Dear Parents

Any mums and dads who have a child in Years 3, 5 or 7 will know that next week is the Naplan Testing Week. The tests will run over three days – Tuesday (Language Conventions, Writing), Wednesday (Reading) and Thursday (Numeracy). Friday is a catch up day for students absent on any of the previous days. The teachers have prepared their students and the school will ensure that they have a quiet, uninterrupted three days to do their best in their classrooms. All other activities have been suspended so our students can concentrate solely on academic performance. I have listed a few things below that parents can do to help as well.

1. Ensure a good night’s sleep each night before the tests – no late night TV, computer games or social networking. Reading a book or writing a short persuasive story or narrative would be a better option.
2. A good healthy meal each evening, a solid breakfast (protein is brain food) and a healthy lunch are necessary.
3. Prepare all required equipment and have spare pencils, rubbers and a ruler.
4. Make sure they have a calculator for part of the numeracy test on the Thursday (only Year 7)
5. Lots of encouragement without the pressure of expectation. Remember the tests, while important to see how well students perform in literacy and numeracy, are not high school entrance tests, nor do they impact on school subject results. Parents can learn more about the tests and what is involved at the NAPLAN web-site; www.naplan.edu.au

Cross Country
After a false start on Monday with the weather, Tuesday turned out to be a very pleasant one for the running of our cross country. Once again, I thank Mrs McColm for her organisation. The training sessions run by Mr Cran and Mr Martin paid off as the overall speed of the events was greater and the fields much tighter together. Interestingly, only one student actually set out to walk the whole way but even he ended up doing some running. The House Captains and Senior Leaders did a great job in setting up, pulling down and being officials on the course. The participation rate was excellent and the final results were as follows:

Moreton 233  Bribie 174  Stradbroke 161

Our individual place getters are listed below. All of those in the 10 to 13 years age groups have been nominated to compete in the Bramble Bay Cross Country on Wednesday.

Cross Country Medallists:
9  Boys – Elia, Jayen, Rico
9  Girls – Anais, Ketarna, Lipikha
10 Boys – Latrell, Maverick, Cody
10 Girls – Jada, Sharmaine, Taya
11 Boys – Taniela, Isaiah, Vivek
11 Girls – Tiffani, Kirchelle, Harry
12 Boys – Noah, Lemi, Shaunnanning
12 Girls – Glory, Charlotte, Tijuanah
13 Boys – Depandra, Kyawsanoo, J.D.
13 Girls – Charlotte, Mika, Beatrice

Participation Officers
Our Participation Officers – Bambi, Chloe and Moira were introduced to all our students on assembly last Friday. As I have already stated, these ladies are charged with the responsibility to encourage students to attend every school day. They are going to carry out this task in a number of ways, including phone calls, student meetings, parent meetings and through awareness-raising special events. Straight after parade on Friday, they met with the group of students who were absent more than 10% of the days last term and talked about the reasons for this. They will be doing this regularly to try to reach our goal of a 95% average attendance rate for all students. Very shortly, they will be holding a breakfast for all students to kick off their campaign to improve how often children attend. Everyone is invited (see their separate item in this newsletter for details)

Mark Fisher
Principal
Prep B - Keenan for an interesting re-tell of a time he went swimming
Prep CD - Sarah for an excellent story re-tell
Year 1L - Zachariah for a great recount about his weekend
Year 1N - Adam for achieving 10/10 in the weekly spelling test
Year 2F - Robbie for endless enthusiasm in every lesson
Year 2HS - Krystal for always being on task and ready or work
Year 2J - Lukas for great work in English
Year 3B - Tahjuan for lovely, neat handwriting
Year 3TM - Addidas for excellent observations and participation in Science
Year 4G - Ariet for trying her best in class every day
Year 4MI - Tyrell for trying hard in class to listen and follow instructions
Year 5WR - Maverick for an improvement in both maths and literacy work
Year 6S - Carl for making the largest square pyramid on an A3 sheet of paper
Year 6/7G - Fuzail for a superb job in writing a persuasive article on ‘Whaling’
Year 7C - Depandra for a focused effort in completing and preventing his persuasive speech

BOOK AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their bookwork on Friday 2nd May 2014.

- 1L - Meghana
- 1N - Ayush
- 2F - Rhiana
- 2HS - Makenna
- 2J - Azariah
- 3B - Hunter
- 3TM - Samuel
- 4G - Gus
- 4MI - Jada
- 5WR - Miguel
- 6S - Hollie
- 6/7G - Charlotte
- 7C - Stephy

FROM THE OFFICE

2014 CROSS COUNTRY
Congratulations to the following students and thank you to all students who participated or helped out on the day. After rain on Monday caused the carnival to be postponed a day, our students successfully ran their respective courses on Tuesday with Moreton house scoring the most points overall.

