



Torquay News

State School

A community that values clever, skilled, creative and aspiring learners.

Issue 1 - 2020



From the Principal

Term 1 week 2

We had a very smooth start to the school year with the benefits of our multi-age classes being felt by staff, students and families. It was great to hear from teachers that they were excited to welcome new faces to their classes, and that the children who they taught last year were an asset to help new students settle quickly into learning routines. Many parents also gave us the feedback that it was a more relaxed start to the school year for their children and easier for them knowing their child's teacher.

We are excited to welcome 361 students and 270 families to our school. We are pleased to share we have 36 Prep students and have enrolled 27 new students in years 1 to 6. We have some further enrolment interviews this week meaning that we will have more friends to meet soon. Thursday next week is the day that our department makes final staffing allocations to schools and at this stage it looks like we won't have to make any changes to classes or teaching staff.

Our Explicit Improvement Agenda for 2020 is sharp and narrow.

- Building upon our **culture that promotes learning** with a specific focus on:
 - Improving **student behaviour** and systematically implementing **PBL** processes,
 - **Inclusive practices** and ethos.
- Systematic **curriculum** delivery and **academic success** in **English** with an emphasis on using explicit instruction and age appropriate pedagogies to improve:
 - **Writing**- specifically;
 - Sentence structure and paragraphing,
 - Using Seven Steps to Writing Success as a pedagogy to improve structure, focus and student disposition.
 - **Spelling** - using Soundwaves to support phonetic understanding and word development and Words Their Way as a diagnostic tool.
 - **Reading** - continuing to consistently implement the TSS Framework for teaching reading.

We have made some exciting changes to our rewards system with the introduction of Turtle Tokens and trading them for items at the Milbi Market. We have phased out our bronze and silver certificates but are keeping our gold key for students who at the end of the year are "A" behaviour students. We will continue to host a rewards day in the last week of school for all children who are achieving at a "C" standard or better for behaviour. Mr T will have more information about these changes.

We are very excited to be hosting a Michael Ymer, a maths consultant, at our school next week. He will be modelling teaching strategies for many staff and their different classes.

Helping to maintain our routines

Parents, please help us to continue our school routines.

- Children are not to arrive at school before to 8am as there is no formal supervision. Please contact Helping Hands to arrange for before school care or make alternative care arrangements if required.

- Students and families arriving between 8am and 8.25am are to wait in the undercover area near the tuckshop until the first bell. Students then go to class and get organised for the day. Having all students and parents in the undercover area before the first bell allows teachers and staff to have the necessary time to prepare for the learning day.
- Please enter and exit the school using the gates, not by jumping the fence, lifting your child over a fence or encouraging them to jump the fence.
- Please help your child to learn about and be safe on our busy roads.
 - Always use the staffed pedestrian crossings or traffic lights – this may mean that you have to walk a little distance out of your way, but it sets up positive habits for life and keeps our kids safe.
 - Please help your child to be aware of how difficult it is for drivers to see them when they step out from behind a parked car.
 - Always drive slowly around our school – children and families can be unpredictable, especially when rushing.
 - Always park in designated car parks, please do not park over our neighbour's drive ways or on the foot paths.
- When the line marking returns, our school has two designated accessible carparks for people with disability. They are located on Tavistock Street. We have a number of families who require access to these, so unless you have the appropriate permit, please do not use these designated spots.
- If your child arrives late to school, they must be signed in at the office. Additionally if you need to collect your child early from school, please come to the office to sign them out and office staff will call for your child to come to the office for collection.

Kind regards, *Heidi Dallimore* – Principal

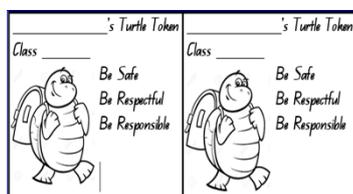
From the Deputy's Desk

How great is it to be back at school for students, staff and families. 2020 shapes up to be another fantastic year at Torquay and we are glad that you are making Torquay your school of choice.

At the beginning of the year we focus on establishing our expectations and routines to set up the term and year for success.

"Be safe, respectful and responsible" are our school's expectations/values and we expect everyone to adhere to these expectations. Each student has a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) book that they use each week to learn about the positive behaviours that are being explicitly taught by their teacher. The book contains the behaviour standards matrix, their behaviour goal for the term and is used to compile information that can be referred to on a regular basis. Have a chat with your child's class teacher and your child to see what they have been up to.

Turtle tokens have been introduced this year and replace our old raffle ticket system. The turtle tokens are earned by students for displaying appropriate behaviour, putting in exceptional effort or for having a great attitude. The tokens are traded for prizes at the new Milbi Market (located in the Library) throughout the term.



Attendance at school is always a priority. We have enjoyed seeing our students at school and in the correct uniform. Over the next few weeks we will be reminding students of the uniform policy in particular what jewellery is permitted.

Our overall attendance rate for the first week of school is 95.6% (school goal is 95% or above) – Well done families and students.

Again, it is great to see everyone here at school and I for one am looking forward to continuing working with families throughout the year.

Yours in education, *Phil Theofanes* – Deputy Principal



Term Planner

Friday 7 February	P-3 Parade 2.20pm
Thursday 13 February	Student Leader Badging 9.00am
Friday 14 February	4-6 Parade 2.20pm
Wednesday 19 February	P&C Meeting 6pm
Thursday 20 February	Richard Watt free vision screen Y1 & Y4
Friday 21 February	P-3 Parade 2.20pm Gregg Dreise – Author Presentation
Wednesday 26 – 28 February	Year 6 Camp
Thursday 27 February	Richard Watt free vision screen Y1 & Y4
Friday 28 February	4-6 Parade 2.20pm
Friday 6 March	P-3 Parade 2.20pm

KindyLinQ

The KindyLinQ program will commence on Monday 24th February and will be on Mondays & Tuesdays from 9.00am to 12noon. Mrs Karen Walker is the KindyLinQ teacher supported by Miss Keysha Baker as the support officer. This program offers exciting learning and play opportunities for 3 year old children and their families.

