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13 August 2015

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

My apologies for the late newsletter this week, but with the public holiday Wednesday and Monday and Tuesday very busy with Bramble Bay athletics and Ekka excursions, the time got away from me. I trust though, everyone has enjoyed a pleasant mid-week day off, if you got one.

Naplan Results

Two weeks ago, all our Year 3 and Year 5 students received their individual Naplan Reports on numeracy and literacy. Last week, we received the summary of how our school did in relation to the rest of the country. The results are pretty good, though we still have plenty to do in some areas. We get three sets of figures in the data that is sent to us. We are compared to schools like us, all schools in Queensland and finally, all schools in Australia. As you can imagine, the more schools we are compared to, the higher the standard becomes. The very good news is that in all areas our Year 5s are around the national average, an excellent result. Our Year 3s are comparable to the nation in three of the five test areas but are below the national average in reading and numeracy. These two areas will be our focus in the work we do in the following months. Compared to all Queensland schools, we are pretty close to average across the board. When the figures for 'like' schools are analysed, we are average or above. The 'like' schools I talk about are ones across the country that are of a similar size, have students from similar backgrounds and parents of a comparable income bracket. Taking a longer view, since 2008, our results have been slowly improving, but with a significant upswing from 2014. This is very pleasing and our challenge is to continue this improvement in the coming years. With the strong work we are already doing in reading this year, I feel very optimistic that the improvement trend will be even more evident in 2016.

Science Dinner

On Tuesday night, 15 of our staff members attended the annual Northside Science Dinner. These dinners have a twofold purpose. Firstly, they are designed for teachers, both primary and secondary, to learn more about current trends in science and research. Secondly, they are to encourage teachers to motivate their students into entering careers in science, an area we all know, is crucial to our long term prosperity. Those present were treated to presentations from three scientists who are expert in their fields. The first scientist talked about the effect of beer brewing on the study of biochemistry. The first biochemistry lab ever set up was at the Carlsberg Brewery in Amsterdam and many breakthroughs like pasteurisation, were first used in the production of beer. Beer making can be traced back to 13 000 years ago and we think beer was the first product ever made by man. The second scientist talked about the origin of the universe, which of course, is about the biggest subject there is. She spoke of a cosmos about 13.5 billion years of age that we think we know a lot about, but still have some very big blind spots in our understanding including two huge areas –dark matter and dark energy. These are the two things that almost every astrophysicist is studying at present. The third speaker, literally brought us back down to earth, with a great talk about Australian soils. It takes roughly a thousand years to produce one centimetre of good soil, but in only seconds it can be blown away, washed away or destroyed by animal or human activity. Looking after our soils, particularly with the need for greater food production in the future is an absolute priority for our country and all others across the globe. All of us came away much educated and enthused in science. As an added benefit, Mrs Murphy won the top lucky door prize, so our students will be able to read New Scientist magazine every week in the library through the whole year of the subscription we received.

Bramble Bay Athletics

As I write this, I don't have the final results of how our students went, I'll leave that to next week. What I will say, is that our children behaved wonderfully and represented our school with pride. That is a fantastic effort from all concerned and I commend them all for their efforts.

Mark Fisher
Principal

Students of the Week

- Prep B** – **Mya** for knowing all 21 of her Magenta sight words. Good work!
- Prep CD** – **Bella** for an interesting retell about the Three Little Pigs
- Year 1F** – **Grace** for trying very hard to make green light choices and do her best counting in warm-ups
- Year 1L** – **Maddelin** for participating in class discussions
- Year 1N** – **Nathaniel** for making incredible progress in literacy, well surpassing his reading goal for this term
- Year 2HM** – **Emma** for a great improvement in reading
- Year 2J** – **Jaime** for great work in 'Daily 5' writing
- Year 3B** – **Zaki** for offering to help a classmate in need
- Year 3JM** – **Joshua** for working hard to improve his bookwork
- Year 3M** – **Alex** for being a fantastic helper!
- Year 4G** – **Matthew** for great work during 'Sentence A Day'
- Year 4S** – **Emily** for making a wonderful start to Year 4 and trying hard with all her work
- Year 5C** – **Brandon** for using a focused approach to demonstrate his understanding in constructing his poetry analysis
- Year 5WI** – **Damascus** for attentive listening and for writing an excellent analysis of our national anthem Advance Australia Fair
- Year 5/6P** – **Lincoln** for always having an excellent attitude when solving challenging math problems
- Year 6S** – **Amanda** for diligence in all areas of work. Well done!

