

# Tacoma Public School

## Hillcrest Ave, Tacoma

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### Dates to remember:

#### 18 February

Zone Soccer Trials

#### 21 February

School Swimming Carnival

#### 26-27 February

Commonwealth Bank Visit

#### 4 March

Zone Swimming Carnival

#### 11 March

School Photographs

#### 27 March

Sydney North Swimming

#### 3 April

School Cross Country Carnival

#### 9 April

Last Day of Term 1

### Term Dates

Term 1 2020 29 Jan-9 Apr

Term 2 2020 28 Apr-3 Jul

Term 3 2020 21 July-25 Sept

### 3 February 2020

Welcome to 2020 at Tacoma Public School!

I hope that all our families had a wonderful holiday, resting, playing and enjoying spending time together.

A special welcome to our newest families and Kinder 2020 parents and carers. It has been lovely meeting you all and starting to get to know your children.

**Staffing and Classes:** This year has started with many changes to staff. Mrs Donna Andrews is having the year off, but will return to Tacoma in 2021. Mrs Mandy Shaw has taken up a position at another school in Sydney. We will miss Mrs Shaw terribly at Tacoma, but know this is an incredible opportunity for her. I thank Mrs Shaw for her love and leadership of Tacoma and wish her all the very best. Mr Michael McFarlane will capably take over the assistant principal role this year. We welcome our new staff – Mrs Lee Simpson, Mrs Anita Blumer, Mrs Tracie Brown and Mrs Mandy Carrigan (Mrs C). These wonderful staff bring to Tacoma a wealth of experience, are exceptional educators and add to our already strong, vibrant Tacoma team. I thank Garawa parents and carers for their patience, as I wanted make sure we had the perfect teacher for your kids.



The NSW Department of Education's new enrolment policy has seen us have to turn a number of families away and attend their local school. However, we have retained 9 classes – just! They are as follows:

<b>Gulang - K</b>	Mr Brian Kirk	<b>Library and RFF</b>	Mrs Deb Sadler
<b>Banal – K/1</b>	Mrs Louise Nicholson	<b>RFF &amp; Instructional Leader</b>	Mrs Toni Fletcher (AP Kinder)
<b>Bamayi – 1/2</b>	Mrs Lee Simpson	<b>Learning and Support Teacher</b>	Mrs Gemma White
<b>Waagir – 1/2</b>	Mr Michael McFarlane (AP Stage 1)	<b>Aboriginal Learning and Cultural Teacher</b>	Mrs Kerry Fraser
<b>Murgu - 2</b>	Mr Damien Tedd	<b>School Counsellor</b>	Mrs Kris Carmody (Thursday)
<b>Gundang – 3/4</b>	Mrs Anita Blumer	<b>ICT</b>	Mrs Sue Critt
<b>Garawa – 3/4</b>	Mrs Tracie Brown		
<b>Badhu – 5/6</b>	Miss Kim Tuff		
<b>Balba – 5/6</b>	Mrs Jo Stuckey (AP Stage 3)		

Some parents may ask why we have composites. We take a lot of time formulating new classes to form balanced, effective learning teams in each stage (E.G. Stage 1 = 1/2; Stage 2 = 3/4; Stage 3 = 5/6). This year, the best outcome for all our students was to form composites. Every class, regardless of a single grade or composite, must teach English and Mathematics explicitly, at each students' instructional level. This will be happening in every classroom. The other KLAS are still differentiated and have always been programmed at a stage level at Tacoma. Be assured we have created the best learning environment for ALL students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher.

**Welcome back to school BBQ:** Don't forget our 'Welcome back to school BBQ' is **TOMORROW** - Tuesday 4th February, 3.15 – 5pm. We are looking forward to seeing as many families as possible.

**Uniforms:** It has been great to see our Tacoma students proudly wearing their uniform. ONLY school hats may be worn. The correct socks for boys are green, white or black and for girls green or white.

