

THE HIGH FLYER

JOINING TOGETHER - REACHING EXCELLENCE



Focused On Learning!

Focused On Respect!

Focused On Safety!

**2026 Explicit Improvement
Agenda
Educational Achievement
Belonging & Engagement**

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Calendar of Events

2027 Student Leader

Applications Due

Monday, 2 November 2026

Student Leadership Parade

Thursday 12 November 2026

8:50am - School Library

First Pre-Prep Program session with Kindy staff

Friday 13 November 2026

Prep Area 9-11am

2026 Swimming Carnival

Friday, 13 November 2026

Year 6 Tallebudgera Camp

15-20 November 2026

Early Years Swimming Celebration

Monday 23 November 2026

Wonder of Science State Conference, UQ

Thursday, 26 November 2026

Colour Run

Wednesday, 9 Dec 2026

Awards Presentation Evening

Tuesday 8 December 2026

Week 4

Schoolwide Expectation

**'I act safely in the
school environment.'**

Edition: Term 4 - Week 4, 2026

2027 Student Leadership: Last week on Parade our current student leaders presented an overview of their experience as student leaders to encourage potential candidates to consider school leadership roles for 2027. Students in Year 5 and 9 received leadership information and were encouraged to consider applying for School Captain and/or House Captain positions for the 2027 school year. Information was also emailed to the parents of eligible students. Students in Years 2 – 8 also received information regarding **2027 Student Representative Council** positions. All interested students are encouraged to discuss the roles and responsibilities of leadership positions with their parents, and gain their support before moving to the next stage in the process as follows:

1. Written applications with parent signature due Monday 2 November 2026.
2. School and House Captain Interviews with school leaders on Friday 6 November 2026.
3. SRC nominees present their speeches to their class over the coming weeks at a time organised by class teachers.
4. School and House Captain speeches presented at a special whole school Parade on Thursday 12 November 2026. Student and staff voting will follow speeches. Parents are invited to attend.
5. 2027 student leadership positions announced at Presentation of Awards Ceremony in Week 10.
6. Badges will be presented at a special Student Leadership Induction Parade early in Term One 2027.

Please discuss these leadership opportunities with your children and encourage them to apply for 2027 leadership positions.

Example leadership qualities

- Uphold the school rules and schoolwide expectations.
- Promote GEM principles of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness.
- Work as part of a team.
- Understand own strengths and areas for improvement.
- Be personable and have good communication skills.

Example leadership roles and responsibilities

- Attend weekly Student Council meetings.
- Assist in setting up and running Parade.
- Attend and participate in extra-curricular events such as Anzac Day, Sports Days and Presentation Evening.
- Welcome visitors to the school.
- Promote and organise lunch time sport and fundraising activities.
- Model school and house team spirit.

Day for Daniel: Tomorrow we are encouraging everyone to wear red for a gold coin donation to acknowledge Australia's largest day of action to keep kids safe. Teachers will be talking with students about safety and reminding them that whenever they feel unsafe, they should trust their feelings and body signals to **RECOGNISE, REACT and REPORT**.

World Teachers Day: Tomorrow we also celebrate our wonderful teachers. This is an opportunity to recognise and appreciate their dedication and acknowledge that teachers often go above and beyond to inspire, support, and empower our children and young people every single day. Please encourage your children to show gratitude to their teachers by taking the time to thank them tomorrow.

Angela Heslin - Principal



Taroom State School

Your voice.
Your ideas.
Our school.

2027 Student Leadership Team



**SCHOOL
CAPTAIN**

Lead, inspire
and represent
our school.



**HOUSE
CAPTAIN**

Build team spirit
and support
your house.



**STUDENT
COUNCILLOR**

Be the voice
for your peers
and make a difference.

Have a student voice,
learn new skills.



Applications and
information package
due **Monday 2 November.**

Be the change...
make a difference!

LEAD | SERVE | SUPPORT | ACHIEVE



TAROOM STATE SCHOOL

Strive for Better



COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP



\$20:00 per sponsorship



AWARD CATEGORY

Please indicate the award category you would like to sponsor.



