Dear Parents

What a huge week for Taigum State School this one was. After seven months of planning and rehearsal, our first ever musical was a triumph. One hundred and twenty of our students, some as young as eight years old, put on a magnificent performance for our opening night on Friday last week. They looked great, the backdrops looked great and they sang, danced and acted brilliantly. The only blemish was their young voices were a little hard to hear for those in the audience. However, the audience was superbly patient and attentive and enjoyed every moment, judging by their laughter, cheers and applause. ‘What a Night’ was very aptly named as everyone involved had a fantastic time.

The one thing I truly enjoyed above everything else, was the opportunity afforded to our students. For many of them, it was the first time they had ever been on stage, first time they’d sung in public and first time they had ever acted in any organised way. We talk a lot about academic involvement, sport and social interactions, but it is wonderful to have students have such an immersion in the arts. Who knows, this might be the beginning of a theatrical career for some of them. I hope it has triggered their interest at least, and perhaps they might look for more opportunities at high school in the future.

Thanks have to be made to the three drivers of the process – Ms Maus, Mrs Mackay and Mr Martin who worked tirelessly from April to get the musical onto the stage. It was though, a real team effort, because nearly every staff member had a role, whether high profile or in the background. We had the Conference Room converted into a costume shop, the music room doubled as the prop workshop and our hall was the rehearsal room. It was a tremendous school community effort, of which I am very proud. It was a great way to bring the year (almost) to an end. Saturday night is not the last we’ll see of the musical though, as the final scene will be performed on our last assembly of the year, on Wednesday December 10, for all those students who didn’t get to see it at the Aspley hall. DVDs of the performance will also be available soon.

EFTPOS Facilities

For many years, parents have been requesting that EFTPOS be available at schools as increasingly this has been the way we transact business. I am very happy to report that we finally have that facility. As of last week, the school office has an EFTPOS point and parents can use their credit and debit cards to pay school costs. The office is regularly staffed from 8:00 am to 3:30pm if you wish to make payments.

QParents Pilot

The Education Department’s computer record keeping programme is called ‘OneSchool’ and it has been in operation for about 7 years. Up until now, it has only been accessible by department employees on department devices. That is all about to change. From 2015, parents will be able to access ‘OneSchool’ information about their own students from their home computers or smart phones. Exactly what that looks like, I can’t tell you as it is still in the final stages of development, but we are set to be a pilot school. The initial information indicates parents being able to view the following:

- Student Details
- Behaviour
- Timetable
- Finance
- Reporting
- Attendance

Once I know more about this, I will pass on the information. It looks like that from Term 2, 2015 we will begin signing parents on to the system and after that I imagine an exciting future awaits us all.

Mark Fisher
Principal
Prep B - Jessica for trying her best in reading groups
Prep CD - Mia-Bella for excellent scientific knowledge
Year 1L - Gianni for exhibiting model behaviour in class
Year 1N - Jermaine for working hard in Maths, and applying mathematical strategies
Year 2F - Andrew for excellent participation in warm-ups every day
Year 2HS - Anushka for improved confidence and great reading skills
Year 2J - Joshua for an excellent re-tell
Year 3B - Anjali for making a good attempt at an English assessment
Year 3TM - Johnathan for concentrating well in English and writing some terrific letters
Year 4G - Hope for trying her best in class at all times
Year 4MI - Maya for working really hard with her group during maths tasks
Year 5WR - Hayley and Paris for working hard at all times and for being kind to their classmates
Year 6S - Alex for settling so well into his new class/school
Year 6/7G - Shakira for a good effort with her Geography Report
Year 7C - Liam for working hard on his speech and his panel involvement

BOOK AWARDS

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

- 1L - Derek and Hannah
- 1N - James and Zane
- 2F - Ger Kler and Grace
- 2HS - Dennise and Savitha
- 2J - Azariah and Princess
- 3B - Deanna and Shee Shee
- 3TM - Kadia and Lincoln
- 4G - Jonas and Ketarna
- 4MI - Lukas and Blessey
- 5WR - Tiffany and Amanda
- 6S - Khushi and Carl
- 6/7G - Zoe and Tiara
- 7C - Sara and Theresa

FROM THE OFFICE

SWIMMING CARNIVAL NEWS

Junior Swimming Carnival

Parents/Friends the Prep-Year 3 Junior Swimming Carnival will be held on Monday 1 December and you are invited to come along and cheer for your child and see them compete at this fun and exciting event. The format for this year Junior Swim Carnival is attached below for your information. The emphasis for this Carnival is placed on participation and fun as our students are exposed to competitive swimming. Every child who swims will be rewarded for their efforts with students achieving a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place being rewarded with a ribbon. Parents please note that children will not have the opportunity to swim in every event on the day however they will swim in at least 2 individual races as well as a relay race if they are in Years 2 or 3. The events that the students will swim in will reflect some of the work our students have been undertaking during their swimming lessons this term.