BOOK AWARDS



Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their bookwork on Friday 7th August 2015.

- 1F – Amira
- 1L – Moowahpaw
- 1N – Dontayvious
- 2HM – Gianni
- 2J – Jared
- 3B – Cooper
- 3JM – Josh
- 3M – Lukas
- 4G – Kyesha
- 4S – Saiful
- 5C – Akhemi
- 5WI – Gus
- 5/6P – Maverick
- 6S – Miguel

FROM THE OFFICE

PREP ENROLMENTS - 2016

Children born between 1st July 2010 and 30th June 2011 are eligible for enrolment in Prep in 2016.

For further information you are encouraged to attend our Prep Open Day to be held on 20th August 2015.

PERSONAL DETAILS UPDATE

If you have recently changed your address, contact phone number or emergency contacts, please complete a form at the office to update your details

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.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN 2015

This year Taigum State School will again be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you'd like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

FROM THE LIBRARY



"When I say to a parent, 'read to a child', I don't want it to sound like medicine. I want it to sound like chocolate." *Mem Fox*

BOOK WEEK



We're getting close to that time of year when all who love reading and children's books have a huge celebration known as Children's Book Week (17 to 21 August). As part of our celebrations we will be having our Dress-up parade on Friday the 21 August. We encourage all children to dress as their favourite storybook character.

SCHOOL PARTICIPATION OFFICERS



Every day counts at school.

School absenteeism and truancy can impact significantly on students' learning and wellbeing.

Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. Children do better when they go to school all day, every day.

Under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on all school days unless there is a reasonable excuse. Schools must monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences.

School Participation Officers will:

- monitor student attendance
- let you know if your child is not at school
- follow-up any unexplained absences
- help with strategies to encourage your child to go to school

Is your child at school today?

SCHOOL BANKING



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 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.

Don't forget, students who consistently display stellar savings behaviour by making 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically go into the draw to win a family trip to California's Disneyland. This astronomical prize includes return flights, five night's accommodation, transfers and 3 days park entry for up to 2 adults and 2 children as well as AUD\$20000 spending money.

Rewarding regular savers with amazing prizes in Term 3

We're bringing the exciting news that an Intergalactic Prize Portal has appeared on Planet Savings, giving students who demonstrate good savings behaviour the chance to win amazing prizes. To help the Dollarmites activate the Prize Portal, ***students must simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3*** and they will automatically be entered into the competition for a chance to win one of hundreds of prizes.

- 75 x iPad minis Wi-Fi 16GB
- 125 x Beats by Dr. Dre Solo Headphones
- 200 x \$30 Booktopia Gift Certificates

Students can also complete a Money Mission at commbank.com.au/prizeportal to double their chance of winning a prize. Students can start the Money Mission any time after Monday 13th July, but are required to make three deposits by the end of Term 3 to double their chance of winning.

FROM THE P&C

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES

Monday to Friday mornings: 8.15am to 9.00am

The uniform shop also has fleecy school jackets in stock. These are great for those cold mornings, plus the students look fantastic in them.

Have a wonderful holiday and see you next term.

DATES TO REMEMBER

 AUGUST 2015	
10 th & 11 th	Bramble Bay Athletics
11 th	School Banking
11 th	Walking Wheeling Wednesday
11 th	Senior Leader / ESL EKKA Excursion
12 th	EKKA Public Holiday
20 th	Prep Open Day - 9:00am
21 st	Book Week Dress Up Day
26 th	PCYC Netball Community Cup (Year 5&6)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

TAIGUM TINY TIGERS PLAYGROUP

What We Do:

At Taigum Tiny Tigers Playgroup we cater for children from birth to 5yrs old, and offer a safe and fun environment for little ones and their parents / carers to come and spend a couple hours each week.

We organise a range of fun activities for the children that include: Story Time, Arts & Crafts as well as Imaginative Play!

Coffee and tea is provided for the adults and we encourage everyone to bring something to share for Morning Tea.

When and Where:

Taigum Tiny Tigers meets on Tuesdays from 9am – 11am

We are located at Taigum State School (Room 9 – next to the Tuckshop)

266 Handford Road, Taigum 4018

For any further information please contact Chloe Boswell on: 3632 9888.

We Look Forward To Seeing You There!

OCTOBER TWILIGHT MARKETS

Sandgate Hawks Twilight Markets,
Oktoberfest & Car Boot Sale

Saturday 17th October 2015

3:00pm – 8:30pm

We are on the lookout for marketeers. The event will coincide with our very own Oktoberfest and Car Boot Sale, so get your steins ready and think all things German.

