Dear Parents and Caregivers

University of NSW ICAS Testing

Each year, Kirwan State School students are offered the opportunity to test their mettle against the best in the nation in the annual ICAS testing program. Tests in the following subject areas are featured:

- Spelling
- Mathematics
- English
- Writing
- Science

Each year, only a small number of children take the opportunity to sit the tests; this is a golden opportunity for improvement and feedback at a very individual and strategic level. Children receive an individual report on their achievement, they receive very valuable practice at sitting for multi-choice tests and they also (if they do the writing test), gain the opportunity to “write on demand” in test conditions.

This year, unlike other years, we will be targeting those children who have achieved a band scale score above the national average in a NAPLAN test. Children in this category will receive a letter to take home encouraging them and their families to consider being a part of the testing program. This does not mean that other children are not permitted to compete; it is simply a gentle reminder that your child may benefit and indeed improve their academic standing if they have already surpassed the mean score for the nation.

A small cost is involved in each of the tests with the writing being more expensive to participate in. Please speak to your child’s teacher or make an appointment to speak to the Head of Curriculum, Mrs Trish McEvey, if you would like more information.

JT

Today we welcome Johnathan Thurston to Kirwan SS as part of the Adopt a Cowboy program. Today, Johnathan will be working with the Year 7s and their Prep buddies. I look forward to having the Cowboys co-captain in our school regularly throughout the year. Thank you Johnathan for the time you give to our school; it is very much appreciated.

NAPLAN INFORMATION

This week, I have included the information about NAPLAN testing once again for your information as there have been several queries about this topic.

NAPLAN testing will be held this year from Tuesday 15 May through until Friday 18 May (catch up day). All children in Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to sit for these tests on the scheduled dates. There is NO PROVISION FOR SITTING THE TESTS EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THE SCHEDULED DATES.

- Exemptions and Withdrawals

In a very small number of cases, children are exempt from the testing if they have a high level of special needs which would preclude them from participation. If your child is to be exempted from NAPLAN then you will be contacted by a member of the school administration team to discuss this decision.

Withdrawal from the test is a decision only to be made by a parent or caregiver. If you have valid reasons for withdrawing your child or children from the NAPLAN testing program or you would like to find out more information before you make this decision, please contact your child’s teacher or make an appointment to speak to a member of the administration team.

I stress that we expect all our children to sit the NAPLAN tests and to do their very best!

Until next week ... kind regards ...

Melissa Jackson – Principal
From the Acting Deputy - Donna Cockrem

**PICK UP AREA**

As we know the area out the front of the school is extremely busy; in fact quite scary at times! Please, please, please have the students’ safety in mind when collecting your child. Some helpful hints to avoid possible accidents could be:

- Be early if your child regularly is ready and waiting to be collected.
- Leave a minute or two later if your child is regularly late to be collected.
- Drive away and do a circuit if your child is not out the front when you arrive.
- Use your indicator and road rules when pulling out or turning in.
- Be patient and calm.

**Kirwan’s Achievers**

Congratulations to the following students who were the proud winners of the Student of the Week award for their class recently:

- PrepA: Piper Ohl 3D: Emma Manning
- PrepB: Makadie Blagg 4A: Shinae Bloye
- PrepC: Ashton Bellert 4B: Ashlyn Clarke
- PrepD: Jai Green 4C: Mech Johnson
- PrepE: Ezra Shield 5A: Madison Craigie
- 1A: Dana Andlaw 5B: Tiyo Savage
- 1B: Sophie Everett 5B: Willow Hills-Amy
- 1C: Abbie-Rose Williams 5D: Karla Matthews
- 1D: Branden Fliberty 6A: Zane Hogan
- 1E/2E: Sarah Rogers 6B: Stephanie McDougall
- 2A: Nicholas Johnson 6C: Allece Craigie
- 2B: Logan Quirke 7A: Luke Christian
- 2C: Samantha Smart 7B: Rhye Mashman-Burton
- 2D: Thomas Cooper 7C: Emily Jones
- 3A: Tenika Hills-Amy 7D: Tui Rasova
- 3B: Emily Rogers 7D: Madeline Myers
- 3C: Abby Wilmot 5/6/7: Chelsea Royan

**OneSchool - New School Information Management System**

In 2008, the Department Of Education and Training introduced the OneSchool application to schools as a new school information management system. Each year a new functionality has been added to the application. In 2009, curriculum and assessment modules were made available and in 2010 the Timetable functionality was released to all state schools in Queensland.

