9 February 2017

The Principal

The 2017 academic year has commenced with great joy, enthusiasm and optimism. A positive mood of purpose is evident in every classroom throughout our learning community. Our young people rely on their parents/carers, teachers and family members to support them in their learning. Within the busy cycle of life, I encourage you to take an active interest in your child’s/sibling’s school life and engage fully with them in their learning program.

I would like to extend congratulations to students and parents for the way that students from all year levels have presented themselves for the start of the new year. In last week’s newsletter I reminded all families of the expectations in regard to behaviour, uniform, make-up and jewellery. These expectations have also been discussed throughout the year in 2016, presented at all new family enrolment interviews and published in our school prospectus. We are all too aware that ensuring these processes are met can be difficult for families at times.

The stance taken on each and every item within these expectations has been a negotiated position between student, parent and staff groups and while some people may not agree with one or other of these ‘expectations’, the adherence to all of them is an essential part in ensuring that we have a smooth start to the year. Being part of the Talara community is a ‘package’ deal, and the overall experience far outweighs minor discomfort in cutting hair, removing jewellery or making sure you have the correct shoes. Our Deputy Principals have been in discussion with a minority of students and your support with this is important and appreciated.

Student attendance should be as frequent as possible to maximise learning and it should be right from the time school starts each day. We ask for your assistance with this and have your child/children ready for an 8:45am start every morning.

We are very much looking forward to the year ahead with your sons and daughters; please don’t hesitate to contact class teachers with any queries regarding the start of the year. We are incredibly lucky to have such a team of dedicated teaching professionals who have your child’s best interest at heart.

Parents and Citizens Committee

At Talara we have a very committed group of parents who meet the second Tuesday of each month to discuss how they can best support our school to develop and enhance what we do. The first meeting will be Tuesday 14 February at 6:30pm in the Information Access Centre (Library). We would love you to come along, join us for a cuppa and have your say on the direction of Talara.

Student Leadership Elections

During these first very busy weeks many students from Year 4 to 6 have been involved in nominating for student leadership positions across our school. We now have newly elected student council representatives from each Year 4 to 6 class, Arts captains and Environmental captains as well as our four sporting houses’ Captains and Vice Captains, joining our four School Captains. Congratulations to all of the new office bearers and we look forward to the fantastic leadership they will bring.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 Leadership Roles</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Captain</td>
<td>Oscar</td>
<td>6M</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Amedy</td>
<td>6A</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Vice-Captains</td>
<td>Tyson</td>
<td>6B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Daisy</td>
<td>6B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts Captains</td>
<td>Hugo</td>
<td>6M</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jasmin</td>
<td>6B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts Vice Captains</td>
<td>Jai</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abbey</td>
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<td>Environmental Captains</td>
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<td>Xanthe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bribie House Captain</td>
<td>Riley</td>
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<td>Stella</td>
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<td>Bribie House Vice-Captain</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ellie</td>
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<td>Fraser House Captain</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kielana</td>
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<td>Fraser House Vice-Captain</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ava</td>
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<td>Moreton House Captain</td>
<td>Riley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Milka</td>
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<td>Moreton House Vice-Captain</td>
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<td>Tiarna</td>
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<td>Stradbroke House Captain</td>
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<td>Kristen</td>
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<td>Stradbroke House Vice-Captain</td>
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<td>Chloe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Councillor</td>
<td>Lily</td>
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<td>Archer</td>
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<td>Jayden</td>
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<td>Bronte</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kailey</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>5W</td>
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Student Investiture will take place with our whole school on Monday 20 February at 9:00am, please come along and join us in recognising and celebrating with these students.

A big thank you to Ms Walton for leading and coordinating our very rigorous selection process for all of our leaders.

**Partnership Evening**

It was wonderful to see so many parents in and meeting with their child’s class teachers for 2017. There was certainly a very positive and optimistic atmosphere for 2017 and ensuring that there is open communication between home and school is critical. Many parents also enjoyed the extracurricular displays in centre court and the excellent hospitality of our P&C Committee.

If for any reason you were unable to attend on Wednesday night, please make sure that you try and pop in one afternoon and introduce yourself to the teacher.

**New Families Picnic**

A reminder to all of our Prep families as well as all new families joining Talara in 2017 to come along and have some fun on Friday 17 February at 3:30pm for the P&C Welcome Picnic. This is an informal afternoon where we have a little fun and it gives parents an opportunity to meet other parents and some of their children’s friends that they may have been talking about.

Hopefully everyone has received their invitation home; please don’t forget to RSVP to assist the team in catering.

**Playground use after school**

At Talara we are very fortunate to have three terrific adventure playgrounds for our students to use during the school day. Obviously students are always keen to try these out and test their ever developing physical skills. During the school day, any time students are permitted on these playgrounds it is a requirement that direct supervision is provided by a teacher.