Pretzels, steins of beer, bell ringing, dancing and lots of laughing!

If you would like to be a part of this, please send us an email request,

sandgatehawksmarketing@gmail.com and we'll send you a copy of the application form. Please fill it in, and get it back to us before July 31st to ensure your interest is registered. If you know of any German stallholders that may be interested, ask them to get in touch with us too.

If you have any questions in the lead up to this event, get in touch with us by phoning the club on 3363 9666.

SENSORY MOVIE DAY

Sensory Movie Days are inclusive events for families/carers with special needs.

- Lighting is on dim, sound lowered, volunteers monitoring fire exit doors
- Sensory Movie Days run once a month on a Sunday at 11am
- Tickets are \$8 each Children 2yrs and under are free
- Companion I.D. Cards are accepted

Sensory Movie Day is run at Morayfield Birch Carroll & Coyle cinema

Upcoming screenings include:

- **Inside Out** – Sunday 16 August
- **Pixels** – Sunday 13 September
- **Pan** – Sunday 18 October
- **Blinky Bill** – Sunday 15 November
- **Hotel Transylvania 2** – Sunday 6 December

For any further information please contact Chanelle on 0422416509 or sensorymovieday@hotmail.com

ASPLEY STATE HIGH SCHOOL



2016 Enrolments for Year 7 through to Year 12 are now available. We invite you to contact the school for Parent tours and enrolment interview times.

Our **Twilight Tour**, with the Principal, Ms Miller, will be held on Wednesday 19th August 2015 between 5:00pm – 7:00pm in the Lecture Centre, Aspley SHS, 651 Zillmere Rd, Aspley.

If you are interested in attending, please register online at www.aspleyshs.eq.edu.au or phone 3863 9222

CRAIGSLEA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Craigslea State High School 2016 Year 7 Enrolments

Year Seven Enrolment Interviews are well underway for 2016. Interviews are available on the following dates: 10 & 27 August and 10 September. Enrolment packs may be collected from the Administration office. To book interviews please contact our Administration staff on ph.: 3326 5222.

Applications and Entry requirements for 2016 Year 7 Schools of Excellence

- **Craigslea Volleyball Academy**

Application submitted by Friday, 4 September

Trials for Skills/Fitness – Monday & Tuesday, 7 & 8 September 2015

All Programs of Excellence will be finalised by early October 2015 and successful applicants will be notified.

SOFTBALL BATTER UP

Bears Softball Club – Come and have some fun and try softball at our 3 week program for kids 7-12 years old.

When: Sunday 9:00 – 10:30am
30 August, 6 September & 13 September

Where: O'Callaghan Park, Zillmere – off Jennings St.

How Much: \$50 – includes 3 week program, Softball glove and ball, or Softball bat for returning participants!

More info: Email: getintosoftball@gmail.com
Web: www.bearssoftball.com.au/softballbatterup.htm

BOONDALL BARRACUDAS SWIM CLUB

Sign On Day: Saturday 5th & 12th September 2015
11:00am – 2:00pm
Boondall State School Pool,
Roscommon Rd, Boondall

Club Nights: Gates open 5:30pm
Swimming starts after Club Chat at 6:00pm sharp.
Friday nights Term 4, 2015 & Term 1, 2016

For further information contact:

- Sue – 0419 784901
- Tamie – 0439 854 390
- Kathy – 0417 739066
- Email – boondallbarracudas@hotmail.com

SWIM SOLUTIONS



Does your child get deep water exposure?

swim solutions

We teach in the big pool!

The advertisement features a red border. On the left, there is a blue logo with a red and white striped pattern above the text 'swim solutions'. In the center, a photograph shows a man in a white and red jacket and a red cap, wearing sunglasses, standing in a swimming pool. He is holding a child who is floating on their back. The pool has yellow and green lane markers. In the background, there is a building and a sign with a 'no swimming' symbol. The text 'Does your child get deep water exposure?' is written in white on a red background at the top right. At the bottom, the text 'We teach in the big pool!' is written in white on a red background.

Operating out of the Boondall State School pool, Swim Solutions run a comprehensive program to suit beginners, recreational and competitive swimmers. Our Learn to Swim and Squad programs run outside school hours Monday – Friday afternoons & Saturday mornings.

Swim Solutions Boondall also offer school holiday intensive and recreational programs.

For more information contact Kath on 0410 551335 or email info@swimsolutions.com.au

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