



Torquay News

State School

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



Issue 2 - 2019

Date Claimers

TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY
Prep Vision Screening

WEDNESDAY 27 FEBRUARY
Prep Vision Screening

THURSDAY 28 FEBRUARY
Prep Vision Screening

FRIDAY 1 MARCH
Student Leader's Meeting 10.50am
4-6 Parade 2.30pm – Hall
School Clean up Australia day

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TUESDAY 5 MARCH
Icy Cup Day – P-3 First Break
4-6 Second Break

FRIDAY 8 MARCH
Student Leader's Meeting 10.50am
P-3 Parade 2.30pm – Hall

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UPCOMING
11-12 Mar Yr 4/5 Camp Barambah
13-15 Mar Yr 6 Camp Barambah
20 Mar P&C AGM 4:40pm Staffroom

From the Principal



High expectations Engaged community Guaranteed, vibrant curriculum
High quality teaching Engaged students Academic success

We are well into teaching our units of work across all classrooms and have completed a range of diagnostic assessments which help us to differentiate our teaching as required. Teachers are working hard to ensure they are meeting both the learning needs of students as well as the requirements of the Australian Curriculum and are being supported by the two pedagogy coaches Mrs Hobbs and Mrs Carmichael as well as their cohort colleagues. We spend considerable time in planning sessions ensuring that each of our teachers has a clear understanding of the year level assessment tasks and what the national standards expect. This leads to greater levels of consistency across the school as well as the capacity to moderate students' work.

Communication at school

Thanks to those families who have attended parent information sessions or individual parent teacher meetings. Just like other professionals, teachers require time to compile information to share with parents, so we do appreciate having interviews planned so we can ensure we are providing accurate information. Teachers are more than happy to have short conversations with parents in the mornings and afternoons, but for more important issues, an appointment is necessary. Thank you too to families who seek clarification from teachers regarding conversations with their children and or other families. It is always important to ensure that you have the facts relating to any incidents at school and that you can trust our teachers to contact you with concerns.

From time to time, your child may share concerns with you about other children, or another child. If this causes you to feel worried about a child's health, safety or well-being, please raise this with a teacher or admin, as keeping children safe is a responsibility we take very seriously. We are fully aware of and enact with fidelity our mandatory reporting responsibilities and take pride in these actions. Likewise, if your child tells you something that causes you to feel angry with another child, talking to your child's teacher to raise this concern is the most appropriate action. It is NEVER right to go directly to the other child at school and talk to them, as this can cause fear – all children have the right to feel safe at school.

Sadly, already this year, our students, staff and other families have witnessed parents talking – or even yelling inappropriately at each other, or at other parents. There have been occasions when this has included the use of profanities and name calling. This is clearly unacceptable and cannot continue. Please remember the importance you have of being positive role models for not only your own children, but all children within our community.

School camps

Our school camps for year 4 to 6 are coming up quickly. Students and teachers are very excited to be attending these camps as not only is there a focus on academic learning, but this is a time for high levels of team work and social development. The opportunity for staff and student to form strong relationships is liquid gold! We have worked hard to ensure that the costs of our camps are low, with processes like maximizing bus usage and using the Education Departments own Environmental Education Centres. The year 4/5 camp costs \$82 for two days and one night and the Yr 6 camp is \$125 for three days and two nights. We understand that attending camp can be a financial strain so we are pleased to offer CentrePay as a way to spread the costs across the year. Parents can also make arrangements to make payments by instalments – please speak to our business manager, Chantelle Raspor who can make the necessary arrangements. Please contact the principal, Heidi Dallimore, if your family is facing significant financial stress and we can see what assistance there is available for support. Please get those permission notes back to school.

Our campers attend Barambah Environmental Education Centre (EEC) where programs have been designed to engage students in authentic learning experiences in an outdoor setting, taking into account the diverse range of preferred learning and interaction styles. They offer unrivalled learning sites uniquely located on a traditional aboriginal pathway within Wrattens Regional Park. The unique location and natural history allows learning experiences which cannot be replicated in other places. All students and teachers visiting Barambah EEC are immersed in experiential learning opportunities exploring the history, biology and ecology of the natural environment. Barambah EEC programs cater for all phases of education and are aligned to the Australian Curriculum learning areas, general capabilities and cross-curricula priorities.

Does your child have a technology addiction?