DESCRIPTION(S)

Please provide a brief description of your sponsorship (optional).



I would like to sponsor one or more of the following award categories ✓



Early Years
Prep-Y2



Primary
Y3-6



Secondary
Y7-10



Early Years Books
All students receive a book.



AWARD CATEGORIES



ACADEMIC

- Excellence
- Achievement
- Subject specific

Focus: Consistently high overall or outstanding performance, and commitment to learning in both Semesters 1 and 2 of the learning program.

OR

Consistent excellence in any subject of a student's learning program.

**Sponsorship money will be allocated to categories where there are eligible recipients.*



EFFORT

Focus:

Consistent application of effort and positive approach to learning and improvement.



SPORTS

- SW Half Blues

Focus:

Students who have represented the school in one or more southwest sports.



CLASS CITIZENSHIP

Focus:

A student from each level who demonstrates excellent communication skills and leadership, shows initiative, honesty and politeness, and consistently strives to follow the principles of G.E.M – Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness.



SCHOOL SPORTSMANSHIP

Focus:

This is a peer voted award. Students do not have to be the best player on the field, however they do have to be supportive of others, follow guidelines and rules without argument and accept umpire decisions.



Name of Sponsor: _____

While we do have regular organisations and business sponsors assigned to set awards, we will attempt to accommodate your requests to sponsor a specific award and year level.

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

JANE VAN BAKEL



Our whole school moderation processes

When teachers award an A-E result on student report cards, that judgement is based on a body of evidence collected across the Semester - within lessons through formative assessment, across units of work, throughout the term and across the Semester.

Teachers engage in moderation regularly through fortnightly curriculum meetings, led by the Head of Department for Prep - Year 6 and Deputy Principal for Year 7 - 10. We review assessment tasks and marking guides, compare student work and confirm judgements.

Moderation processes also extend beyond our school and into the Miles Cluster where teachers from the same year levels meet via Teams to moderate with colleagues from other schools in the district.

Moderation is an iterative and cyclical process. Moderation processes ideally occur:



- before assessment takes place at the planning stage, and at appropriate times throughout teaching and learning
- after assessment takes place, before it is graded or after it is graded
- at the end of the reporting period using assessment folios.

How do we know our judgements are accurate?

One way we can check the strength of our teacher judgements is through the Inter-Assessment Agreement tool. This snapshot looks at the extent to which students' NAPLAN achievement **aligns** with their A-E report card results.

Our current 2026 data shows **strong agreement** across Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. This provides another positive indicator that our curriculum and moderation processes at a school level are producing consistent results.

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

JANE VAN BAKEL



Year 3 Reading

- Strong agreement overall.
- Results sit directly on the agreement line.
- Indicates highly accurate A-E marking and teacher judgement.



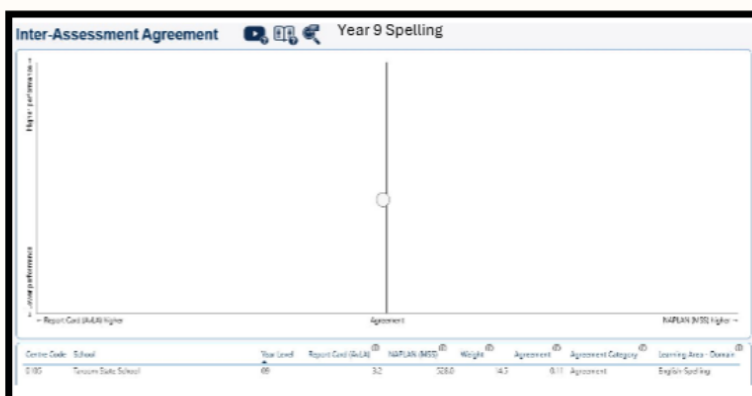
Year 5 Writing

- NAPLAN achievement was slightly higher than A-E results.
- Overall, there remains a strong level of agreement between the two measures.



Year 7 Numeracy

- NAPLAN achievement was slightly higher than A-E results.
- Results remain within the overall agreement range.