Some parents may wish for students to have some extra time on the playground straight between 2:45pm and 3pm while they are here collecting their children. This is only possible if the parent is providing **direct supervision at the playground** with the child. All responsibility for the safe and appropriate use of the playground equipment at this time is placed on the supervising parent. No child is allowed on the play equipment without their parent right there with them.
I ask all parents to please support us in this safety requirement. If students are using the equipment unsupervised we will need to ban all access after school. Please note that younger siblings are not to be on any play equipment while classes are still in operation prior to 2:45pm.

Car Park Safety

Keeping each and every student safe should always be at the forefront of all adults’ minds whenever they are near a school. Pick up time is always very busy and a time that requires extra due diligence, especially by those in charge of a motor vehicle.

This year we are having great difficulty with two illegal practices that are very dangerous and causing significant concern regarding our students’ safety. Due to pressure on available car park spaces some parents have taken to parking in the 2 min zone, or entering the school gates to collect their children. Despite repeated warnings these dangerous practices continue. The local police, as well as the local council traffic enforcement officers, have raised their concerns and have started issuing tickets to offending drivers.

I ask all parents to please ensure that they do not drive into the school grounds, or illegally park when waiting for the children, this will result in a fine. Even worse than that, you may be responsible for causing an injury to one of our students.

Talara gets Active

It is fantastic to see so many students getting involved both before and after school in the many varied opportunities that are on offer. Some of these include the Kilometre Club and Cross Country runners club before school, just to name a few!

Here is a list of the extensive extra curricula opportunities students may choose to be involved in. If you would be interested in any extra information regarding any group please email the relevant contact teacher. Please remember that these groups are limited in size and not every child can be involved.

At Talara we are extremely lucky to have so much extra on offer to our students as a result of the amazing staff and their generosity with the time. Thanks team, the students love you for it!

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parents this is a quick date claimer with our parent teacher interviews taking place in Week 7 this term. Monday 6 to Friday 10 March. This year all interviews will be booked on line through an email invitation. Please make sure your email address is up to date so you don’t miss this opportunity.

Steve

SMS Absence Service

Please note the SMS absence service phone number is to be used to explain or advise of student absences only. Please do not use this service for general messages or enquiries.

Absences can also be notified using the Absence line (5438 3760), emailing info@talacolss.eq.edu.au, or through the Qparents app. If you notify your teacher of your child’s absence, please ensure you also notify the office.

Student Banking

Talara Primary College is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings’ habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites’ tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The rewards available during 2017 are:

- Cyber Handball
- Colour Change Markers
- 3D Chalk Set
- Tablet Case
- Smiley Emoji Keyring
- Volt Handball
- Pencil + Tech Case
- Epic Earphones

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

Getting involved in School Banking is easy!

All you need to get involved in the School Banking program is a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account. You can open an account for your child in one of these ways:

1. Online

Visit the following website and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account.


2. In branch

Visit a Commonwealth Bank branch with identification for yourself and your child, like a driver’s licence and birth certificate.

3. School Account Opening Sessions

On Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th February, there will be account opening sessions at the front of the school between 8:00am and 9:00am.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

School Banking day is Wednesday. Each week your child needs to place their bankbook in the grey banking bag in their classroom.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2017 School Banking program information pack from the school office or visit the link below.

Year 7 2018 Scholarships

The Principals of the Coalition of State Secondary School invite Year 6 students to apply for year 7 Scholarships for 2018. Application forms can be downloaded from each State Secondary School’s website. Each Secondary School has its own scholarship selection criteria and process. Parents are advised to contact our Coalition State Secondary Schools for further information.

Scholarship Application Period opens on Friday 17 February.
Scholarship Application period closes on Friday 10 March.
Successful applicants will be notified from Monday 20 March.


- Students are guaranteed enrolment at the school that is indicated by this web site as their ‘in-catchment’ school. This is determined by the student’s residential address. Proof of residency is required when lodging an enrolment application with a coalition secondary school and catchment status will be verified upon enrolment.
- The ‘in-catchment’ secondary school is the site that the student is assumed to be attending for Year 6 Transition Days in June and December.
- If a student has an older sibling already attending at an ‘out-of-catchment’ secondary school, the Enrolment Management Plan allows for the student to enrol at that school as long as certain conditions are met.
- Students may enrol in an ‘out-of-catchment’ school if they are successful in gaining a place in a scholarship program or Program of Excellence at that school.
- Parents may lodge a written Expression of Interest to enrol in an ‘out-of-catchment’ school for consideration by the Principal. ‘Out-of-catchment’ enrolments are granted at the sole discretion of the Principal and are subject to available enrolment capacity at the school after all ‘in-catchment’ enrolments have been accommodated.
- Details of each secondary school’s Enrolment Management Plan can be found on the school’s website.
- Each school has an Enrolment Officer who can be contacted to provide further information and advice.

