

Tacoma Public School

Hillcrest Ave, Tacoma

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Dates to remember:

Week 10

Mon 6 Dec—Fri 12 Dec

Book Fair & Second Hand Book Sale

Thursday 9 December

Presentation Day Assemblies

Monday 13 December

Year 6 Farewell

Tuesday 14 Dec

Reports Home

Thursday 16 December

Class Parties

Kinder Graduation

Year 6 Graduation

Last day of term 4!

Tuesday 1 February

Students return to school

Term Dates

Term 4, 2021 15 October—17 December

Term 1, 2022 28 January—8 April

Term 2, 2022 26 April—1 July

Term 3, 2022 18 July—23 September

22 November 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Tacoma Families,

Welcome to Week 8 – only one month of school remaining!

It has once again been a busy fortnight at Tacoma Public School and we continue to be explicitly teaching at students' individual level in reading, writing and numeracy. I want to thank our teachers and SLSOs for working tirelessly and flexibly with your children.

THANK YOU to you all for dressing your children in full school uniforms. There has been a big improvement in this area and we are very appreciative.

Another thanks for packing healthier lunch boxes! We have noticed an improvement overall, and your children will thank you, long term.

SUPPORT FROM HOME

One thing I have noticed since the return to school is the lack of basic concept retention in many of our students. I cannot emphasize enough that your child's education is a partnership between home and school. Those students who are thriving at school in their learning are working hard at school AS WELL AS at home. This means home reading every week night, practising sight words, multiplication tables and mathematical concepts such as double numbers, mental computation.



It is a combined responsibility of the school and parent/carer for academic progress. We will be sending age appropriate holiday work to revise in the coming holidays. It will not be new learning. It will be consolidating concepts that are vital for your child to be ready for the year 2022.

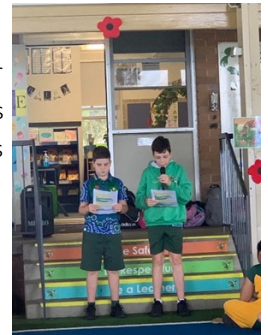
Whilst we do not expect parents to be doing hours every day, we do expect a 10-15 minute dedicated session 2 or 3 times a week to save loss of learning and pushing concepts from short term to long term memory.

We will appreciate this partnership very much. Your child will thrive academically – it makes a real difference to their life ahead.



REMEMBERANCE DAY 2021

Congratulations to our captains, Tommy and Finn for running a beautifully sincere school ceremony for us all. All the students were overwhelmingly respectful – the two minute silence was just that. I was beyond proud of our captains and our little school community. Thank you to Mr Mac for his organisation and Gundang for our poppy decorations around the COLA.



CLASSES 2022/STEP-UP TRANSITION

We are in the process of looking at classes for 2022. Due to the NSW DoE new policy, we have had to say no to many families wanting to come to our amazing school. However, we will retain 8 classes in 2022. Classroom teachers and classes are being determined over the next fortnight. Due to our numbers in each grade, we will have almost all composite classes. This is always the case in smaller schools and our teachers are well-equipped to deliver quality, explicit programs to the level/stage your child is at. Teachers put hours and hours of thought and discussion into where your child is placed.

We do take into consideration their friend choice (all students wrote a friend list today) as well as social, emotional and academic needs. Every child will be with at least one friend choice and a new class is always a lovely opportunity to expand their friendship group.

All our students will be visiting possible 2022 classrooms as part of our STEP-UP transition program. Due to the composite classes, your child may visit two classrooms/teachers in the program. For example, if your child is in Year 1 next year, they will visit Bamayi and Banal for a session. Transition programs aim to prepare our students for next year's classrooms and teachers to reduce worry and allow them to develop relationships. We are very fortunate in our school as the students know many of the teachers and staff across the school, which also helps. Our first session will be in Week 10.

HAPPY SPIRITS 2022

We are LOVING meeting our littlest Happy Spirits who are getting ready for Tacoma in 2022! We have loved playing together. many thanks to Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Nicholson and Mr Kirk for their planning and organisation as well as the SLSOs who have helped on these mornings.



CAPTAINS 2022

Votes are in and have been counted! This will be held as a surprise until 3-6 Presentation Day. Parents/carers of our 2022 School and House Captains will receive an invitation, along with those receiving a class award.

RAPID ANTIGEN HOME TESTS (RAHT)

Last week, the NSW DoE released information about the RAPID ANTIGEN HOME TEST for Covid-19.

The school will NOT be administering these.

