

7 October 2015

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school for the final ten weeks of the year. I trust your break was a good one. Over the page is the Term 4 planner and when the activities on it are complete, we will have had another year pass. Our current Preps will be ready for Year 1; our Year 6s will be getting ready for high school and we'll all be twelve months older.

Term 4

There is always plenty happening in Term 4. It is the time when we wrap up our present year and plan for the next one. In the 'major event' category we have our Year 6 Graduation as the highlight, but we also have Year 6 Camp, our Carols Night, the swimming carnivals and our final assembly when we present our traditional 'Students of the Year' Awards. There are also Orientation Days, Parent Information sessions, interschool sport and extra swimming sessions for our Prep students. All of these are laid out on the planner, and I'm sure there will be others added before we get to Break Up day on December 11. With that all occurring, we still can't take our focus off the literacy and numeracy needs of our students so every day will be 'full on' with learning, whether in class, in Special Ed or in intervention, it will be full speed ahead. We have 48 school days this term and we intend to use them fully.

School Swimming

Mr Moore will be running our class swimming programme on Mondays and Tuesdays starting next week. With the timetable so busy, that gives each class only nine 30 minute lessons in the term. It is essential that all students attend every week. Many try to avoid swimming, often, unfortunately, with the support of their parents. We live in a warm climate and near the coast so water plays a big part in many of our working and recreational activities. Water competency is not only useful but it could be life saving in certain circumstances. We need every child, at the very least, to be able to save themselves if they fall into water. It would be even better if they had the skills to also save others should the need arise. Swimming is important and will be treated like any other school subject, that is, it is compulsory for each student to attend unless there are valid reasons why they cannot. With the very warm weather not far away, the pool is a great place to be.

Facilities Update

Over the vacation we had a team of electrical contractors upgrading the school's power supply. Their job, all but for a few minor finishing touches, is complete. We now have adequate power to run all the computers, whiteboards, equipment and appliances in each classroom when needed. This has been a long time coming and is very welcome. Due to trenching work to run larger cables, some parts of the school grounds have been disrupted, particularly in the Prep area. Over the next few weeks we will endeavour to bring these areas back to their original state. I apologise for any inconvenience this causes.

Interschool Sport

From Friday next week, we revert to touch football for interschool sport. The upcoming three Fridays of competition will follow on from those that we played in Term 1. The boys will be playing at Taigum State School and the girls will be travelling to Bracken Ridge State High School for their games. Notices will go home soon. With this summer season come some rule changes, particularly about kicking the ball. These are being brought in to make the game more fun and interesting for our students and increase participation rates. The first games start at 11:30am on Friday 16 October. Parents are welcome to come down and watch.

Mark Fisher
Principal

TERM 4 CALENDAR

TAIGUM STATE SCHOOL CALENDAR - TERM 4, 2015 –PARENTS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 5-9 Oct	Labour Day Holiday	First Day of Term Intervention commences	School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday 11:45—3pm Special Group Photos in Assembly Hall		8:45 Assembly 2:00pm Interschool Sport trials
Week 2 12-16 Oct		P&C Meeting 6.15pm	School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday 12:30—Guys Group at Bunnings		8:45 Assembly Interschool Sport
Week 3 19-23 Oct	Student Free Day	2:15 Prep Parents Reading Info Session - Kathy Dickson Afterschool Swimming Prep (Round 1 Lesson 1)	Year 6 Camp School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday 2:15 Year 1 Parents Reading Info Session - Kathy Dickson	Year 6 Camp Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 1 – Lesson 2)	8:45 Assembly Year 6 Camp
Week 4 26-30 Oct		Afterschool Swimming Prep (Round 1 Lesson 3)	School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday	Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 1 Lesson 4)	World Teachers’ Day 8:45 Assembly Interschool Sport
Week 5 2-6 Nov	Class Formation proforma out to parents for 2016 classes	2:15 P rep Parents Numeracy Info Session - Kathy Dickson Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 1 Lesson 5) Final Lesson	School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday 2:15 Year 1 Parents Numeracy Info Session - Kathy Dickson	Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 2 – Lesson 1)	8:45 Assembly

Week 6 9-13 Nov		P&C Meeting 6:15pm Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 2 – Lesson 2)	School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday	Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 2 – Lesson 3)	8:45 Assembly Interschool Sport
Week 7 16-20 Nov		Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 2 – Lesson 4)	School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday	Afterschool Swimming – Prep (Round 2 – Lesson 5) Final Lesson	8:45 Assembly
Week 8 23-27 Nov			School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday Ride to School with the principal 8:00 Big Breakfast		8:45 Assembly Intervention concludes
Week 9 30 Nov- 4 Dec	Library closed for rest of year	Years 4-7 Swimming Carnival	School Banking Walking Wheeling Wednesday PCYC Community Cup Touch Football Zillmere PCYC	6:30 Carols Night – Salvation Army Hall	8:45 Assembly Junior Swim Carnival 1:45 to 3pm
Week 10 7-11 Dec	6:30 Year 6 Graduation (TSS Hall) Aspley SHS Orientation Day Wavell SHS Orientation Day	Senior Leader Excursion 2:30 Meet 2016 Teachers Reports go home	8:45 Assembly - Final Parade of 2015 - Students of the Year	Party Day Furniture Moving Day	Clean Up Day