State schools are great schools! Our secondary schools have planned a wide variety of whole day, before school and after school events that showcase the new and exciting opportunities available to Year 7 students. We urge you to take advantage and participate as much as possible in the Year 6 Transition Program this year. A summary of key dates is included in the newsletter and a letter will be sent home also for your reference. Further details for each event will be provided closer to the day.

Kristy Walton
Deputy Principal

Secondary School Catchment Information

During this year, Talara Primary College will work together with the three local state secondary sites – Caloundra State High School, Kawana Waters State College and Meridan State College, to provide a comprehensive and supportive program to assist both you and your student to make the transition to junior secondary schooling. At this early time of the year, we would like to provide you with important information regarding coalition enrolment processes for students transitioning to high school:

- Similar to Talara Primary College, all three coalition secondary sites have an Enrolment Management Plan (EMP) and corresponding catchment boundaries.
- Parents can determine in which catchment they live by using the EdMap website. This is the method used by all coalition secondary schools to determine if a student is living ‘in-catchment’.

Kristy Walton
Deputy Principal
As active partners in the educational journey of our young people, it is very important that as parents you are aware of the learning your child is engaged with in the classroom. In the first newsletter for 2017, unit details were published for each year level. On these are the key questions that are developed around the six Attributes of Lifelong Learners. These are a great way to discuss with your child how their learning for this unit is going.

To keep you further informed, below are the guides to making judgement (GTMJ) in English, Mathematics and Science for each year level for this term.
Class teachers use these to make judgements about your child’s learning and understanding for particular assessment tasks. It would be valuable for you to read these in order for you and your child to comprehend what forms a C (Year Level Expectation) and the additional knowledge or skills required to achieve a B or an A.

We have some exciting plans to inspire creative minds and spark enthusiasm for writing in the year ahead. Each fortnight we will share some tips and strategies to help improve writing in our Writers’ Corner. Keep your eye out for some Writing Challenges that will be advertised in upcoming parades.

Helping Hands Update

Welcome back everyone, we had a fun filled holiday. We are excited about the new year ahead of us with our assistant coordinator from last year Trudi taking over as our Coordinator, one of our educators Sarsha is filling in as an assistant coordinator and Jessica has come in to join the team as our second assistant coordinator. We have loved meeting all our new families that have come to join us this year. Parents don’t forget to come and have a look at our observation wall to catch up on all the fun that the children have been having here in the mornings and afternoons. Feel free to come and have a chat with us, we look forward to seeing everyone around the school.

International Competitions and Assessments for schools (ICAS)

Welcome to the 2017 International Competitions and Assessments for schools (ICAS). ICAS provides an opportunity for students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. It gives parents helpful information regarding their child’s performance as well as providing students the opportunity to be exposed to testing procedures much like those of the Years 3 and 5 NAPLAN tests therefore, providing a good practice environment. The sitting dates for 2017 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Tuesday 30 May 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 25 July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 August 2017</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly as well as their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The Student Report is also useful for highlighting students’ strengths and weaknesses in the skills and processes pertaining to the relevant subject area.

Writers’ Corner

It is with much anticipation that we shine the light on writing at TPC in 2017. Many of the skills and ideas we have learned on our numeracy journey are just as relevant to writing. Providing opportunities for kids to write regularly is as important as making writing fun.

Writing about topics that kids find humorous is a great way to help them enjoy the writing process. Talking about writing helps to plan, sequence and develop work. Sharing our writing helps to refine thoughts and celebrate creativity. Spelling is a really important part of our focus this year, however we don’t want the need for correct spelling to destroy the creative process. Encouraging our kids to try using bigger and better words and ‘play’ with their writing in new and innovative ways is our goal.
P&C Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for the Talara Primary College P&C Association for 2017 will be held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 14th February in the Information Access Centre (Library). The P&C Association is made up of many different people with many different skills with each role playing a vital and equal role in the success of the committee. At the Annual General Meeting, all positions are declared vacant and nominations will be called for the following positions:

Executive Committee:
- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Fundraising Team:
- Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer

General Representatives:
- Publications/Design Officer
- Social Media Officer
- Distribution Officer
- QCPCA Delegate
- Grants Officer
- General Committee Member

Please do not feel you will be required to nominate for a role if you attend the AGM. Your presence and any contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Following the AGM will be our General Meeting, and Finance meeting. At the Finance Meeting, the P&C Association will make decisions regarding the P&C committement to the School Operating Budget. It is always a difficulf decision with the School presenting a very strong case for funding in all areas across the school.