We look forwarded to seeing you at the Junior Carnival and helping us cheer on our young swimmers.
Monday 1st December 2014

Program
10.00-11.00am Year 3 Session
11.00-11.30am Lunch
11.30-12.30pm Year 2 Session
1.00-1.45pm Lunch
1.45-3.00pm Prep-Year 1 Session

Senior Swimming Carnival

We invite our School Community to come along and support our children in Years 4-7 as they battle for the Inter-House Swimming Shield on Tuesday 2 December starting at 9.00am. A copy of the program has been attached for your information.

We would like to remind all parents, children and supporters that the Inter-House Swimming Carnival at Taigum State School is classed as a “learning carnival”. That is the vast majority of our participants will either be swimming competitively for the first time and/or this carnival will be the only carnival that they will be exposed to within a calendar year. With this in mind it is essential that we create an environment for our swimmers to learn, be encouraged to compete in and have the opportunity to gain some level of personal success. Whilst it would be nice to see every child swim obeying the rules set down FINA the majority of our students are still developing their stroke understanding and competency, so minor errors that would see them disqualified will be treated with compassion whilst major errors that provide students a large advantage will be judged accordingly.

We will require some assistance with timekeeping. If you are available to assist please see Mr. Moore at the pool before the Carnival starts and get the best seat at the Carnival!

Year 4-7 Senior Swim Carnival Program – Tuesday 2nd December

Program
9.00 am Yrs 4 - 7 25m and 50m - butterfly, freestyle, 
11.00 am Morning Tea
11.30 am Yrs 4-7 25m and 50m backstroke & breaststroke
1.00 pm Lunch
1.45 pm Grades 4-7 Relays

**FREESTYLE** Relays: 1 boys & 1 girls team for each house per year

**MULTIAGE FREESTYLE** Relays: YR 4/5/6/7 1 swimmer each Boy & Girl age champions for each house.

**MIXED FREESTYLE** relays (1 mixed team for each age group per house)

**Student/Teacher/Parent Relay (Time permitting)**

2.30 pm Presentation and clean up.
EFTPOS FACILITIES

We are pleased to announce that EFTPOS facilities are now available at the school. We trust this will provide a more convenient alternative for payment, however cash and cheque payment will still be accepted.

REMINDEERS

Parents/carers, the following forms have recently been sent home with each child and/or family.

- Booklist Orders for 2015
- C2C English Text resource $20 (sent home with students in Years 2-5 as applies for all students in Years 3-6 in 2015)
- Voluntary Family Contribution $50/family (sent home with the youngest family member)

If your children have not brought these forms home, could you please ensure you collect a copy from your child’s class teacher or from the office.

SCHOOL SWIMMING

School swimming has commenced. All students must wear a swimming cap and rash vest so please 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.

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.

FROM THE LIBRARY

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Change of Venue – Now in the Library

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Library, before and after school and during both lunch breaks from Thursday 20th November until Wednesday 26th November. Hundreds of books available for sale and all purchases benefit our school. So come along and catch the reading bug!

FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Icy cups will be for sale from the hall canteen each Thursday at second lunch break. Still only 50 cents so come on over and enjoy a cool, refreshing treat during our warmer weather while helping to support our Student Council.

FROM THE P&C

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES

Monday to Thursday mornings: 8.15am to 9.00am

Thursday afternoon: 2.30pm – 3.15pm

Many thanks and have a great week!

Chloe Boswell
P&C President
FROM THE TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop will NOT be open on Friday 12 December, the last day of school.

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.

As we move towards the end of the year, we want to ensure our students are keeping up their good savings habits. So we’re rewarding regular savings by sharing the Dollarmites latest find, precious prizes from the ancient Clam of Fortune.

