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**31 January 2017**

## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

### **Dear Parents**

This week sees us into our full programme of instruction with all our teachers, specialists and teacher-aides working closely with students in whole class, small groups or one on one. With Australia Day behind us, we now have nine uninterrupted weeks to really get stuck into academic work in Term 1. I'll elaborate on that below. I am very pleased with how well we have started and how well our students have settled into their work.

### **The 2017 Agenda**

I promised last week that I'd give more details of our 2017 academic agenda in newsletters following and I'll start with this one. Reading is our main focus across all year levels as it is the basis for much of our work in all subject areas. Good readers do well at school. We test everyone's reading ability at least four times per year. We have a huge data wall with every student on it and we carefully track their progress and tailor our instruction to meet the various needs of each one. Students who we believe are not performing to their level receive intervention. The whole programme is tightly organised, well staffed and constantly monitored. In the lower school we use the CAFÉ (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency, Expand Vocabulary) model to ensure that all students gets as much time as possible learning the essential elements of reading and comprehension. This starts all the way down in Prep and is proving to be a very effective way of delivery reading instruction.

We also have a focus on mathematics. Maths is the other subject that many others are based on and is essential to know as a skill in life, especially dealing with money and the like. This year we have a maths data wall as well. Every student will be mapped onto it according to their ability at number facts. This information will allow us to track children and modify our programmes to suit their needs in maths just like what we do with the reading data.

The third priority for 2017 is looking at the new 'digital technologies' curriculum. We have held off doing this until the necessary infrastructure was in place. The infrastructure I'm referring to is our new whole school wi-fi network coverage that was installed late last year. With that operating, students are able to use any wi-fi device to interact with our computer network, the internet and online apps. We are presently building up our stocks of Ipads so that this year, many students will begin to learn coding, a skill that is often talked about in the media as being essential for the future. We are in for exciting times ahead in this area it appears.

### **School Captains**

On Monday, nine of our brave Senior Leaders nominated for school captain and delivered their speeches to our Year 5 and 6 cohorts. I congratulate Stacey, Jack, Tom, Jacinta, Kavinila, Poe Mi, Talia, Lincoln and Riley for their efforts. Each of the speeches was excellent and the choice of who to pick was quite difficult. After the speeches, all the students voted and we were left with five short-listed candidates for the roles of Captain and Vice-Captain. I do know those names, but as the parents of the students are yet to be informed, I will hold off until next week to let everyone know the results. The five shortlisted students will be interviewed on Wednesday by a panel including a teacher, a student and a parent. From this interview, we will decide the best two for captains and the next two for vice-captains. This too will be announced in next week's newsletter. Apart from these positions, we have two others that are appointed rather than voted upon. They are our Indigenous Captain and our Multi-Cultural Captain. That process will also occur this week and we will announce their names with our others.

### **Parent Car Park**

Thank you to all the parents who use the parent car park to pick up and drop off students. We have had a high volume of vehicles moving through it these past weeks and it has been reasonably uncongested and organised. That is due to the patience and good will of our parents and it has been appreciated by all. After the first couple of days when it was pretty hectic, it has settled down to being calm and efficient. This week, the car park has been empty by about 3:10pm which is quite remarkable. Well done to all concerned.

Mark Fisher  
*Principal*

## Students of the Week

- Prep B - **The Whole Class** for a wonderful start to the school year
- Prep CD - **Dylan** for always using his listening body
- Prep H - **Kaylani** for being a friendly and caring class member
- Year 1C - **Mia** for trying in all subjects all the time
- Year 1H - **James** for making such a great start in Year One
- Year 1N - **Jett** for having a positive attitude toward his written work
- Year 2H - **Cameron** for a great effort in handwriting and trying hard with his school work
- Year 2J - **Kallen** for fantastic manners and helping others in 2J
- Year 3B - **Japji** for always putting her hand up and waiting patiently to answer
- Year 3M - **Sha-taya** for following directions well and for helping others
- Year 3T - **Keeran** for working hard to follow our classroom rules at all times
- Year 4S - **Tawera** for striving to do his best and showing a lovely, positive attitude
- Year 4T - **Ava** for settling well into Year 4 and using exceptional manners
- Year 5G - **Konnor** for beginning the year with a positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Year 5WI - **Cooper** for being an organised, hardworking and helpful class member
- Year 6C - **Lebron** for a pleasing involvement in English lessons
- Year 6N - **Georgia** for applying herself beautifully in all areas of schooling

### FROM THE OFFICE

#### 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](mailto:admin@taigumss.eq.edu.au) or a note to your child's class teacher.

For auditing purposes all student absences must be explained.

#### 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 LIBRARY



"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, go throw your TV set away. And in its place you can install, a lovely bookshelf on the wall." **Roald Dahl**

### FROM THE P&C

#### UNIFORM SHOP TIMES

*Monday to Thursday mornings: 8.00am to 9:00am*

#### SALE ITEMS

We currently have limited stock of old style school fleecy jackets on sale. Normally \$30 now selling for \$10.

Available in size 4, 12 and 16 only.