In 2012, finance, asset and student management modules will be deployed to the remainder of Queensland state schools. The new functionality will enable schools to deliver improved services to parents for student enrolments and invoicing.

Kirwan will be rolling out to OneSchool over the Easter school holidays, so for this to happen there are a couple of steps we need to take for this to run smoothly.

1. We need to close off the finances this term to tidy up the old system to be ready. This will happen this Friday 16 March. If you need to pay any voluntary contributions, Camp Fees, Moving Arts, Diaries, Religious Education fees or any other expenses please do so before this date.

Cash payments can be placed in the payment box through the barred window. All EFTPOS payments should be made at the front office.

2. Please minimise enquiries to the school’s front office during the last three weeks of school as the staff will be very busy running off reports and lists to have on hand while the rollover process is in place.

3. There will be no computer access on the last day of term – 30 March.

4. I ask you to be patient with our staff during this busy time.

Deployment of OneSchool will be around 10 April. First day back next term will see Kirwan State School using the new management system.

*Karen Finnigan – Acting Business Services Manager*

**Religious Education**

There is a cost of $7.00 for the school’s Religious Education Books which are supplied by the school. The program has started for Years 1-7 and we ask that the books be paid as soon as possible. The students are supplied with two books per year. This can be paid at the office or placed in a money envelope and placed in the box through the barred window.

*Karen Finnigan – Acting Business Services Manager*

**Please Pay by this Friday!!**

Please pay your school supplied resources from your book lists by this Friday 16 March:-

- Prep – LEM Phonics/Numeracy Book $5.00
- Year 1 – Student Assessment Folder $3.00
- Year 4 – School produced planner diary $2.00
- Year 5 – School produced planner diary $2.00
- Year 6 – School supplied diary $3.00
- Year 7 – School supplied diary $3.00

*Karen Finnigan – Acting Business Services Manager*

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**P&C Annual General Meeting / Election of Officers & General Meeting Tuesday 20 March 7:00pm in the Staffroom**

**School Photographs - 20/21 March**

MSP Photography will be visiting the school on Tuesday/Wednesday 20/21 March to photograph our students.

Each student should have brought home his/her own envelope with their name, class and ID number on it. Envelopes with your student’s order are to be returned to the photographer on the day of photographs.

Family photographs are also being offered by the photographer and order envelopes are available from the school office.

Please Note: MSP Photography is allowing 10 working days after the photo days to make late payments. After this time, a $20 late fee will be added to each order. If you are wishing to order photos after this time, please contact MSP Photography on 4725 2900, and they will be able to arrange such for you.

**Due to OneSchool changeover, please pay all outstanding invoices before THIS FRIDAY 16 March!!**

**Sale By Tender**

We have the following items for offer:

- Kubota Tractor – 4WD, Underdeck 61” cutting deck, Hydraulic Bucket, Hours approx. 1500
- Kubota Commercial Ride On, Hours approx. 700

All items are in good condition and are offered on an ‘as is, where is’ basis. No warranties implied or given.

**Viewing time:**

Friday 16 March at Kirwan State School, 21 Burnda Street, Kirwan between 3:30pm & 5:30pm, in the Carpark.

**Action:** Tenders submitted must include:

- Tender price, * Name, * Address, * email and telephone number of person(s) submitting tender.

**Due Date:** Friday 23 March at 3:00pm.

Kirwan SS reserves the right not to accept tenders which do not meet criteria including the reserve price.

Funds must be cleared in the school bank account prior to collection. Payment needs to be made within 7 days after successful tender notified.

The tender must be enclosed and forwarded in a sealed envelope marked CONFIDENTIAL – TENDER ENCLOSED

To: Business Services Manager

P O Box 1047

Thuringowa Central QLD 4817

or deliver to the school in person.

**School Photo Timetable**

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE – THEY MAY CHANGE ON THE DAYS OF PHOTOS.**

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When walking around the school grounds please use the designated pathways.

This is part of our school’s Workplace Health and Safety Policy.

*SafeST Committee Email Address*

For any safety concerns email: safety@kirwanss.eq.edu.au
Indigenous Afternoon Tea

We would like to invite and encourage all parents of indigenous students to attend an afternoon tea on Wednesday 28 March at 2.00pm in the meeting room of the Resource Centre. This is an opportunity for you to meet other indigenous parents, our indigenous staff in the school and members of the P&C in an informal setting.

