Dear Parents

Even though the preparations have been happening for some time, quite a few of the facilities projects have been completed in the last two weeks or so. The end result is as if our school has had a facelift. Two teaching blocks and the toilets have been painted grey to match our hall. ‘B’ and ‘D’ blocks have been painted internally. The Year 6’s and 7’s rooms and the LOTE room have had their old worn carpets replaced with rich blue new ones. The tennis courts have been replaced with turf, the long jump pits have been refurbished and we have new furniture through the staff room and in several other places across the school. This furniture was courtesy of the closing down of Ithaca TAFE College and was all completely free. We now have very neat wooden staffroom tables, new blue staff chairs, new whiteboards, gas lift chairs in the office and a few pin boards in classes. It is important for the school to look good so that we can take pride in our surroundings and enjoy an environment conducive to learning. The improvements are set to continue through the semester as the rest of the painting and carpeting progresses.

Grounds Help

At present we have a group of intellectually impaired men volunteering their time to help keep our grounds neat and tidy. Under the supervision of Corey, our groundsman, they have been removing weeds, trimming trees, neatening the gardens and picking up the litter. The front of the school around the hall looks especially tidy due to their efforts and they will be with us for quite some weeks and I expect to see improvements right across the site.

Enrolments

This week, we enrolled our 385th student at Taigum State School for 2014. I have been principal here for ten years and this is the largest the student body has been in my time. Mrs McColm started here in 1982 and she says it’s the largest that she’s seen. I knew a student who attended here in the early seventies, who told me the enrolments then were around 400, so this year is probably the biggest the school has been since the mid-seventies. That is nearly 40 years. There are two points to make about this number. Firstly, it is gratifying to us all that parents are showing the faith and confidence in our school, to send their children here. We are being trusted to do a good job educationally. The second point is that we are positioned well to cope with the exodus of the two year levels at the end of this year. We started 2014 with 369 students. Our net numbers have increased by 16 since then with perhaps a few more to come. If we get our predicted numbers in Prep in 2015, we expect to lose about 27 students in total (55 in, 82 out). However, if our enrolments grow to a total around 390 to 400, the 27 lost will take us back to approximately where we started this year. As funding and staffing are based on these numbers, we predict that we will have very few losses of either due to this growth. Hopefully then, we can start 2015 with 15 classes, just like this year.

High School Visits

Both Aspley SHS and Wavell SHS staff and students will be visiting us later this week. Each school will talk with our Year 6 and Year 7 students about their big transition into secondary schooling in just over six month’s time. These are important information sharing sessions that could be of immense importance to our students as they make that important decision as to which school they will attend. I encourage all students to attend on Thursday and Friday to take advantage of these talks that will run from 2-3pm on both days. The venue is our school hall and parents are also welcome to attend if they wish.
Under 8’s Day
Our Under 8’s day was a huge success due to the participation and effort shown by our staff, local businesses and community groups. Over 250 students and pre-school aged children enjoyed activities such as: Hula dancing, Card making, Inflatable squash court, Egyptian headdresses, Paper Planes, Spinner Kites, Paper plate craft, Song & Dance, Ribbon dancing, Face painting, Icing Biscuits and Chalk drawing.

We were also joined by Jetts Fitness Taigum, Taigum Fire Service, Zillmere PCYC, Jumping JJays Aspley, QLD Police, Jabiru, Football QLD and the IGA Goal4Kids program. Also a special thanks to our lovely Ms Rigby who with the help of her grand-daughter, held a very popular Hula stall.

Mark Fisher & Lynne Tunny
Principal  A/Principal
Students of the Week

Prep B - Daijah for good explanations of counting problems
Prep CD - Damien for being a happy class member and settling into his new school well
Year 1L - Jamie for always trying his best in Maths
Year 1N - Tameika for working conscientiously in all subjects
Year 2F - Rebecca for her always positive and happy presence in class
Year 2HS - Anushka for excellent listening skills and always being on task
Year 2J - Blaise for excellent spelling work
Year 3B - Emre for trying hard to improve his handwriting
Year 3TM - Abbie for great work shown in Science – great observations of the sun and shadows
Year 4G - Tyler for an excellent first draft of a folktale
Year 4MI - Gypsy for consistently working hard on all tasks in class
Year 5WR - Nathanael for working hard to complete his work on the Toxic Invader newspaper article
Year 6S - Nathan for scoring 100% on number facts this term
Year 6/7G - Lavinia for being an active and enthusiastic participant during reading groups
Year 7C - Mika for being a helpful and consistently respectful class member. Thank you Mika!