Year 9 Spelling

- Very strong alignment between NAPLAN and A-E results.
- Indicates a high level of agreement in student achievement.

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

JANE VAN BAKEL



Possible reasons why NAPLAN results may differ from A - E results

NAPLAN is a snapshot at one point in time

NAPLAN measures how a student performs on particular literacy and numeracy assessments on the testing day. ACARA describes NAPLAN as **one aspect of the school's assessment process**, not a replacement for ongoing teacher assessment.

Students can perform differently under different assessment conditions

The NAPLAN environment is very different from a classroom. Some students thrive with a short, highly structured test, while others demonstrate their ability better through extended classroom tasks. Conversely, some students may underperform on NAPLAN because of anxiety, fatigue, unfamiliarity with the testing environment or other factors.

ACARA itself recommends using NAPLAN to **support professional judgement**, rather than replacing teacher judgement.

NAPLAN and classroom assessment may be measuring different things

A student might be particularly strong at the skills NAPLAN assesses but not yet consistently demonstrating the full range of curriculum achievement expected for their year level.

For example, a student could achieve a **Strong** NAPLAN result in numeracy but receive a lower classroom grade because they have difficulty explaining mathematical reasoning, completing multi-step investigations, applying mathematical concepts independently or demonstrating skills consistently.

Report-card results are based on a much broader evidence base

A teacher's report mark may consider:

- classroom assessments
- assignments and projects
- tests
- application of skills
- independent work
- consistency over time
- ability to apply skills in different contexts
- achievement against curriculum expectations.

NAPLAN only assesses selected aspects of **reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy**.

Where to now?

Our data gives us great confidence in the consistency and accuracy of our assessment and moderation processes.

Moving forward, our focus will be on:

- Continuing moderation to ensure consistent teacher judgements.
- Digging deeper into NAPLAN item data to identify specific skills to revisit.
- Opening up the A standard – looking closely at what separates a B from an A and how we can create more opportunities for students to achieve at a higher level.



Taroom
State School



Thank You

for supporting our
MANGO DRIVE.



We appreciate
your support.



We will contact you when we
have a confirmed delivery date.



SPORTS

Report

From the desk of Ms. Tweed

AQUATHLON:

Once again, our students have demonstrated incredible grit, resilience and determination at the Darling Downs and South West Aquathlon Trials, held in Dalby on Friday. We are extremely proud of the outstanding performances of all four athletes, who have worked tirelessly in preparation for this event.

These trials can be a little confusing, as they are held in 2026 for the 2027 representative season, with students competing for selection in the district or region they will represent next year. Ayla delivered an outstanding performance, placing 6th overall, while Archie P finished an impressive 8th overall. Both athletes secured selection in the Darling Downs team for 2027. Owen, competing in his very first aquathlon, put in a fantastic effort to finish 24th out of 52 competitors – an excellent achievement for his first event! Ifan also delivered a terrific performance, earning selection in the South West team for 2027. All four athletes will now have the exciting opportunity to compete at the Queensland State Aquathlon Championships on Bribie Island early next year.



What makes these achievements even more special is the commitment these students have shown, turning up twice a week for early morning training before school, putting in the hard work and continually challenging themselves to improve. A huge congratulations to Ayla, Archie, Owen and Ifan! Your dedication, perseverance and willingness to put in the hard work have certainly paid off. We are incredibly proud of you all and look forward to cheering you on at State!

A huge thank you to our wonderful and supportive parent group who have been there each week, helping with timekeeping and preparing that all-important post-training breakfast to ensure our athletes are refuelled and ready for the school day. Your time, encouragement and ongoing support are greatly appreciated. These opportunities would not be possible without the dedication of our fantastic school community!

ORIENTEERING AT TAROOM SS:

On Tuesday, we were fortunate to welcome Felicity from Queensland Orienteering to Taroom State School, where she worked with students in Years 3–10 to develop and strengthen their orienteering skills.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to challenge themselves, develop their navigation skills and build confidence in making independent decisions. It was wonderful to see students demonstrating excellent behaviour, outstanding manners, teamwork and a willingness to have a go throughout the sessions. We were extremely proud of the way they represented our school!