## SCHOOL PARTICIPATION OFFICERS



School absenteeism can impact significantly on students' learning and wellbeing. Research shows that higher student attendance is associated with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience.

Schools monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences.

If your child does not want to go to school, or is missing too much school, please contact the school for assistance and support.

*Children do better when they go to school all day, every day*

*They learn better*

*They make friends*

*They are happier*

*They have a brighter future*

**Together let's make Every Day Count**

Kind regards,  
School Participation Officers

## FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

### **Performing Arts News**

Welcome back to another exciting year of singing, dancing and acting.

If your child is interested in some extracurricular activities, we offer a range of clubs. The following clubs will start in week 3 (next week).

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1 <sup>st</sup> break	Keyboard Club	School Choir	Guitar Club	Recorder Ensemble
Year Level	5-6	2-6	4-6	4-6
2 <sup>nd</sup> break			Art Club	
Year Level			1 - 6	

All children who are attending these morning tea clubs will bring home a note with more information. If you wish your child to join one of these clubs, they can join anytime. Just remind them to come to the music room at morning tea.

Our school band will start later in the term. All children who have been learning an instrument in previous years are welcome to join. Those children will bring home an information letter. The school band will rehearse on **Wednesday morning 8:00am in the hall.**

All children who are in the instrumental program this year have had a meeting with Mr Ken Lincoln this week. They now have a lesson time and all lessons will be **each Wednesday** between 12:30pm – 3:00pm. Just a reminder, if you have not paid your \$40 for the year, please do so as soon as possible. If you did not receive your loan agreement form for 2017, I can organise another form.

We will continue to have the "Music Class of the Week" award on Fridays for the best behaved class where everyone has a wonderful "have – a – go" attitude towards music classes. All classes have settled in well and I'm looking forward to being your child's music teacher this year.

Thank you to all for your support,

*Andrea Mackay*

Music Specialist

## SCHOOL BANKING



Friday 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.

### 2017 Future Savers Rewards



We're excited to launch the new reward items for 2017 from our Future Savers range.

- Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers, released Term 1
- 3D Chalk Set and Tablet Case, released Term 2
- Smiley Emoji Keyring and Volt Handball, released Term 3
- Pencil + Tech Case and Epic Earphones, released Term 4

### Win a family adventure holiday at Tokyo Disneyland

This year, School Banking is running a Future Savers Grand Prize competition that will take one lucky School Banker all the way to Tokyo, Japan. The winner gets an unforgettable family trip, for up to two adults and three children, where they'll explore Tokyo Disneyland with its amazing attractions, including the futuristic Tomorrowland, plus enjoy the fun rides at Tokyo DisneySea.

This prize includes:

Five nights' accommodation at the Sheraton Grande Tokyo Bay Hotel

Return economy airfares from the winner's nearest capital city to Tokyo, Japan

Three-day Magic Pass to Tokyo Disneyland & Tokyo DisneySea

AU\$1,000 spending money.

To enter, students have to make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3, 2017. This will automatically enter them into the competition for a chance to win.

## DATES TO REMEMBER



### FEBRUARY 2017

1 <sup>st</sup>	Swimming Program begins
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Assembly
3 <sup>rd</sup>	School Banking
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Red Cross "Search for Safety" Year 6 (11:30am – 1:00pm)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sport Trials 2:00pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	Youngstorm Program

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### SANDGATE HAWKS – NETBALL CLUB

#### 2017 SIGN ON DAY

*Ages 7 years to Seniors*

Welcoming new players, returning players, coaches, managers and umpires

**When:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017, 9am – 12pm

**Where:** Sandgate Hawks Sporting Club, 120 Lemke Rd, Taigum Qld 4018

For more information visit [www.sandgatehawks.org.au](http://www.sandgatehawks.org.au) or email [sandgatehawksnetball@gmail.com](mailto:sandgatehawksnetball@gmail.com)

***Copy of birth certificate is required for sign on***

### STRATHPINE SCORPIONS – NETBALL CLUB

#### 2017 SIGN ON DAY

At Scorpions Netball Club we offer a family friendly and affordable option for your child to play netball. For our low price we offer free team photos, entry to local Pine Rivers Netball carnival and also break up party. There are no weekly outlays. Total cost \$280

Payment Plans available for 2 weeks only. \$185 up front and remainder paid by 26<sup>th</sup> February

**When:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017, 8am – 12pm

**Where:** Pine Rivers Netball Association Clubhouse  
Les Hughes Complex, 119 Francis Rd (cnr Baker St) Lawnton

Registration also available online now.

For more information contact Secretary: Melissa 0416 160 029, [secretary@strathpinescorpions.com](mailto:secretary@strathpinescorpions.com) or check us out on Facebook.

### BRACKEN RIDGE FUTSAL

5-a-side Indoor Soccer  
Social Mixed Adults  
Mens Competition  
Mixed Teens Competition  
Futsal Training School  
Social Court Hire  
Soccer Birthday Parties

Friday night and Saturdays. All skill levels welcome. Register now.  
Contact Maria on 0417 755 9017 or visit [www.brisbanecentralfutsal.com](http://www.brisbanecentralfutsal.com)