BOOK AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their bookwork on Friday 23rd May 2014.

- 1L - Bajedo
- 1N - Tameika
- 2F - Ella
- 2HS - Savitha
- 2J - Jessica
- 3B - Tahjuan
- 3TM - Samuel
- 4G - Justin
- 4MI - Olivia
- 5WR - Paris
- 6S - Shyanne
- 6/7G - Johnlie
- 7C - Skyler

FROM THE OFFICE

PREP ENROLMENTS – 2015

Children born between 1st July 2009 and 30th June 2010 are eligible for enrolment in Prep in 2015.
SPARE UNIFORMS

If your child has borrowed a spare hat or uniform from the school office could you please kindly wash and return these items.

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 LIBRARY

“You know you’ve read a good book when you turn the last page and feel a little as if you have lost a friend.”
- Paul Sweeney

BOOK FAIR

Come along to our Book Fair and you'll find a cool place to discover hot books!

Thursday 22 May – Wednesday 28 May

First Break – 11.10am to 11.30am
Second Break – 1.00pm to 1.30pm
After School – 3.00pm – 3.30pm

Book Fair will be located in B block (Rooms 9 & 10)

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

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES
Monday to Thursday mornings: 8:15am to 9.00am
Thursday afternoon: 2.30pm – 3.15pm

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

These school holidays, the Salvos at Taigum are running KidsGames for children from Prep to Year 7. It's a fantastic holiday club that's being run by churches all over Brisbane. There will be games, sports, craft, bible stories & heaps more!
Our KidsGames starts with an opening ceremony on Sunday June 29 and then runs on Monday 30th June - Wednesday 2nd July, 8:30am - 3:30pm. The cost is only $30 and includes morning tea and lunch on each day!
We can only take 100 kids and we're expecting to fill up fast, so register online at www.kidsgamesqld.com.au or talk to me for more details. My email address is steveu@chappy.org.au

Steve Unicomb
Chaplain

SCHOOL BANKING

During term 2 student bankers have a chance to win some great prizes.

All you have to do is make three student banking deposits at school during the term and then entry into the competition is automatic.

Major student prize:
One student will win an underwater family adventure holiday including:
• Five nights’ accommodation at the Sea World Resort & Water Park on the Gold Coast;
• VIP Passes for two adults and three kids to Sea World, Warner Bros. Movie World, and Wet’n’Wild Gold Coast;
• A Dolphin Family Aqua Adventure; and
• A $3,000 travel voucher to get them there.

Runner-up student prizes:
130 Toys"R"Us Gift Cards to the value of $250 each.

School prize:
There will be a separate draw of $1,000 cash for a school in each State/Territory of Australia.

So, if you are a regular banker, keep up the good savings. Or, if you haven't banked for a while, now would be a great time to get into the habit again. Good luck to all who participate!

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.
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS

Concert Band Rehearsals will start in Term 3. Rehearsals will be in the School’s Hall from 3.00pm – 3.30pm on Monday afternoons commencing in week 1 of Term 3. Every student in the Instrumental Music Program should attend.

The concert band will have a performance later in Term 3 and they will also participate in the end of year Christmas Concert.

Students are encouraged to practice at least 4-5 times each week for a duration of 20-30 minutes, to get their lips conditioned for performances.

Any parent wishing to discuss their child’s participation in the music program can contact me on 0416 216 997.