Hervey Bay State Schools are proud to invite families and community members who work with children to free community sessions held at the Hervey Bay RSL, from 1.00 – 2.30 and repeated from 6.00 – 7.30pm, on Monday 11th March 2019. Rachel Downie an eSafety speaker, certified by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, will be presenting important information about your child's use of technology. Are they safe online? What are they sharing? Who is watching them? Is your child addicted? Do you want to know what they're really doing? Rachel will give you tips on what to look out for and how to manage technology for children of all ages. Children are unable to attend this event. Register your interest for this event by emailing: safetyonline@torquayss.eq.edu.au Search for more information about the presenter www.racheldownie.com



Office of the
eSafety Commissioner

Kind regards, *Heidi Dallimore* – Principal



From the Deputy's Desk

Week 4 is well and truly underway and the term is almost half way through. Loads of activities occurring across our school so make sure you check out the date claimers, Facebook if you have it and the electronic sign.



OUR GOAL: Every student has 95% attendance or higher every term. That is, no more than 2 days absent per 10 week period.

Attendance: 95% attendance rate at school is our goal. Each and every school day we want to see our students at school. Exceptions to this are school disciplinary absences, illness, medical appointments etc. Please note that a medical certificate for longer illness related absences is greatly appreciated.

Behaviour: Safe habits enters the final week of instruction and the next 4 weeks will have a focus centred around the National Day of Action against Bullying. Information cards will be distributed to each student and an information card for families will be issued to the oldest in the family to bring home for you. We take all behaviour seriously and expect our students and staff to be safe, respectful and responsible every day.

School Leaders: Our badging ceremony happened on Friday last week and it was a wonderful ceremony. Congratulations to our new student representatives who will serve our school community well.

Air-conditioning: C block installation is underway and by next week, the students should be experiencing the coolness to aid in learning. This means that there is only 1 more block to air-condition in the school. It is a big thank you to the school community for your support in assisting with the air-conditioning project.

Keep up the greatness Torquay! Yours in education, *Phil Theofanes* - Deputy Principal

Admin

Parking

Please be aware that parking in "No Parking" areas is not only illegal but can also create unnecessary danger to our children e.g. no parking zones near crossings, nature strips, driveways that allow access for ambulance etc. Please also be considerate that disability parking bays are for those with an official disability parking permit. Thank you for your assistance to keep our children safe.

Spare Clothing

Just a reminder that **ALL children in Prep and Year 1** should carry a spare set of clothing in their schoolbag in case of toilet accidents (this can include simply dropping their pants onto a wet floor in the toilet cubicle.) Please also ensure spare clothing is kept your child's schoolbag if they are in years 2-6 and there is any chance of an accident. We will gratefully accept any donations of **new** child's underwear to the office for emergencies.

Healthy Lunchbox

A healthy lunch keeps active children alert and focused and gives them the nutrition they need every day. Choose from a variety of food types: fruit and vegetables, starchy food, protein and dairy - [What to put in the lunch box.](#)

Don't forget the **WATER!**

Check out these great lunch box recipes and ideas - our own Kid-Friendly recipes:

- [Celery, Ham and Egg Roll-Ups](#)
- [Veggie Quesadillas](#)
- [Thai Chicken and Brown Rice Salad](#)
- [Salmon, Ricotta and Quinoa Cups](#)
- [Tuna Felfel and Tabouleh Salad](#)
- [Mum's United Lunchbox Lifesavers](#)
- [Packing a healthy lunchbox](#)



For more information please see ref:

<https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/parents-carers/healthy-eating-and-drinking/lunch-box-ideas.aspx>

Tuckshop

Thank you everyone who placed a lunch order on our Pre-Order Lunch Day. We have around 180 orders which is a fantastic result. We are still waiting to get our EFTPOS up and running and we will be sending home a copy of our menu when this has been installed. Please pack a spoon with your student's lunch if they are bringing something from home. Our next Tuck shop fundraiser will be our Easter Treats Day.

Thank you, Judy

Library

Book Fair is coming up. This year the theme is 'Beach'. We will be reading stories and making craft for our Book Fair displays. We are running some competitions, decorating the library and you will be filling in your 'wish list' over the next few weeks.

Library bags - we have some new library bags on order and we are hoping they will be here soon. If you have your library bag from last year at home, please return it to the library.

Library opening times. We are open from 8:30am to 8:45am Monday to Thursday. Students can return their books before school, during their lunch breaks and during their browse and borrow time with their class. Students can return their books and re-borrow as often as they would like, as long as they have their library bag with them.

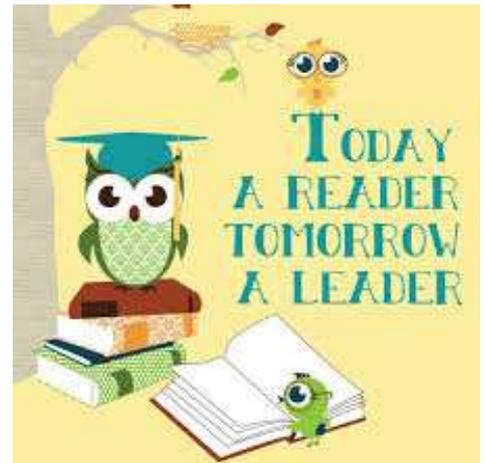
We look forward to seeing you in the library soon!



