Firebirds. They volunteered to spend their time with several schools and showed them skills and how to play netball. Taigum A played Cricket, Traditional games, Rugby League and Table Tennis. Meanwhile, Taigum B played Rugby League, Netball, Softball and Tennis.

Everyone enjoyed playing all the sports that the PCYC had put together and everyone displayed great sportsmanship. This was shown, by thanking the organisers and volunteers of the games and the fact that everyone played fairly and had a fantastic time.

The Year 7’s would like to thank Mrs Tunny and Mr Cran for taking 48 Taigum Year 7 students to the fun and worthwhile event.

Written by Kheley & Kiara

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
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

Issue 2 has been sent home with your child. 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

“THERE IS MORE TREASURE IN BOOKS THAN IN ALL THE PIRATES’ LOOT ON TREASURE ISLAND.”

- WALT DISNEY
FROM THE P&C

Hi Everyone

Just a reminder that all raffle tickets must be returned to the uniform shop by next Thursday 3rd April, as it will be drawn the following day during Parade. Remember, You have to be in it to win it!

Also, this Friday we will once again be selling refreshments down on the oval during Interschool Sports. Don’t forget your money!

Many thanks and have a great week!

Chloe Boswell
P&C President

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARCH / APRIL 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>25th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Active After School Swimming Program (Round 2 – Lesson 6)</td>
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<td>26th March</td>
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<td>School Banking</td>
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<td>26th March</td>
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<td>Walking Wheeling Wednesday</td>
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<td>27th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Active After School Swimming Program (Round 2 – Lesson 7) <strong>FINAL LESSON</strong></td>
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<td>28th March</td>
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<td>Interschool Sport – Round 3</td>
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<td>4th April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th April</td>
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<td>Last Day of Term 1. School resumes on Tuesday 22 April</td>
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</tbody>
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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@northsjuniorg rugby.com.au or visit our website at: www.northsjuniorg rugby.com.au or contact us by Mob: 0407780424
School Holiday Soccer & Rugby Camps held in the Brisbane area from 9am to 3pm daily with an aftercare available until 4pm

We are a registered child care provider for CCB

Book 3 children and get the 4th Free

Free Sports Shirt (Value $15) when quote code FREESHIRT

Register online at www.starsportscamps.com for additional information http://starsportscamps.com/schedule/