I have enjoyed catching up with families at the start of the year and finding out how students are settling in. If you need to have a chat with me I’m always out and about before school supervising the students in the morning and after school in the under covered area. Alternatively you can ring the office and make an appointment.

Virtues

Most families expect children to contribute to family life. Some children have regular jobs that must be completed while others help out when asked. Either way children getting involved benefits everyone. Children learn about family relations and how families function.

When children contribute to family life, it also helps them feel competent and responsible. Sharing housework can minimise stress in a family. Getting kids involved in jobs helps the family work better. The secret is in asking for contributions that you value and that suit your children’s age and ability. A job that’s too hard for a child can be frustrating – or even dangerous.

Even young children can start to help out if you choose activities that are right for their age. You can start with simple jobs like looking after their own toys or rooms. These send the message to children that their
contribution is important. It’s also important to think about tasks that get children involved in caring for the family as a whole. For example, get them to help with setting or clearing the table. Jobs like these are more likely to promote a sense of responsibility and participation.

If your children are old enough, you can have a family discussion. This can reinforce that the whole family contributes to how the household runs. I believe that children should not get paid or rewarded when they do jobs that benefit the family as the message should be that they are part of the family and help out because it is the right thing to do not because they will receive something for it. If you want to pay children then get them to do extra jobs like washing the car or weeding the garden etc.

Growing up I was often told that I had two hands for a reason. One for helping myself and the other for helping others.

Fun Run Family Picnic Day

This is our biggest fundraising event of the year. The enormous success of the Fun Run Family Picnic Day in the past takes the pressure off the P&C financially so we only have to run small fundraisers throughout the year. So get on board, grab some sponsors and come along for a fun morning of running followed by a family picnic on the oval. I will be out there running as well so hopefully my dodgy knees will hold out!

Years PP - 6

When: Wednesday 9 March
Where: School Oval
Time: 10.00am—11.00am followed by the family picnic on the oval.

Kindy

When: Monday/Thursday Group– Thursday 10 March
Tuesday/Friday Group- Wednesday 9 March
Where: Kindy Playground Area
Time: 10.30am

School Board Meeting

Our first Board meeting of the year is on Tuesday March 1 commencing at 7:00pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Sun Smart Policy

We have now received our sun cream bottles for each classroom. All students will be encouraged to put sun cream on as they leave the classroom to play.

Parents who do not want their children to have access to our sun cream can supply their own cream which can be kept in children’s bags. Please let the office as well as the classroom teacher know if there are any sun cream allergy issues we should be aware of with your child.

Scooters and Bikes

It is important that all scooters and bikes are chained/locked in the bike racks as we had a number of scooters stolen last week.

As discussed at the P&C meeting simply locking the gate has not prevented scooters being stolen as thieves simply climb the fence, throw scooters over then retrieve them.

Please remember that scooters and bikes are not allowed to be ridden or brought through the school at any time in order to avoid any safety issues.
**SPELLING LEVY CHARGE**

The spelling levy charge that was on the student requirement list needs to be paid to the school office or by direct debit BSB: 066040 Account: 1990 0794 by *Week 9 of Term 1, 2016*

The spelling levy / e-book relates to a spelling program (Sound Waves) which is used across the school.

This compulsory charge is to cover the licences for each student so that they can access the program. It would be appreciated if this levy has not been paid yet, that the school receives the money as soon as possible.

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

As you would be aware, government school do not have school fees. What we have instead is a system called voluntary school contributions. At Tapping, this is set at $60.00 a year for each student.

We use these funds to supplement a range of resources for students such as: art and craft materials, resource books, reference materials and teaching aids.

We understand the financial pressures on families particularly this time of the year. We have some families that make a payment of $15.00 for each child at the beginning of each term.

To pay your contribution, you can either pay online via direct debit to BSB: 066 040 Account Number: 1990794 or come to the front office to pay either cash or cheque. All cheques need to be made out to the school.

We are hoping to increase our collection rate from last year which was 58% of families that paid. Thank you for your support.

**IMMUNISATION**

If you have a child in Kindergarten or Pre Primary that has had his/her recent immunisations could you please provide the front office with updated ACIR Immunisation Records.

These are important records that the school requires and later in the year we will be sending out letters to parents who have not yet provided us with this information.

*Bill Boylan, Principal*

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**Tapping Primary School Information**

You are now able to access the newsletter, term calendar, send SMS absence messages and more!

1. Go to your App store or Play store
2. Search for “Tapping Primary School”
3. Download it for FREE onto your phone