Reading

How you can help an early reader at home?

- Find a comfortable place to sit and read together
- Read to your child as often as you can (you can borrow from the library daily, you don't have to wait until your child's next library day)
- Model how to hold the book then let the child hold the book and turn the pages
- Discuss the front cover (eagle eye – look at the pictures, predict - what do you think this book might be about?)
- Discuss the back cover
- Locate the "spine" and discuss how we need to look after the book's spine. Make a connection to your spine on your body and how we have to look after it
- Title (where on the book, the book is called.....)
- Author (where on the book, the author writes the words in our story)
- Illustrator (where on the book, the illustrator draws the pictures in our story)



When reading to your child, read with **PASSION** and **FIREWORKS!** If your child sees your enthusiasm for reading, they too will have the love of books and love to read.

P&C

Welcome to the 2019 School Year from the P and C! Our first meeting of the year was held on Wednesday, 20th February at 4:30pm in the Staff Room. P and C meetings are currently held on the third Wednesday of the month. We are always open to changing the time of the meeting, according to people's availability. We invite you to join our Facebook page, where we publicise upcoming events and parents or carers can feel free to post suitable discussion topics: Torquay (QLD) State School Parents' Club.

Our March Meeting is the AGM and will be held on Wednesday, 20th March. We would love to see more parents or carers become active with the P and C so that the workload is spread a bit wider than the Executive. Secondly, with more resources, the P and C can seek out more opportunities to write and win grants for additional projects such as installing fans in the Hall and modernising and upgrading the Tuckshop facilities.

Our priority remains the same as per the last few years and that is, to raise funds to complete the air-conditioning of the school. Air-conditioning for the four classrooms in C-block (2/3C, 2/3D, 2/3E) has just commenced and is unfortunately extremely expensive at approximately \$30,000.

Torquay State School has currently kindly undertaken to foot the bill in order to keep this project rolling, and the P and C has committed to paying this amount back – hopefully within this calendar year. Our very successful Colour Fun Run last year (after costs) raised \$9,000, so our fund raising efforts this year must focus on reducing the balance (\$21,000) as quickly as possible.

We have an exciting calendar of events planned so stay tuned! We are in the process of changing the P and C banking to Bendigo Bank and we are working to introduce an EFTPOS facility into the Tuckshop as soon as possible.

We have recently sent out a questionnaire for parents to complete regarding our Tuckshop – despite all our very vigorous efforts last year, our Tuckshop sustained a loss of nearly \$5,500 which is extremely disappointing to the P and C and will probably be a shock to the wider school community.

We must continue to support the Tuckshop in any way we can, or see a further loss or change to the service. We appreciate any kind of help or support people are able to give.

Look out for up and coming details of the Movie Night or Disco planned for Friday 1 march in the evening.
Yours sincerely,

Claire Nava – President, Rossy Lloyd – Vice President, Nikki Hood – Secretary, Alison Drummond Jones – Treasurer.

Helping Hands Outside School Hours Care

	Helping Hands Outside School Hours Care Torquay	
0475824340	 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*		
<small>*Based on your income for 1 child in care per session after CCB and CCR</small>		
COME IN AND CHECK OUT OUR PROGRAM!		

Uniforms

New uniforms are available from Sauer's and Lowes. Second-hand uniforms can be purchased from the school's Uniform Shop Mondays 8:30-9:00am and Fridays 2:30-3:15pm. School hats are \$12 and are available from the school Uniform Shop and the Tuckshop. Please note the "No Hat No Play" policy – if students do not have a hat they must remain under cover for play time. If you have school uniforms that you no longer need, donations to our second-hand uniform shop would also be greatly appreciated.

School Watch Number: 131 788

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 131 788. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school. If you see something suspicious, please don't intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.



Like us on Facebook

Get the latest news by joining the official Torquay State School Facebook page under "Torquay State School". This page is used as a regular communication tool to update parents and the school community on school activities, events, information and messages. <https://www.facebook.com/Torquay-State-School-145941882156551>

Absences

Please notify the school of reasons for absence as soon as possible. Absences (past, present and future) can now be quickly and easily recorded through the QParents app! Alternatively, please phone our absence line 4194 4366. If you receive a text message please reply to the SMS as soon as possible. If you receive an absence letter, please enter a reason and return the letter so we can remove the unexplained absence from the student's record. All late arrivals and early departures are to be signed in / signed out by students' parent/s or guardian/s at the Administration Office.