We are also excited to share that Taroom State School has successfully secured a grant to support the development of additional orienteering maps. These maps will provide students with even more opportunities to experience orienteering in a variety of settings, including more remote environments. In particular, the new maps will allow us to host a mock State Orienteering Championships practice event at the Roberts family's property, Sandy Creek, and Ms Tweed's property, Townview. This will be a fantastic opportunity for students to experience more challenging courses, practise their navigation skills in unfamiliar environments and prepare for higher levels of competition.





A HUGE thank you to Felicity and Queensland Orienteering for making the trip to Taroom and providing our students with such a valuable and engaging learning experience. We greatly appreciate the time, effort and expertise you have shared with our students, particularly in creating opportunities for children in rural communities.



We also extend our sincere thanks to the Roberts family for making their property available to support these exciting opportunities.

We look forward to continuing to build on these skills and making the most of the exciting orienteering opportunities ahead!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Week 6:

Taroom Interhouse Swimming Carnival

 13th November
Taroom Swimming Pool

Week 8:

Early Years Swimming Celebration

 23rd November
Taroom Swimming Pool

Taroom Interhouse Swimming Carnival

13 November 2026

Students in Year 2-10, who are born in the years 2018-2010, are able to participate in each race at this carnival. Those students in Year 2 who are born in 2019 will stay at school.

Program Outline:

8:40am: Roll call at school and walk to pool.

Session:

Event:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 66m Freestyle |
| 2 | 33m Freestyle |
| 3 | 66m Breastroke |
| 4 | 33m Breastroke |
| 5 | 66m Backstroke |
| 6 | 33m Backstroke |
| 7 | 66m Butterfly |
| 8 | 33m Butterfly |
| 9 | Relay: 4x4 Fastest All Age Relay |

Novelty Events:

Coin Drop ~ Years 2-4 and Years 5-10

Teacher/Parent vs Student House Relay

Fastest Male and Female in the District Race

Presentations:

8-16 Years: Age Champion Medallions

2nd Place Medallions

3rd Place Medallions

Overall Boys and Girls Champion Trophy: Highest points of the day

Shield: Champion House

Carnival Rules:

1. Students cannot be added to races on the day, due to the seeding of the program.
2. Scratching's must be submitted before the commencement of the carnival.
3. First three places in each event earn points for their house and participation point for every other entry.
4. While this is a selection carnival it is still an event to promote school spirit & house points. Both 33m and 66m event points awarded for age champions.
5. All age group events to be 33m or 66m. 66m competitors are only eligible for M&D Trials in 2027.
6. Times swum throughout the day will be recorded.
7. 100m & Medley events will be submitted through times from HPE lessons in 2027.
8. M&D: due to the change in sports for 2027, parents will be notified early in 2027 of how the process will take place for selection.
9. Pool menu will be available throughout the day.

Taroom Interhouse
Swimming Carnival
13 November 2026

p-2

SWIMMING CELEBRATION

Families are invited to attend our celebration of the swimming progress made by all Early Years Students. Students will need: swimming togs and a rashie/sun shirt, waterbottle, hat, school uniform, goggles (optional). Students will demonstrate their confidence and skills in the water.

STARTING AT 12:30PM

Run Sheet:

33m Freestyle: Year 2, Year 1, Prep

Nutbush Dance

33m Backstroke: Year 2, Year 1, Prep

Unassisted across the pool

Assisted across the pool

Novelty races - everyone

Monday Week 8, 23rd November
Taroom Swimming Pool

Students to bring lunch as per usual to school. Students should arrive in their uniform and will change at school before walking to the pool.

Spinning a Masterpiece



Year 3 students are exploring the novel *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White. Students have been developing their reading comprehension skills by identifying character traits and exploring themes such as friendship, fear and kindness. They are also investigating how authors use noun groups and verb groups to bring characters to life. To finish the term, students will use their understanding of imaginative texts to write their own narratives.

YEAR 4 - LIQUID LEARNING

This term in Science, year 4 is exploring everything water! This week we conducted experiments about what happens in different stages of the water cycle.



