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27 October 2015

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

There's nothing like a short break to re-energise yourself for the final term of school. With my return from leave, Mrs Tunny moves back into her Deputy Principal role and Mr Cran finds himself back on his class. Whilst both did a great job in their acting positions, they and I are glad to be back where we belong and looking forward to a strong finish to the year.

Classes for 2016

Last week we sent out the class preference form to all parents so they can provide us with useful information as how best to place their children next year. I know that each year, most parents have a preferred teacher they would like their son or daughter to have. Unfortunately, this cannot happen for everyone. In the end, we try and get the best fit for each child, each teacher, each year level and the school as a whole. Compromises have to be made and there may be some disappointed. The ultimate goal though, is to have each child learning to their potential and I find that by Week 3 of a new year, even those who weren't initially happy with their placement, settle in well and enjoy their new classmates.

Teachers for 2016

Most of our current school staff will be returning for 2016, though there are some transfers out and some in. Sadly we are losing two of our younger teachers. That is the part of the obligation for permanent teachers that they do 'country service'. Ms Anita Fitzpatrick will be on the staff of Mareeba State School on the Atherton Tableland from 2016. Mr Josh Martin will be taking leave in 2016, but has been posted to Port Douglas State School from the beginning of 2017. Both will be missed. Our only incoming transfer to date is Ms Melinda Teasdale, a very experienced teacher, presently working at Nundah State School. I expect to get one or two others into our school, but that will occur closer to the end of this year when we can confirm our 2016 enrolment numbers.

Federal Funding

Since 2014, Federal education funding has been going directly to state schools to improve educational results. The use of this funding has been at the discretion of each school so we all receive the services that we need the most. For the first two years, this funding has been called the 'Great Results Guarantee' or GRG. From next year, it will be called 'Investing For Success' or I4S. This funding has been allocated according to need. Schools with higher proportions of refugees, non-English background students, indigenous students and those with special needs, receive higher levels of funding. In 2014, we received \$150 000. In 2015 the amount was \$180 000. Next year, I am pleased to report, our I4S allocation is predicted to be \$220 000. So far, we have used this money to hire extra teachers and teacher-aides; pay for speech-language specialists; improve ICT infrastructure and fund intervention programmes. Next year, we intend to use the funding in similar ways and presently we are carefully planning what our students' needs are; what our staffing will be, and where we place our emphasis. We want to get the maximum benefit we can from the money we have available. We have already outlined a draft plan, which will be refined as we approach the new school year. It is an exciting time and we will take advantage of it.

Advancing Education

The Qld State Government has just released its education plan for the next few years. The following is a short summary, provided by the department.

The work you are doing at your school is helping shape Queensland's future. Every day you are helping your students prepare for a rapidly changing and developing economy and society. The Government believes that your work needs to be supported.

The Advancing Education action plan will:

- deliver more support for vulnerable children in the early years
- ensure greater focus on science, technology, engineering and maths – including coding and robotics
- expand the study of culture and languages from P- 12 in state schools, with a focus on Asian languages
- employ more teachers and create career pathways to help keep the best people in teaching
- deliver a more efficient school maintenance system
- provide greater support for student learning including employing specialist coaches to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students' reading
- introduce a new senior assessment and tertiary entrance system.

Mark Fisher
Principal

Students of the Week

- Prep B** – **Ashmeet** for huge improvements in effort in all subject areas
- Prep CD** – **Talitha** for responsible classroom behaviour at all times
- Year 1F** – **Kayla** for a well written procedure for making hot dogs
- Year 1L** – **Shani-Lee** for writing an excellent procedural text about making a pizza
- Year 1N** – **Sarah** for writing a creative narrative during the Daily 5 CAFÉ literacy session
- Year 2HM** – **Yasmin** for some great reading this week
- Year 2J** – **Jasmine** for great manners and settling in well in 2J
- Year 3B** – **Harith** for always working hard during science
- Year 3JM** – **Azariah** for being a role model for excellent classroom behaviour every day
- Year 3M** – **Perez** for consistently showing effort in his school work and building stamina in reading
- Year 4G** – **Brock** for his dedication and persistent effort during operations warm-ups
- Year 4S** – **Hazmann** for excellent listening in class and handing in homework on the first day
- Year 5C** – **Tyler** for thoughtful responses in class discussions during English
- Year 5WI** – **Janelle** for consistent effort in all subject areas
- Year 5/6P** – **Zack** for writing a detailed paragraph on the differences between literacy and informative texts
- Year 6S** – **Deniro** for applying and persevering to complete difficult math problems

BOOK AWARDS



Congratulations to the following students who received awards for their bookwork on Friday 23rd October 2015

- 1F – Arman
- 1L – Tyron
- 1N – Rahman
- 2HM – Sa Gay Thay
- 2J – Cathy
- 3B – Ger Kler Htoo
- 3JM – Rhiana
- 3M – Marzieh
- 4G – Shee Shee
- 4S – Abbie
- 5C – Tayah
- 5WI – Ben
- 5/6P – Maya
- 6S – Amanda

FROM THE OFFICE

2016 CLASS PLACEMENTS

Class Placement requests for 2016 have been sent home with each child. If you wish to have your feedback considered, please ensure you return the completed form to school by Thursday 12 November.

