Dear Parents

Today marks the real beginning of Term 2 after the short week and our Anzac Service in Week 1. Classes are all working on Unit 3 of the National Curriculum in English, Maths and Science as well as getting down to work on history or geography, depending on what year level they are. We now have a basically uninterrupted period of nine weeks (except for the Queen's birthday) to get involved intensively in academic work, leading up to our written reports going out on the last Friday of Term on June 27. That is 44 days of school and I expect every student to be here for the full 44.

Taigum SS Cross Country
Our cross country event is set to run this week, weather permitting. We originally had it scheduled for Monday, but the early rain ruined that idea. It is now rescheduled for Tuesday. Irrespective of when the event occurs, I am keen to see as many runners as possible participate. Mr Cran and Mr Martin have been holding training sessions for the last month and between 30 and 40 students have attended twice a week. I expect to see these children at the front of each race. I also expect to see just about everybody else, give it a go. We intentionally make our courses short to encourage full participation. Our Year 4s and 5s run 1km and our Year 6s and 7s run 1.5km. These are somewhat shorter than the Bramble Bay distances of 2km and 3km, respectively. Every child who finishes, scores a point, whether they win or walk all the way. The course is completely within our school grounds and therefore, well supervised and quite safe. Fingers crossed that it will happen on Tuesday. All are welcome to attend.

High School Orientation Days
For many Year 7 students, this is the time to start thinking about high school for 2015. This year our Year 6 students will also need to do the same thing. It is a big decision and one not to be taken lightly. We have several excellent state high schools in our area, each with its own strengths in subjects offered, sport, cultural activities and student demographics. Within a 10 km radius of us are Sandgate DSHS, Aspley SHS, Wavell SHS, Bracken Ridge SHS, Craiglea SHS and Pine Rivers SHS. Kedron is a little further away but it offers an excellent ESL programme that many of our former students have benefited from. Over the years, Taigum students have attended each of these schools I’ve listed and I have heard great reports about each one. Over the next 3 or 4 weeks, each is having its orientation day or making visits to our school to talk to our senior students. Sandgate’s open Day is 17 May, Wavell’s is 18 May. Wavell SHS, Sandgate DSHS and Aspley SHS will be sending representatives to speak to our 6s and 7s shortly. When I have firm dates for these visits, I will pass them on. I am a strong believer in State High Schools and both my sons attended one. My older son is now studying engineering at QUT and my younger one is keen to do a Science/ Maths degree next year. They had a great experience at their high school and were very well educated during their time there (and it was free).

School Photos
Wednesday, May 7 is the date for our school photos. Your son or daughter should have brought home their order form. These need to be completed and returned to the photographer on the day with correct money so orders can be processed quickly and the photos returned to you as soon as possible. This date is the day to be dressed in perfect school uniform, including black shoes and white socks so each class can be proud of their portraits.

Mark Fisher
Principal
**Students of the Week**

Prep B - Maddelin for using her *Jolly Phonics* to try and read words
Prep CD - Otis for remembering all the *Jolly Phonics* sounds
Year 1L - Austin for being a respectful and friendly class member
Year 1N - James for always presenting neat work
Year 2F - Ella for always trying her best to spell unknown words independently
Year 2HS - Milan for showing great work skills in the classroom
Year 2J - Alex for great manners and insightful comments in Literacy activities
Year 3B - Cade for a positive attitude to his work at school
Year 3TM - Tnarlii for excellent behaviour and participating well in Maths groups
Year 4G - Kayla for an excellent improvement with schoolwork
Year 4MI - Blessey for working hard and efficiently on all tasks
Year 5WR - Tracy for using original ideas and persuasive techniques in her persuasive writing
Year 6S - Leah for having her books organised and ready for lessons
Year 6/7G - Adeline for being a responsible and mature class member. A fine role model.
Year 7C - Mika for having an excellent attitude and a diligent approach to her schooling

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**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.

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**FROM OUR SENIOR LEADERS**

**ANZAC DAY**

Anzac Day is a day to commemorate and remember all those courageous soldiers who fought and lost their lives during the Gallipoli campaign. Taigum State School recently held a successful Anzac service and we were lucky to have representatives from the Australian Army and Navy, and our local political members attend. The official guests and class representatives lay their wreaths at the memorial and took a moment to be thankful for the freedom we appreciate today, thanks to the sacrifice and service of the ANZAC’s.

We would like to extend our thanks to the official party and all the guests for their attendance and honouring of our service on the 24th April 2014.

We will remember them. Lest we forget.

*Written by Skyler, Beatrice, Mika & Kiara*
FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop is now open both lunch breaks on Fridays.

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

SCHOOL BANKING

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 P&C

Hi Everyone

Welcome back. Last week’s Anzac Day Morning Tea was a great success and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped out. We had a great time and it was lovely to see so many people.

Mother’s Day is fast approaching. We will be sending out raffle tickets this week, with prizes drawn on Friday 9th May, during Parade. Our Mother’s Day Stall will be held in the coming weeks. Dates to be advised, so look out for those.

Many thanks and have a great week!

Chloe Boswell
P&C President
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**BRACKEN RIDGE STATE HIGH SCHOOL**

**EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES**
INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

**ESS STAFF ROLES**

- **Head of ESS**

  - oversees the management of students accessing educational support services
  - appoints case managers to oversee individual student needs
  - determines teacher and teacher aide support for students in subject areas

**Special Education Teachers**

- are the appointed person to case manage the progress of the individual educational plans designed to meet the needs of each student

  - liaise with parents, the student, staff members and any other support personnel to discuss management strategies and goals for the students they are allocated

**Learning Support Teachers**

- determine support need at the beginning of Year 8 when students are tested on their literacy and numeracy skills

  - offer smaller classes with adjusted curriculum or assessment demands

  - consult with subject teachers to discuss best practice

  - liaises with parents and students

**Teacher Aides**

- are assigned to particular students within a class to facilitate the student’s access to learning

  - provide professional support services for both the student and the teacher within a class, and to report to case managers about student progress

**Contact Details:**
Katrina Nugent
Head of Educational Support Services
Bracken Ridge State High School
68 Barfoot Street, Bracken Ridge Qld 4017

**Postal address:**
PO Box 204, Sandgate Qld 4017

**Phone:** 07 38697210
**Facsimile:** 07 38697200
**Email:** knugent@eq.edu.au
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KIDS LOVE DRAMA
PARENTS LOVE THE RESULTS!

Our unique drama system develops confidence and communication skills in children and teenagers.

Dynamic and structured, our programme covers speech, movement, creative drama and language development with all students participating in an end-of-year production.

Our acclaimed drama programme is implemented by dynamic teachers who work enthusiastically to bring out the very best in your child.

Affordable Fees! No Hidden Costs!

Lower Primary (5-8), Upper Primary (9–12) and Youth Theatre (12–18).

Helen O’Grady Drama Academy

Please phone the Principal Margaret Treuel B.A., Dip. Ed.

3353 0555

SANDGATE DISTRICT STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Find out how Sandgate District State High School can ‘Expand the Horizon’ for your son or daughter.

OPEN DAY
Saturday 17th May 2014
9:00am – 1:00pm
41 Braun Street, Deagon, 4017

For further information please phone 3869 9888 or visit www.sanddistshs.eq.edu.au

CONFIDENT KIDS RESILIENCY PROGRAM

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Confident Kids and Teens is a fun, innovative small group program designed to enhance emotional & social skills, confidence and resilience.

Run by experienced Psychologists.
Medicare and private health rebates apply.

Places are limited.

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Larne Wellington | Director /Principal Psychologist
Positive Families

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