9 yrs Boys
- 1st Elia Wesele
- 2nd Jayden Lord
- 3rd Rico Lasika

9 yrs Girls
- 1st Anais Russell-Jove
- 2nd Ketarna Roberts
- 3rd Lipikha Silapurem

10 yrs Boys
- 1st Latrell Georgetown
- 2nd Maverick Winlaw
- 3rd Cody Halmarson

10 yrs Girls
- 1st Jada Gilbert
- 2nd Sharmaine Ignacio
- 3rd Tayah Zandanel

11 yrs Boys
- 1st Taniela Wesele
- 2nd Isaiah Iongi
- 3rd Vivek Iyer

11 yrs Girls
- 1st Tiffani Clancy
- 2nd Krichelle Denman
- 3rd Harry

12 yrs Boys
- 1st Noah Gilbert
- 2nd Lemi Lasu
- 3rd Shaunmanning Roberts

12 yrs Girls
- 1st Glory Eh
- 2nd Charlotte Metcalf
- 3rd Tijanah Gourlay

13 yrs Boys
- 1st Depandra Rai
- 2nd Kyawsanoo Htoo
- 3rd JD Winlaw

13 yrs Girls
- 1st Charlotte Weldon
- 2nd Mika O’Bery
- 3rd Beatrice Roderiguez
ALL BE COUNTED CAMPAIGN

“Every Day Counts... Because children achieve better when they attend school all day, every day.” - Education Queensland.

We are delighted to announce the launch of our All Be Counted (ABC Campaign) at Taigum State School. This is an initiative to encourage and nurture the understanding of how important it is for our children to come to school every day. We have already had an informal talk with students and, over the coming weeks, we will start implementing various strategies that we hope will boost attendance rates throughout the school.

This Friday 9th May we are inviting ALL students to come and enjoy a free breakfast with us, to kick-start our campaign. It will be served from the Hall canteen between 8.00am - 8:30am (please note that it is vital we stop serving at 8:30am as students must get ready for Parade, so any late-comers will unfortunately miss out). We are very excited about this and look forward to seeing all of you there.

We thank you for your support!

Chloe, Moira & Bambi
School Participation Officers

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.

FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop is now open both lunch breaks on Fridays.

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,

This week will be an exciting week as we prepare for Mother’s Day celebrations on Sunday. The P&C are very excited about this year’s Mother’ Day Stall. It will be held on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings (or until sold out) between 8.15am -8.45am, so don’t forget your money. Nothing over $5! We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Many thanks and have a great week!

Chloe Boswell
P&C President
FROM THE CHAPLAIN

At the Salvation Army Taigum, I run two youth groups. EPIC & Salvage and they are both starting up again this Friday night!

EPIC is for grades 3-6. EPIC is on Fridays (fortnightly) from 5:30pm - 7pm. At EPIC we play very 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). Parents need to sign their kids in and out of EPIC, and fill out a permission note on their first night.

Salvage is for grades 7-12. Salvage is on from 7pm - 9pm every Friday night during the school term. We have a heap of fun, talk about issues relevant to teenagers and also explore the Bible and talk about God & Jesus. I’ll be giving the year 7’s a term calendar for Salvage this week.

Also, just a reminder, the chaplaincy service is here to help students and families with their emotional, social, physical & spiritual wellbeing. If I can help your family in any way, please just ask. My email address is steveu@chappy.org.au

Steve Unicomb
Chaplain

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

BOOKCLUB NEWS

If you wish to purchase any items from the latest issue of book-club, please ensure your order is returned with the correct money on or before 12 May 2014. Orders can be placed in the collection box which is located on the counter in the administration office.

“To learn to read is to light a fire. Every syllable that is spelled out is a spark.”
- Victor Hugo
DATES TO REMEMBER

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

LEARN TO SWIM

Bracken Ridge Swimming Club offers Learn to Swim classes, Squads, and Adult Squads. The club offers 25 metre and 12 metre heated pools, and meets Tuesday nights in Term 1 and Term 4.

For further information phone 3869 0005 or email admin@brswim.org.au

PADUA COLLEGE

OPEN DAY

Sunday, 25 May 2014
11am – 2pm

www.padua.qld.edu.au

Email: enrolments@padua.qld.edu.au
TRIPLE P PARENTING PROGRAM

Would you like your family to live a healthier lifestyle?
Researchers at the University of Queensland are currently offering a FREE Triple P parenting program to parents of children 3 to 10 years in exchange for participation in research.
Across three seminars you will learn strategies for...
P - Managing both general and life style specific child problem behaviours
P - Helping your child eat a healthy balance of nutritious foods
P - Motivating your child to be more active
P - Limiting screen time

The program is run at St Lucia and Ipswich, with free childcare available for families.
To register visit our website:
www.exp.psy.uq.edu.au/life
Jessica Bartlett –Project Coordinator
Email: lifestyletriplep@uq.edu.au
Phone: 0424 321 086 (please leave a message)