They are for families to use at home if the school has another positive Covid-19 case. For those students/staff who are close contacts, families will be given a RAHT to at home to reduce the amount of time missed at school. Parents/carers may test their children on Day 8 and allowed to come back to school if negative (rather than Day 15).



END of YEAR CEREMONIES

Parents/carers will receive an labelled envelope if your child is receiving an end of year award. Following school tradition, your child's name will not be on the invite to keep the surprise, just the date and time.

The invitations will be given to the youngest child in the family, regardless of who is receiving the award.

- **Presentation Day Assemblies - 9th December - (K-2 10am / 3-6 12noon).**

We have very strict COVID-19 Guidelines to comply with such as limited number of guests, a shorter ceremony, social distancing adults, outside venue and all parents/carers on-site must be double vaxxed. Please enter via Braithwaite Road hall gate, check in using the QR code and show the staff member on duty your double vaccination evidence. Please come directly to the COLA and sit on allocated seats.



Unfortunately, only ONE adult per child is allowed and this will be closely adhered to.

Additionally, only class staff will be attending with no special guests.

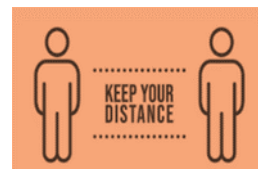
If you are unable to attend, photos will be taken of your child and emailed to you.

- **Kindergarten Graduation 10am // Year 6 Graduation 2pm - 15th December**



As only the Kinder or Year 6 students are attending, we can have two parents/carers per child attend these separate events.

Please enter via Braithwaite Road hall gate, check in using the QR code and show the staff member on duty your double vaccination evidence. Please come directly to the COLA and sit on allocated seats.



P&C TOY DRIVE

The pandemic has made life very challenging for some of our families with income reduction and loss. This is making the thought of Christmas very bleak. We are collecting toys for children of all ages to give to affected parents to give Santa a helping hand. If you can help, please buy a new toy (value \$25 maximum) and deliver it to school to put in the large white container outside the office every morning (please give it to your child). There is no need to wrap.

If you know a family doing it tough, please call the school in confidence – or anonymously – to let us know so we can deliver gifts to those in need. Thank you so much – we have collected quite a few already.



TACOMA OOSH

**THE
AFTER
SCHOOL
KLUB**

Congratulations to THE AFTER SCHOOL KLUB – TASK for being the successful tender and our new Before and After School Care provider! TASK provides fun, safe and supportive care for primary school children. I am meeting with the directors this Thursday to start the set-up process and I am very excited for our families!

As soon as I have more information, I will communicate this via Facebook and Sentral App for enrolment. Unfortunately, TASK will not be ready for Vacation Care this Christmas holidays, but will be open DAY 1 2022. Thank you to Mrs Fletcher and Carissa, our P&C President, for joining me on the panel.

REPORTS

Reports will be sent home Monday 13th December, 2021

Have a wonderful fortnight, Tacoma! Be safe, healthy and look after each other.

Nicole Heazlewood

Principal

DATES FOR THE DIARY

9th December - Presentation Day Assemblies (K-2 10am/3-6 12noon)

10th December – Year 6 Fun Day—Raw Challenge

13th December – Year 6 Farewell – School Hall

14th December – Reports Home

16th December – Kindergarten Graduation 10am//Year 6 Graduation 2pm & Class Parties.

Kindergarten 2022

Enrolments for in area Kinder in 2022 can now be processed through our website. If you have a child coming next year please complete enrolment as soon as possible so we have your details ready to send information for playgroup.

If you do not live in area an Out Of Area Application will need to be completed.

Students with cold symptoms

Do not send your child to school with any cold or flu symptoms. They will be sent home and a negative covid test will be required for your child to return to school.

ATTENDANCE PHONE — Please text 0417 436 337

Is your child away? Do you need to send us a copy of Covid results?

**Central Coast
Summer Chess
Tournament
for ages 6 to**



**New venue...
previously
at Mingara**

Monday 10 January

Entry fee \$20

includes lunch-pack

Payment details and food
options on contact with...

Gary Losh

glosh6090@gmail.com

Must pre-enter by Wednesday 5 January

Coast Community Church, Adelaide St, Tumbi Umbi
9.30am – 4.00pm

With an educational chess puzzle competition
and lots of prizes. Practice puzzles provided on entry.

**Minimum ability: Must know how to move the
pieces and complete games largely unassisted.**

**happy
birthday**

William, Ashton, Kyan,
Jessica, Dylan, Charlotte, India,
Lucas & Chloe

