Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Wednesday afternoon we held our Meet the Teacher sessions. If you were unable to attend you should have received a summary sheet from your child’s teacher, if not please contact the office. You may have noticed we have changed the use of the weekly behaviour card. This year it will only be used for ES1 and Stage 1 students. Please be assured if your child is in Stage 2 or 3 and the teacher has a concern about your child’s behaviour they will contact you directly. If you have a concern with this change please speak to your child’s teacher or contact the office.

This year we are able to offer scripture classes to all students from ES1 to Stage 3. Scripture classes will be held on Friday morning at 9.15am. Accompanying this newsletter is a form which will allow us to update your child’s information. Please note, you will only need to complete this information once. A general permission note is also included, please complete one form for each child as it will be placed in their record card.

As I said last week, it is really important for our school community to be mindful of what our children bring to school in their lunch boxes. Please avoid any products which contain nuts, for example, peanut butter, Nutella and muesli bars. Your ongoing attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, there was an incident last week with a dog in the school grounds. Please note animals are not allowed on the premises without prior permission. This is regardless of the type of animal or size.

I would like to remind you the school grounds are not to be used outside school hours without
prior permission. This is a department of education requirement. If you would like to use the grounds for training purposes please contact the school office.

Have a great week,

Jeanette Dillon

Principal’s Award
Annastasia Moffett

Assembly Awards
K/1S     Indiana
1/2F     Matilda & Thomas
1/2K     Natureh & Sarah
3M       Lily & James
4/5K     Lani & Nathan
5/6D     Callum & Jazz

Leaders Stars of the Week
Callum & Matilda

Swimming Carnival
Tacoma Public School swimming carnival will be held at Wyong Pool on Tuesday 24 February. The carnival will begin at 9.30am and finish approximately 2.00pm. Travel will be by bus for all children.

Please return the permission note and payment of $6.00 by Friday 20 February.

Remember to select the races your child will swim on the back of the permission note. Parents wishing to assist on the day can indicate on the bottom of the permission slip.

Chess Club
There was a fantastic response to the Chess Club membership last week. The chess coach found it difficult as there were 2 definite groups—established players and beginners. This made it very difficult for him to be able to teach. As there is an inter school competition in term 2, he has asked to focus on the students who know the rules for this term and will pick up the other students next term. At that time we are asking for volunteers who could assist him teaching the younger students the fundamentals of chess. I will ask for assistance early next term.

Thank you for your understanding with this.

Mel Kable

Change of Bell Times
To take advantage of peak learning times the bells have been changed as per below.

9am     Morning Assembly
11am    Recess
11.30am Middle Session
1.20pm  Lunch (eating time)
1.30    Play time
2pm     Afternoon Session
3 pm    Home
Uniform Shop
New hours. Monday from 8.30 am
Old stock sale - Shirts $15, Jumpers $11
Preloved items from $1

Canteen News
The canteen will be open every day for recess. It will open for lunch on MONDAYS & THURSDAYS. New volunteers are most welcome.

Peanuts
For the safety of those around them with allergies please encourage your child to choose nut free lunchbox options. If they consume nut products at home before school please ensure hands and face are thoroughly washed. Thank you

School Exemptions
Commencing at the beginning of this year family holidays are no longer an accepted reason for an exemption from school. Absences will be considered leave and included in absence records. We encourage all families to take holidays in the designated times.

AECG Meeting
You are invited to our next Ngara Local AECG meeting held at Wyong Public School Cutler Drive, Wyong. Come along meet your Aboriginal Community and access resources for your schools and workplace.
4.00pm on Monday 16 February
Guest Speakers: Brett Parker Aboriginal Artist
Terry Hayek-Donovan Aboriginal Cultural Education Programs

Parent Support
The book “Teach your kids to shrug! and 40 more ways to raise your kids to thrive” by Michael Grose is available at the school office if you would like to borrow it. It has great practical suggestions for helping children become more resilient.

Sensory Movie Day - Tuggerah
Inclusive Event for families with special needs. Children are free to move around, lighting on dim, sound lowered. Fire exit Doors monitored by volunteers
"Big Hero 6"
11am Sunday 15th February 2015
Tickets: $8 each
Children 2yrs and under are free
Companion I.D. cards accepted
Siblings and extend family welcome

Our school now has a free app to deliver school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone.

How to get the School Stream app on your mobile device
1 From your mobile device go to the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (Android), search for school stream and download the app to your phone
2 Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type your school name into the search then select your school.
3 Are your children attending different schools? Tap the school selector, select add a school, type (the school name*) into the search then add. Jump between your children’s schools.

*Any additional schools will need to be licensed users of School Stream to appear in the app.

Choose what notifications you receive
1 Open the School Stream app on your mobile device
2 From the slide-in menu, go to Settings
3 Under Edit/Alerts select My Schools and select your School to open the Notifications page
4 Toggle notifications on or off individually (e.g. Alerts, Events, Newsletters, etc.)
5 When you have finished, use the Back button to return to the Settings page, then select Done to return to your School
Happy Birthday to all students who celebrated their birthdays in January
- Thomas, Cameron, Brodie, Alannah, Jacqualyn, Jasmine, Timothy, John, Amy, Lachlan, Holly & Lane
And to those celebrating birthdays last week — Elliott & Emily
And this week—Kye, Nathan & Blessing

Disclaimer:
Although our school appreciates ideas and suggestions from the community on a variety of topics, please be aware that Tacoma Public School and its staff cannot endorse any unsolicited ideas or suggestions nor can we verify the accuracy of any claims contained in this newsletter. As with any unsolicited advice...

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**Quote of the week....**

Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.
- John Wooden