KindyLinQ is a play-based early learning program for children and their families in the year before they start kindergarten. KindyLinQ is based on a flexible stay and play approach, however children will gain the most benefit from regular attendance.

The program involves a range of play-based experiences for children and their parent/carer to enjoy together. There will be organised group times where songs, games, stories and rhymes will be shared. Parents/carers will be actively engaged in the experiences with their children. The staff will talk to parents/carers about the learning experiences and how they support children's learning and development.

Play-based learning encourages children to create their own ideas and show what they know and understand about the people, places and events they encounter in their immediate surroundings. It involves adults playing alongside children asking questions or making suggestions that stretch their thinking to higher levels.

You will see lots of games, blocks, art materials, puzzles, and dress-up clothes in a play-based learning environment. These materials let children make decisions about how they use them and what they create.

You are invited to register your interest in our program with the office administration staff.

From the Library

Welcome back for 2020. We had lots of exciting changes happen over the holidays. Please come in and see the new board games, card games and Lego kits we have available for lunch breaks and before school.

Browse and borrow will not occur for the first few weeks of this term.

Reminders:

- please send your library bag back to the library ASAP
- if you have any overdue books, please return them ASAP

We look forward to seeing you in the library soon.

Mrs Thomas & Mrs Folker

Uniforms

Our Uniform Shop is open for second hand school uniforms - Mondays 8:30-9:00am
Fridays 2:30-3:15pm.

School hats are \$12 and are available from the Tuckshop and our Uniform Shop.

New uniforms are available from Sauers Clothing Supplies, 1/5 Torquay Rd, Pialba.

Please note Queensland Education's "No Hat No Play" policy – if students do not have a hat they must remain under cover for play time.

If you have uniforms that you no longer need, donations would also be greatly appreciated.

Health News

Novel Coronavirus.

As you would be aware, the Australian Government has announced new measures that specifically address travel restrictions in relation to the management of the Novel Coronavirus.

Queensland had already announced and enacted restrictions last week for travellers who have visited China (including Hong Kong), and I reiterate this earlier advice from our health agencies, which remains current:

- anyone who has been in contact with any confirmed Novel Coronavirus cases must self-isolate (self-isolation means staying at home and not accepting visitors) for 14 days following exposure;
- travellers who have visited Hubei Province of China need to self-isolate for 14 days after leaving Hubei Province (noting that the Australian Government has announced this now applies to all of mainland China as explained above);
- returned travellers who have visited China cannot attend school, childcare or TAFE for 14 days after leaving China including Hong Kong.

Everyone should practice good hygiene and stay at home if you are unwell. Other measures to protect against infections include:

- washing your hands
- covering your mouth while coughing or sneezing.

We continue to work with and take the advice of Queensland Health and the latest information is available at [Novel Coronavirus](#) on the Queensland Health website.

Facebook

Bringing our classrooms to the community via our school's Facebook page

Most families are already aware that Torquay State School is on Facebook. We use this social media to share with our community many of the everyday activities that occur within our school.

It also provides us with another form of communication with our parents, regularly posting information and photos about school happenings, reminders, updates and general information about things that have been happening in classroom.

By "liking" our school Facebook page you will then receive updates and postings regularly through your Facebook newsfeed.

It is a great way of staying in touch with all that is happening in and around our school.

Visit us on visit and see what is new at <https://www.facebook.com/TorquayStateSchool>

P&C News

Welcome to another school year! Your P&C are full of ideas and plans for activities this year. Please watch out for notes and the school Facebook page for events and activities coming up.

We always need help! – either in the Tuckshop, or at school events. Please consider coming to the P&C meetings or volunteering for an hour, two hours, a day at the Tuckshop to help. Any time you can give is appreciated.

Please feel free to express interest by speaking to Judy or Nicole at the Tuckshop – they will be happy to discuss with you what help you are able to give.

Our first P & C meeting for the year is Wednesday, 19th February from 6pm at school in the Staff Room. Everyone is welcome!

Tuckshop

It is with great sadness that we have accepted Judy's resignation from the tuck shop as she embarks on a new stage in life and is leaving the Hervey Bay community.

We have all benefited from Judy's work at our school for more than ten years and we know that she will be missed by students, staff and families. Please pop in and see Judy before the end of next week to wish her well and personally thank her for her years of dedicated service.

Keep a look out for the expression of interest that the P&C will put out via Facebook to find a new tuckshop convenor.



School Watch Number: 131 788



Absence Line 4194 4366 or via QParents App

We say: **Not now, not ever, together**

The Queensland Government is committed to the elimination of domestic and family violence.

The Government's [Third Action Plan](#) - 'Not now, Not ever, together' highlights that by taking action and working together, we can end domestic and family violence in our communities.

Our school is committed to modelling and building relationships that are based on equality and respect, free from violence and abuse. You play a critical role in teaching respect.

More information and access to support services for domestic violence are available on the [Queensland Government website](#).





Helping Hands Outside School Hours Care Torquay



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torquay@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au



WE PROVIDE BREAKFAST AND AFTERNOON TEA EVERYDAY AS WELL AS FANTASTIC ART, CRAFT, SPORT AND COOKING EXPERIENCES THAT YOUR CHILDREN WILL LOVE!

Before School Care from \$3.50 per session*

After School Care From \$4.59 per session*

Vacation Care from \$2.38 per day*

* Based on your income for 1 child in care per session after CCB and CCR

COME IN AND CHECK OUT OUR PROGRAM!