2016 BOOKLISTS

2016 Booklists have been sent home with each student. If you wish to order your pack for collection from the school, please return your order with payment to the office by Friday 27 November 2015.

Packs will be available for collection from the school between Wednesday 20th and Friday 22nd January 2016.

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.

PREP – YEAR 6 ENROLMENTS – 2016

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

If you have a child, or know a family living in our catchment area that have a child eligible for enrolment in Prep - Year 6 in 2016, could you please ensure that an enrolment form is completed and submitted to the school's administration office as early as possible.

To best support our staffing allocation for next year it is important that we have the correct number of students intending to attend Taigum State School enrolled.

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.

FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL



Icy cups will be on sale from the Tuckshop 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.

SCHOOL PARTICIPATION OFFICERS

Attendance:

Our commitment to ensuring that students achieve their best continues and we would like to remind everyone that attendance every day is important. Missing 1 or 2 days may not seem like much, but the table below shows the impact on a students' education.

If a student misses...	That equals...	And over 5 years of schooling that's losing...
1 day each fortnight	20 days – (4weeks) per year	1 semester of learning time
1 day each week	40 days – (8 weeks) per year	1 year of learning time
2 days each week	80 days – (16 weeks) per year	2 years of learning time
3 days each week	120 days – (24 weeks) per year	3 years of learning time

Attendance at school plays a significant role in students' success. The higher the level of attendance - the better chance of achieving success. Thank you to all our parents who support their child in attending school every day. If you are having difficulties getting your child to attend school, please discuss this with us.

Many thanks
Bambi & Karen
School Participation Officers

FROM THE P&C

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES

Monday to Friday mornings: 8.15am to 9.00am

The uniform shop now has EFTPOS.

The uniform shop will cease trading for 2015 on Friday 4 December (week 9), and reopen in 2016 on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st January between 9:00am - 11:30am.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER



Our P&C are now preparing to organise this year's Christmas Hamper. If you or your family would like to make a contribution towards the hamper, please drop your donation/goods to either the Uniform Shop or Administration Office. Raffle tickets will go on sale later in the term.

FROM THE LIBRARY



"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing." *Benjamin Franklin*

Book Fair

Start preparing now, Book Fair will return to Taigum on Thursday 19th November.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Scripture Union Qld (who employ me and most school chaplains in Qld) run some great camps in the school holidays. If your kids are looking for a fantastic week of amazing fun, here are some camps they might like to go on during the Christmas holidays. All these camps are Christian camps and will have discussion about God, Jesus and the Bible.

SchoolzOut Camp: Grade 6 only (in 2015): 14th - 18th December: \$280

Camp Capers: Grade 5-7 (in 2016): 4th - 8th January: \$305

Father/Son Gents Camp: Grade 5-8 (in 2015, boys only) and their dad: 7th - 11 January: \$280 each

Ubertweak (Computer Camp): Grade 5-12 (in 2015): 10th - 15th January: \$250

I'll be going on a camp in the Easter holidays called **Gents Ignition**. It's for boys in Grade 5-6. 4th - 8th April: \$225. This camp fills up quick and a lot of kids miss out, so register early!

To register for any of these camps go to www.suqld.org.au/camps. You can also talk or email me for more info steveu@chappy.org.au.

For the kids in Grade 6, I'd like to mention that The Salvation Army at Taigum has a youth group called Salvage on Friday nights for high school kids. We invite the grade 6's to come along in Term 4. At Salvage they play crazy games, make great friends, discuss relevant topics and learn about the Bible. It's on 7pm - 9pm each Friday night during the school term and it's usually free. More info and the term calendar can be found here www.salvos.org.au/nbc/youth

At the Salvos at Taigum, we also have EPIC for kids in Grade 3-6. It's on this Friday night from 5:30pm - 7pm. It's cost \$4 which includes dinner & games.

Have a good one!
Steve Unicom

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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

 OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2015	
27 th	Afterschool Swimming – Lesson 3
28 th	School Banking
28 th	Walking Wheeling Wednesday
29 th	Afterschool Swimming – Lesson 4
30 th	Interschool Sport
3 rd Nov	Prep Parents Reading Information Session 2:15pm in the Library
4 th Nov	Year 1 Parents Reading Information Session 2:15pm in the Library
10 th Nov	Afterschool Swimming – Lesson 5

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 Fridays 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!

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:

- **Blinky Bill** – Sunday 15 November
- **Hotel Transylvania 2** – Sunday 6 December

For any further information please contact Chanelle on 0422416509 or

sensorymovieday@hotmail.com

QUT HEALTH CLINICS

FREE back to school health check for kids!
12, 13 and 14 January 2016

Foot checks

- Footwear and orthotic advice
- Foot aches/pain
- Nail pain
- Nerve pain

Vision screening

- Squinting
- Flashed/red/white eyes
- Difficulty concentrating

Nutrition assessments and dietary advice

- Fussy eaters
- Healthy lunch box tips
- Allergies/intolerances

Education and development assessments

- School readiness
- Reading ability

Registration essential
Phone: 3138 9777 to register or for further information.

www.healthclinics.qut.edu.au
44 Musk Avenue, Kelvin Grove QLD 4059

QUT Health Clinics

