16 September 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

We are now in the final week of Term 3 and once again it has been a very busy period for students, parents and teachers. The ten weeks that made up this term have flown by and now we find ourselves three-quarters of the way through 2014, with only the 10 school weeks of Term 4 left. That brings me neatly to my next item, that of attendance. We have had approximately 150 school days since the beginning of the year. Some of our students have missed over a third of those days for one reason or another. That means if they started in Prep, by the end of Grade 2, they would have missed a whole year of schooling. From there it is a small step to see how they might be struggling at school. This year we have had an ABC campaign – ‘All Be Counted’. That means all students need to be counted at school and all school days are counted as important. The more students are here, the more they learn. Our latest initiative, in this campaign, is below.

Congratulations to the 95ers!
At the beginning of the year, we set what we think is a reasonable target for attendance for every child at Taigum SS, no matter what year level they are in. We believe 95% is attainable for all. 95% means missing about 10 days a year or 2.5 per term. That accounts for average rates of illness, injury and unexpected occurrences that cause students to miss school. We have 125 students who fit into this category, including 6 who have not missed a day at school this year. These 125 are going to be provided with a special lunch on Friday to recognise their achievement. Parents of these students will receive a letter explaining this in more detail, this afternoon.

Music Afternoon
On Monday, we held our “Talent of Taigum’ musical afternoon in the hall. This was the first time that we tried this sort of thing and we had around 25 -30 of our students perform in front of an audience of about 30 adults and probably 60 students. All the performers did a great job and the audience were very appreciative of their efforts. When I concluded the activities, I talked about the idea of big things starting from small beginnings. For many of our students, this was the first time they had performed in front of a group. Some of the pieces were a little rough, but with plenty of practice and effort over the next few years, the standard will improve as our students continue to develop their talent and learn more about it. I look forward to bigger and better music events as time goes on. This one was great fun and the performers and audience enjoyed it immensely. Well done to all involved, especially Ms Maus, our music teacher, Mrs Mackay our enthusiastic musical helper and Mr Lincoln, our instrumental music teacher.

School Dance
This took place last Thursday and it was the first time that the P&C took over the running of the evening. It too went very well and nobody even noticed that the organisation was any different. I thought it was well organised, had a good theme and was well patronised by our students.

Staffing
We welcome Mr Steve Buchanan, who as of Wednesday last week, is the permanent Janitor Groundsman of Taigum State School. Corey will be with us until October 17, which is the Friday of Week 2, Term 4, when his contract expires. Corey will be missed, and we wish him luck.
A Final Message
Thank you everyone for your efforts this term. I hope you have the opportunity to enjoy the two weeks of school vacation. I’ll see everyone back on **Tuesday 7 October** for the start of another big term.

Mark Fisher
*Principal*

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**Students of the Week**

- Prep B - **Mason** for amazing work and amazing behaviour all term
- Prep CD - **Miguel** for an excellent effort when doing his daily exercises
- Year 1L - **Ben** for writing a great retell of a cultural story
- Year 1N - **Tameika** for writing a wonderful retell of a cultural story in English
- Year 2F - **Robbie** for working very hard to improve his fluency when reading
- Year 2HS - **Milan** for having a great attitude to his work, and finishing his Maths work efficiently
- Year 2J - **Blaize** for an excellent improvement in his spelling words
- Year 3B - **Audrey** for dealing with small problems sensibly
- Year 3TM - **Lincoln** for using some excellent techniques to complete his technology project
- Year 4G - **Danica** for working hard in class completing all tasks and showing good manners at all times
- Year 4MI - **Eh Tha Mee** for being a helpful class member and showing great leadership
- Year 5WR - **Tiffani** for an excellent multimodal presentation and for patiently sharing her expertise with her classmates
- Year 6S - **Isaiah** for an excellent effort throughout the term and having organised and neat bookwork
- Year 6/7G - **Ehkeller** for giving 100% during Maths lessons
- Year 7C - **Andrew** for working well on his persuasive essay and using original ideas

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**BOOK AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their bookwork on Friday 12th September 2014.

- 1L - Taleisha
- 1N - Hassan
- 2F - Rhiana
- 2HS - Marzieh
- 2J - Vekrom
- 3B - PJ
- 3TM - Riley
- 4G - Damascus
- 4MI - Jada
- 5WR - Kurt
- 6S - Angelina
- 6/7G - Kade
- 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.

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.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Being positive and persevering teaches children to overcome fear and persist in the face of adversity. Failure should be seen as an integral part of learning, an opportunity to try again or choose a different way.

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

For ‘Chappy Chat’ at assembly last Friday, I told the kids a story about William Booth, the founder of The Salvation Army. In the early 1900’s, William Booth wanted to send out a Christmas message to the Salvation Army worldwide. He sent a telegram, but because of the expense he could only send one word. The word he sent was ‘others.’

I talked to the kids about treating others like we like to be treated and even putting others first. If everyone in the world treated each other well, this world would be a much more awesome place!

If you want to contact me my email address is steveu@chappy.org.au or ring the school office.

Steve Unicomb
Chaplain
FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop is open both lunch breaks on Fridays.