WHAT WE'VE BEEN LEARNING

Science Term 4

YEAR 7/8: ACTIVE EARTH

This term, Year 7/8 students are completing the unit Active Earth. This week they explored crystal growth and cooling rates using Epsom salts to represent what

happens to mineral particles in different rock when they are cooled quickly or slowly.



YEAR 9/10: NON-CONTACT FORCES AND ELECTRICITY

This term, Year 9/10 students are completing the unit Non-Contact Forces and Electricity. This week they have been investigating magnetic fields to visualise the forces at play in magnetic interactions and see how the strength of the force varies around a magnet.





MOMENTUM IS BUILDING FOR OUR MONTY THE MONSTAR FUN RUN!

Has your child set up their online fundraising page yet?
Now's the perfect time – It's super quick – and every dollar helps!

- Raise \$10 to receive a prize!
- Your child could even get to Slime a teacher – an unforgettable experience!

Join the fun and help us reach our goal while making epic memories!



P & C NEWS

NEXT MEETING DATE

GENERAL MEETING

3:15pm, 17 November

School Library

Followed by the P&C

EOY celebration

5:30pm at the

Leichhardt Hotel

TUCKSHOP

WEEK 5

WORKERS

Jess Oliver

Nadine Lethbridge

Heidi Phillips

BAKERS

Gayle Bunker

Cindy Green

Bec Coutts

*Thank
you!*

**to our tuckshop volunteers
for Term 4! We know who
you are and appreciate you
giving up your time.**

*'Volunteers do not necessarily
have the time;
they just have the heart'*



Follow us on Facebook

taroompandc@outlook.com

THANK YOU TO THE BANANA SHIRE COUNCIL

It is great to see the Yarning Circle completed. This project was the brainchild of our former P&C President Lloyd Townsend and, with superb planning and execution by Taroom State School and local businesses, it has finally come to life!

We sincerely thank Banana Shire Council for their financial contribution through the Community Grants Program, which helped make this project possible.



2026 P&C TRIVIA NIGHT

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The 2026 Taroom P&C Trivia Night was a blast!

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came along, got involved and helped make the night such a success! There was so much laughter, banter, some questionable Macarena moves and surprisingly...not much cheating – it was hard not to enjoy it! Congratulations to THE CHICKEN WINGS who were our overall winners! And condolences to our wooden spooners , the Questionable Broncos.

Thank you to those who supported our auctions and raffle . The Taroom/Wandoan community, and beyond, pulled together and gave generously for which we are extremely grateful.

Fundraising total to come!

A massive thank you to...

Cam Phillips Sam Thaiday & Tiff Krause Sam Moy Our amazing sponsors & donors Local businesses Banana Shire Council Taroom State School Mrs Kelly + Grade 6 Miss Stevens + Prep Addy, Lexy, Myja & Dakota P&C Volunteers 2022 Kindy Trivia Committee All helpers on the night

Events like this simply wouldn't happen without your incredible support.

Most importantly, thank you to the community for supporting the Taroom State School P&C and helping us continue to support our school and students. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful community behind us!

We hope everyone had as much fun as we did!



With sincere thanks, we acknowledge these legends...



WORK FOR YOURSELF!

FAMILY DAY CARE EDUCATOR

We're looking for educators in 2027!

What You'll Do

Deliver excellent care and educational opportunities to a small group of children
Develop fun and engaging programs

Requirements:

Certificate III in Early Childhood Care
Caring and creative personality
Child-care experience is a plus

Join us and bring child care to our region

Let's chat

0400 492 301

familydaycare@mccm.org.au

Murilla Community Centre Inc.





2027 BANANA SHIRE

Australia Day

AWARDS

NOMINATE NOW

**Nominations Close
8:00am Monday 16 November 2026**

Nominate online or collect a paper copy from
Council's Customer Service Centres or Libraries.

T: 07 4992 9500

E: AustraliaDay@Banana.qld.gov.au
www.banana.qld.gov.au



SCAN THE
QR CODE
FOR MORE
INFORMATION