The Dollarmites have uncovered the ancient Clam of Fortune. Inside they found these amazing prizes that you could win a share of:
- 40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
- 150 x Slip ‘N Slide Double Wave Riders

All students need to do for a chance to win is make a deposit of any amount through School Banking between 20th October - 30th November 2014 and they automatically receive one entry into the competition.
So the more they save, the more chances they have to win a prize (up to a maximum of 6 entries).

DATES TO REMEMBER

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

GREAT ADVENTURES – FIRST STEPS HIMALAYA

Come on a Great Family Adventure in Nepal
Easter School Holidays: 2nd April – 18th April 2015
☐ Trek in stunning mountain scenery
☐ Enjoy as a family the simplicity of life in the Himalayas
☐ Experience our education projects first hand
☐ Have fun in the beautiful lakeside town of Pokhara
☐ Join the amazing activities on offer at an adventure resort close to the Tibetan border
☐ Relax in luxury hotels mixed with the authentic experience of off the beaten track Nepali villages

Join this incredible 15 day tour co-ordinated by the directors of the charity First Steps Himalaya
www.greatadventures-nepal.com
Email: greatadventures@firststepshimalaya.org or Ph: (03) 5451903

CRAIGSLEA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Three Important Dates for our Year 7 and 8 Families Commencing in 2015

- **Parent Information Evening for Parents and Carers of our Year 7 and 8 Students commencing in 2015.**
  
  Thursday, 27 November at 5.30pm in the Auditorium on Hamilton Road – “Starting Secondary School” is an evening presented to assist parents and carers in supporting their child in the smooth transition from primary school to secondary school. You will hear from and meet a number of the Craigslea State High School staff who will be involved in the wellbeing and teaching of your child.

- **Year 7 2015 Orientation Day**
  
  Tuesday, 2 December – commencing at 9.00am in the Craigslea State High School Hall. This is a full day program where students will meet their Buddy Leaders, teachers, support staff and be able to become familiar with secondary school before they commence their 2015 school year.

- **Year 8 2015 Orientation Day**
  
  Wednesday, 3 December – commencing at 9.00am in the Craigslea State High School Hall. This is a full day program where students will meet their Buddy Leaders, teachers, support staff and be able to become familiar with secondary school before they commence their 2015 school year.

  We look forward to welcoming you to the Craigslea State High School community at these occasions.

2015 Year 7 and 8 Enrolments

Year Seven and Eight Enrolment Interviews are now being finalised for 2015. Enrolment packs may be collected from the Craigslea State High School Administration Office. To book interviews please contact our Administration staff on ph: 3326 5222.

Mark Farwell
Principal
SCHOOL HOLIDAY INTENSIVE LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM - BRACKEN RIDGE SWIMMING CLUB

* Learn To Swim and Squads will operate our normal program through the Christmas School Holiday period. We will be closed only 21 December 2014 - 4 January 2015.
* Intensive Learn To Swim for weeks 1, 4, 5 & 6 are open now and taking bookings. $65 per swimmer per week for 5 weekday morning lessons.
* Skills based Learn To Swim & Squad programs with “Quality tuition with care and attention” Philosophy. *All new clients receive a free assessment, for entry to the correct level of the swim program. * Competition, Triathlete, Surf and Adult Fitness also catered for.
admin@brswim.org.au or phone 38690005 (please leave a message)

WAVELL STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Orientation Day for students in Years 7 and 8, 2015
Monday 8 December 2014
Assembly Hall
Telopia Avenue, Wavell Heights
8:30am for an 8:45am start
3:00pm finish
(Morning Tea provided for parents at 10:00am)

Students to bring/wear:
Primary School Uniform
Notepad & pens
Morning Tea & Lunch

Combined Shop Hours – Monday 8 December
Stationery & Clothing open 1:00pm – 5:30pm
Pre-purchase your requirements prior to Orientation Day.
Shop Open Monday – Thursday 8:15am – 11:15am

Enrolment applications still welcome.
For enquiries please contact Sandra Lock, Enrolment Officer on 3350 0328
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

WATER POLO QUEENSLAND

Looking for a way to keep cool during the Summer Holidays? Water Polo QLD has the perfect solution! Come down to Somerville House Aquatics Centre on the 15th and 16th of December and join in on two days of jam packed fun, skills, drills and competition. Lots of prizes and giveaways to be won and each participant will receive a showbag. For more details and to register go to www.waterpoloqld.com.au or call the office 3367 1661.