**Attendance:** A big focus this year will be attendance. It is expected that students come to school every day they are well, and on time. It really does matter your child is here, sitting in lines at 9am. This helps set a positive tone for the day and I appreciate you supporting your child to achieve this. Only 5 students attended the 100% Attendance Morning Tea in 2019. I would love this number to be much, much more in 2020!



**Our new sandpit and dry river bed play area:** The students have loved the newest addition to our school! We have been lucky that the rain came at the right time to help our new turf to 'take'. The students have loved playing and exploring their new space and been so creative and happy. We found a little frog today in the grass! Harrison and Charlotte loved having a tiny hold.

**Seen in the Office:** Amazing writing and reading already from Holly and Marley in Murgu; and Chloe and Chase from Bamayi.



**Assembly:** Our first assembly will be Friday, Week 3 at 2pm. Year 1 to 6 at the moment. All welcome!

Once again, welcome our students, staff and families to another exciting year of learning together.

Have a great fortnight, Tacoma. It is wonderful to be back!

Nicole Heazlewood

Principal

### **If your child is late or leaving early**

If your child arrives in the morning after the bell please go to the office to sign in. Any student who arrives late without a parent /carer will have an unexplained absence recorded. If you are picking your child up from school early please go to the office to sign them out. Do not go directly to the classroom, your child will come to the office.

**Tacoma Public School attendance number (for texts only) 0417 436 337** (This number is NOT for calls)

Please advise us if your child is away.

\* via text—text on the number above or reply to the message sent to you, providing a reason why your child is away.

\*via a note within three days of your child returning. The note should include the date, reason for absence and parent/carers signature.



### **School Banking—TUESDAYS**

Please note that school banking days is now on Tuesdays.

School Banking

### **Canteen**

A reminder that the canteen is open for recess every day and open for lunch on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Lunch orders can be made via My School Connect app or placed in a lunch order bag with cash and handed into the canteen in the morning.

Breakfast club is on each morning, commencing in Week 2 from 8.30—9.00am.

### **Uniform Shop 2020**

The uniform shop will be open every day this week from 8.30-9.00am. From Week 3 it will be open on Monday and Friday mornings. Uniforms can also be orders on the My School Connect App or left at the office.



### **Headlice**

Please regularly check your children's hair and scalp for live headlice or eggs.

### **Busways School Road Safety Campaign**



Did you know that by law you must slow down to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing?

As our students start the 2020 school year, the NSW Government and your local school bus operator Busways is reminding parents, teachers and other motorists about this law which is designed to keep our kids safe.



Lights begin to flash when the bus stops and the doors open, and they keep flashing for 20 seconds after the doors close. Children are most at risk in the minutes after they get off the bus as they can be unpredictable in their movements.

Fines and demerit points apply if a motorist is caught going over 40km/hr when passing a bus with flashing lights.

Motorists can help reduce the risk of an incident and keep children safe by:

- Slowing down to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing,
- Looking out for children crossing the road near bus stops, in school zones or along bus routes, and
- Giving way to buses when they merge back into traffic.

For more information visit <http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/campaigns/be-busaware/bus-flashing-lights.html>.



## Girl Guides invite you to Come and Try Guides!

Local meeting nights are:

**Junior Guides** (Ages 5 to 10 years) Tuesday 5pm—6.30pm

**Guides** (Ages 10—14 years) Thursday 6pm—8pm

**Senior Guides** (14—18 Years) Wednesday 7pm—9pm

Guides enjoy cooking, craft, games, earning badges, getting out in the community, personal challenges, outdoor activities, camping and so much more.

**GIRLS HAVING FUN TODAY—LEADING THE WORLD  
TOMORROW**

Location: Wyong Guide Hall, Levitt St  
Wyong

Please call 8396 5200 to find out how to join  
us for a free night.

Or Visit [www.girlguides-nswact.org.au](http://www.girlguides-nswact.org.au)  
to find out more about Guides in your  
area.



# Happy Birthday!!

**Lana, Pippa, Thomas, Cameron, Telesia, Eric, Paige,  
Oshini, Jacqualyn, Reagan, Jacob, Steven, Finn, Jaxon  
& Fadel**