HELPERS NEEDED
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

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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

JABIRU OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Have a Jabiru Holiday this September/ October
Jabiru Kids has planned a great program of activities for the September/ October holidays. We’ll make mini minions, cuddle worms, spell with spaghetti, invent new recipes, prospect for gold and fabricate footy foam fingers.
This holidays our excursion is to Walkabout Creek Wildlife Centre to meet native animals and explore the bush. Special visitors from Second Nature Indigenous Arts will introduce us to Indigenous cultural activities, painting and games.
Jabiru Kids Taigum opens from 6.30am to 6pm over the holidays. We even serve breakfast!
Try a day for free: if you haven’t tried Jabiru before, join us for a free day of holiday fun. Just mention this article when you book.
The full program is available from Jabiru Taigum or online at http://www.jabiru.org.au/kids
Jabiru vacation care is cheaper than you think, especially for people entitled to Child Care Benefit: call Jabiru for a quote on 3269 0044.
**SING & GROW**

Free Sing and Grow program commencing in Term 4 for children starting Prep in 2015 and their parents/guardians. Siblings of 2015 Prep children welcome also. If interested please call Marvin at Jabiru on 0438 542 746 or 3862 8152 to register interest or ask questions.

**MEMORY WALK & JOG**

*The Race Against Dementia*
- Raising Funds and Awareness for Dementia
- All age and fitness levels encouraged
- 2.5km Walk for Fun
- 5km Walk for Fitness
- 5km Run for a Challenge

Sunday 28 September - Register Now
Phone (07) 3895 8200 or visit [www.memorywalk.com.au](http://www.memorywalk.com.au)
Entry Fees start at $15 – The first 200 participants will receive a free event t-shirt
Registration open from 7:00am
First event starts at 8:45am
University of Queensland, Oval 5, St Lucia Campus

**CRAIGSLEA STATE HIGH SCHOOL**

*An Independent Public School*

**OPEN MORNINGS**

First and Third Friday each month
9:00am – 10:00am
- See Classes in Action
- Meet Students and Staff
- Tour the School

Contact Cathy at craigslea.high@eq.edu.au or Phone 3326 5222
Craiglea State High School, Hamilton Road Chermside West, Qld 4032
Website: [www.craigslehs.eq.edu.au](http://www.craigslehs.eq.edu.au)
SAVER PLUS PROGRAM

Would you like the opportunity to receive $500 to help with your child’s education expenses?

The Smith Family's Saver Plus program is a matched saving program offering dollar for dollar matchings to help with your family’s education expenses. To be eligible to join the program you need to have a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card and some form of employment in your household other than Centrelink payments. If you would like more information about how to join the Saver Plus Program please call 1300 610 355, or SMS your name and postcode to 1300 610 355, or email saverplus@bsl.org.au.

If you have any enquiries please feel to contact me on my details below.

Thank you
Brendon Balogh
Saver Plus Coordinator | The Smith Family
P.O. Box 10500 Ipswich QLD 4305
ph 07-3812 0021 | fax 07-3812 3776 | mob 0429 925 860
www.thesmithfamily.com.au

The Smith Family is a national charity helping young Australians in need to get the most out of their education, so they can create better futures for themselves.

FUN WITH FEELINGS

A team of researchers at Griffith University are investigating a parent-based program for young children with Asperger’s Syndrome/High Functioning Autism and comorbid anxiety difficulties. Anxiety is common in children with Asperger’s Syndrome/High Functioning Autism and can lead to difficulties in friendships, family life and school. However, the earlier anxiety is treated the less impact it is likely to have on a child’s development and future. The Fun with Feelings Team is seeking parents of children aged between 4 and 6 years to partake in the study.

The treatment program involves parents attending 10 weekly, group sessions that run for approximately 90 minutes. Parents will also be asked to complete questionnaires up to 3 times during the study at times separate to the treatment program.

This is being offered free for families who are eligible to participate.

For more information contact Julia Cook or Dr Caroline Donovan

Phone: 37353326
Email: funwithfeelings@griffith.edu.au
Join up now to be a Wizard! Membership registration is now open.

* Club Season, October 2014 - April 2015
* Club Night – every Tuesday 6pm, during the club season
* Inter-Club and Representative Competitions offered
* Brisbane Swimming Association and Swimming Queensland affiliated club
* Family and Friendship, Fun and Fitness and a Healthy Lifestyle.

To enquire about joining our club, please email secretary@brswim.org.au, or visit www.brswim.org.au. You are also welcome to visit the pool canteen Wednesdays from 3:30pm.

Sign on morning, Saturday 27 September 2014, 9am-11am, at our pool complex Denham St, Bracken Ridge. (Please bring birth certificates for all new memberships)
KOOBARA PLAYGROUP

Would like to invite you to join us!
Monday@ Bracken Ridge Baptist Church, 47 Norris Road - 10am to 12pm
Wednesday@ Zillmere State School, 70 Murphy Road, 10am to 12pm
Friday@ Mitchelton Presbyterian Church, 40 Ruby Road, 10am to 12pm

We enjoy Art & Craft, cooking, and playing with our friends.
A light lunch is provided, yet parents are encouraged to contribute.
For more information call Koobara Communities for Children Program
Office Hours 8am to 4pm – Phone (07) 3865 4044
Playgroup Worker – 0403 110 673