Regards,
Ken Lincoln
Instrumental Music Instructor

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY / JUNE 2014

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22nd  – 28th</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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<td>27th</td>
<td>Active After School Rugby League Program</td>
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<td>Lesson 4 (Boys)</td>
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<td>28th</td>
<td>School Banking</td>
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<td>28th</td>
<td>Walking Wheeling Wednesday</td>
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<td>28th</td>
<td>“State of Origin” Dress Up Day – Gold Coin Donation</td>
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<td>29th</td>
<td>Active After School Rugby League Program</td>
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<td>Lesson 4 (Girls)</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Active After School Rugby League Program</td>
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<td>Lesson 5 (Boys)</td>
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<td>Active After School Rugby League Program</td>
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<td>Lesson 5 (Girls)</td>
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<td>6th</td>
<td>Interschool Sport – Round 2</td>
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COMMUNITY NOTICES

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
A DAY MADE BETTER CAMPAIGN

Does a teacher at your school go above and beyond in their classroom?

A Day Made Better recognises exceptional primary school teachers across the country. Last year, we received 5,700 nominations for over 1,000 inspirational teachers. This year, with your help, we’re aiming to gather 10,000 nominations from every corner of Australia. Every nominated teacher will receive a certificate and gift to acknowledge their incredible contribution. And, if a teacher from your school is chosen as one of 10 winners, they’ll receive $2,000 worth of supplies and an Apple iPad for their classroom.

Put your school on the map by encouraging parents, staff and students to nominate one of your exceptional teachers today.

Support an exceptional teacher today at adaymadebetter.com.au

Kind regards,
The A Day Made Better Team

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...

- Managing both general and life style specific child problem behaviours
- Helping your child eat a healthy balance of nutritious foods
- Motivating your child to be more active
- 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)
Back by popular demand - High School Master Classes

Sunday 1st June
8.30 am – 11.30 am

High School “Master” Classes (limited places in each class)

Register on our website:
www.aspleyshs.eq.edu.au

Thank you to all families who have already enrolled for 2015 here at Aspley High School. We are really looking forward to working with you and your child over the next six years of their learning.

In response to your warm feedback about the Master Classes conducted last year, we are again offering them to families of currently enrolled students and those who are interested in experiencing the high quality teaching here at Aspley High School.

I am pleased to invite your child to join us for our High School Master Classes on Sunday June 1st. This is a terrific opportunity to visit our school again. Registration is open to those who are already enrolled and those who are considering enrolment. Just go to our website and register for the classes. I have included a description of those classes for you to help you to decide.

We are ready for 2015. Our specialist facilities (Science, Workshops and Arts) are ready to go. Our teachers are ready to work with you and your family to make the High School years really rewarding ones. I am looking forward to seeing many of you on the first of June.

Limited places please register on our website: www.aspleyshs.eq.edu.au

SOCCER
Experience soccer – full on! That’s the Aspley Eagles Soccer Development program. Come and join our Aspley Eagles master class and the Brisbane Roar Inflatable field to showcase your soccer skills and be in the chance to win some prizes. Take the opportunity to test your skills against current Aspley Eagles students and staff.

HISTORY
What is justice? What is fairness? How has the idea of justice and fairness impacted on our history? Join in our discussion to identify and debate this intriguing topic. This session highlights one of Aspley High’s most powerful and effective teaching strategies ‘community of inquiry’ and engages students and parents in a fun and fascinating search for the essence of justice and fairness in human history.

VOCAL – Musical Theatre
Learn to sing a song. Learn a choreographed routine to match the song. Prepare and perform a short acted scene from a script. Have a laugh as you prepare, rehearse and perform the item for an audience. Drama, Dance, Music are all art forms and a wonderful medium for learning and teaching. These subjects develop the whole person — emotionally, physically, intellectually, imaginatively, aesthetically, and socially — by giving form and meaning to experience through performing. This workshop will be delivered in an atmosphere that is non-competitive, cooperative, supportive, joyful yet challenging.

WOODWORKING
How are your wood working skills? Come along to this ‘hands on’ master class and manufacture your very own woodworking item. A great lesson for all abilities and levels. You will be using hand tools and machinery and everyone goes home with a completed job. We are proud of the work our students do in Industrial Design and Technology. Come and experience for yourself.

SCIENCE
Particles, Particles, Particles! Everything we see, touch and smell is made up of particles. A great lesson for all abilities and levels. You will be using hand tools and machinery and everyone goes home with a completed job. We are proud of the work our students do in Industrial Design and Technology. Our Junior School laboratories are purpose built for year seven, eight and nine.

Regards
Jacquita Miller
Principal, Aspley High School