News from Tuckshop

Welcome back to Tuckshop everyone! A copy of the 2017 menu has been distributed to the youngest student per family – if you haven’t received yours yet please check with your teacher, alternatively you can download one from the newsletter, or pick one up from Tuckshop.

Please take a moment to become familiar with the new menu as there have been a few changes.

Please remember to write your child’s 2017 class when placing an order! At the beginning of every year (and sometimes throughout the year!) orders are dispatched to the incorrect class because parents have written the wrong class on the order bag.

Menu Change

Please delete the following item from your menus:

BBQ Jumpys

And replace with:

Salt & Vinegar Jumpys $1

Please update any Smartcard restrictions if necessary

Smartcards

Smartcard registration forms have been distributed to all students - please complete and return to the uniform shop, with full payment, by the date indicated.

When you receive the new card you will also receive full details of how to register the account to access all of the online functions – ordering, setting daily limits, topping up, checking balances etc.

Please note you must have a Smartcard to order Tuckshop online.

Until your card arrives or if you prefer not to use the online option, you may of course order via the bag / classroom box system, using cash.

Orders

Please remember all 1st Break orders must be at Tuckshop by 9am – orders received after 9.20am may be amended or changed to 2nd Break. Due to the volume of food being prepared we do have to strictly enforce this policy.

Preppies at Tuckshop

Our new prep students are able to order from the Tuckshop menu, please place bag orders in the Tuckshop box in the classroom. All ordered food is delivered to the classroom and distributed by the teacher.

During terms 1, 2 & 3 Preps are not permitted to come to Tuckshop at break times and therefore are not able to purchase items available for counter sales only – Ice Blocks, Slush Puppies and some specials. If you would like your Preppie to have a frozen treat we do have pots of frozen grapes or pineapple on the menu under Snacks & Treats – a healthy and refreshing alternative to an ice block.

Information Sheet

A sheet of useful information about Tuckshop has been distributed to all new enrolments. If you are new to the school and haven’t received yours or if you would just like to know more about how we operate, the document can be downloaded below or picked up from Tuckshop.

Birthday Ice Blocks

Don’t forget ice blocks can be ordered from Tuckshop for the class to celebrate your child’s birthday. Please download or pick up a form from Tuckshop and return with payment at least a week before the big day.

Unfortunately we are not able to store ice-blocks supplied from home.

Volunteers

We would love to welcome some new volunteers this year. Volunteering in Tuckshop is fun and very rewarding, we try not to work you too hard and Liz will make you a great coffee! If you are considering volunteering please talk to one of our friendly
convenors who can answer any questions you may have and hopefully organize your start day – we are looking forward to meeting you.

**Donations**

If you would like to support your Tuckshop but can’t volunteer, you may like to consider donating items instead. We always need supplies such as – Vegemite, popping corn, Saos, plastic teaspoons & forks, small zip lock bags, Tuckshop order bags, freezer bags and rice.

Items can be placed in the class Tuckshop box. Every donation is very much appreciated and helps to keep costs down – thank you!

**Uniforms**

The Uniform Shop has now resumed normal opening hours – 8.30 to 9am Monday to Friday (unless advertised otherwise).

**Cross Country / Sports Day T-Shirts**

T-shirts in house colours are available in the Uniform Shop now – still only $10.

**2nd Hand Uniforms**

The rail is now full of good quality 2nd hand uniform items – including some dresses! Pop in to have a look and grab a bargain but be quick – everything is sure to sell fast.

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**Parade Sharing & Student of the Week**

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**Community Notices**

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**Caloundra Community Choir**

**Wednesdays 10.00 - 11.30am**

Enjoy the health benefits of community singing

No experience necessary

Led by Kim Kirkman (ex The Ten Tenors)

Caloundra Chorale and Theatre Company Hall

3 Piringa Street, Wurtulla

Cost $10 Phone 0431 560 929
Uniform Shop Hours
Open daily Monday to Friday 8:30am to 9:00am.

Tuckshop
Open daily Monday to Friday 8:30am to 2:00pm.

Parades (2:15pm)
- Tuesday: Dingira
- Wednesday: Djaa
- Thursday: Noring

Outside School Hours Care:
Helping Hands 0459 990 650.

Student Absences
Please remember to ring the school on our Student Absence Line (5438 3760), otherwise a note to the teacher the next day is required.

Remember, all student absences need to be accounted for and any unexplained absences require the school to ring home to check. Accounting for student absences is a legal requirement for all schools. Your assistance in providing the relevant information to us regarding your child’s absences daily is appreciated.

Change of Details
- Have you bought a new mobile?
- Maybe started a new job?
- Moved house?

Please remember to update your details with the school, either via the Change of Details Form found on the side panel of this newsletter or drop us a line at info@talacollss.eq.edu.au

P&C Association
P&C meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, 7:00pm in the administration building.
Everyone is welcome.