Student Council Disco

Thursday 15 March
Prep, Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3 – 4:00pm-6:00pm
Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 & Year 7 – 6:30pm-8:30pm
$5 tickets went on sale last week for the disco and are available from Mrs Taylor’s room – C Block. Prep children attending must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the disco. All children attending MUST be dropped off and collected from the Multipurpose Hall. No child will be permitted to leave without an adult accompanying them.

Easter Services – Thursday 29 March

Easter Services will be held for all students on Thursday 29 March, here at the school in the multi-purpose hall. Parents, grandparents and carers are most welcome to attend.

Mar 15 Rayleen, Leanne
Mar 19 Rayleen, Brett

Trudy Godwin – School Chaplain

P&C Pieces

* Fete Meeting – TONIGHT at 7:00pm in the Staff Room. Please come along and contribute in any way you can – your time will be appreciated. Also check your class stalls and see how you can help!

* P&C Annual General Meeting – Next Tuesday 20 March, 7:00pm in the Staff Room. We are taking nominations for Executive Positions; these can be emailed to pandc@kirwans.eq.edu.au or dropped into the office. Being a part of the P&C is very rewarding, and we are always looking for more helping hands.

* Uniform Shop – Our Uniform Shop will be open Thursday mornings from 8:00am – 8:45am in F Block. If you are unable to visit during this time, you are welcome to email pandc@kirwans.eq.edu.au with an order. Your child can then receive the item upon payment. Prices are $5 for bottoms and $10 for tops/dresses; CASH ONLY. We are still collecting pre-loved uniforms for our shop if you have any that are no longer needed. Thank you!

* School Favourites Recipe Book – Do you have a favourite recipe you’d love to share? Send it in to your P&C and have it included (with your name) in our Recipe Book. Each child can have their favourite recipe entered, or it can be a family favourite. Maybe you have some nifty cooking tips that we could include? Recipes can be dropped in to the P&C box or emailed. Please send them in soon so we can have recipe books ready for Mothers Day!

* Election Day Sausage Sizzle - State Election on Saturday 24 March. To take advantage of this fundraising opportunity, we are seeking volunteers to help sell sausages on this busy day. Please consider sparing an hour or so to help us out. Leave your name and contact details at the office or email us if you can! If you can’t help out on the day, donations of softdrinks or bottled water will be gratefully accepted.

Lyndal Humphreys – P&C President

PE News

Swimming Carnival Results
We had a great day at the swimming carnival. This was the first time we had novelty events only, with very high participation. All students were well behaved and enjoyed themselves. A big thank you to Mrs Humphries who helped with first aid, and all class teachers for their organisation of their classes and assistance with the running of the day.

The results are as follows:
- 1st Perkins 442 points, 2nd Border 420, 3rd Wilson 398, 4th Freeman 386. Congratulations to all participants. You all did a great job!

Fun Run News
We will be having our annual Fun Run on 20th April, Friday Week 1, Term 2. Sponsorship forms will be arriving soon. Year 4-7 students will be competing in the morning 9:00am-10:30am, and Prep to Year 3 will be competing from 11:30am.

Cross Country News
Cross Country training for all those students interested (who are turning 10 – 13yrs this year) will start this week - Wednesday morning 8:00am-8:30am on the oval. Training will be every morning thereafter except Mondays.

Road Runners Cross Country Series News
Road Runners will be holding the school cross country series again. Kirwan students (turning 10-13yrs) are welcome to participate. The course is the same: one student who make the school cross country team will compete on at Bicentennial Park. All races start at 3:45pm - Race 1 Friday 27 April, Race 2 Friday 04 May and Race 3 Friday 11 May. Distances are 2km for 10yrs, and 3km for 11yrs –13yrs.

Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher

Information for Parents and Carers

- **ATTENTION** – Information for Teachers, Parents, Caregivers and Students.
  - I wish to provide the following warning to all in relation to the dangers of posting on-line photographs of yourselves, friends and family with smart phones with GPS tracking applications activated.
  - Many people now have a smart phone whether they be an iPhone or an android style device (This also includes pets). When devices with GPS tracking applications activated (eg. Check-ins on facebook, mapping locations etc) are used to take photographs and these photographs are placed on ANY internet site, outside parties are able to access these photographs and ‘examine’ them.
  - Examination of these photographs can be done with free software downloadable from the internet.
  - The most concerning example would be the following – “A mother or father over the period of a year takes numerous photographs of their child’s birthday at home, family portraits, school and social activities. A person with questionable motives is able to examine these photographs and ascertain the following:
    - The suburb, street, house number and even the child’s bedroom in the house.
    - The child’s school.
    - Favourite activities of the child/family.
    - A specific section of a playground the child plays in.
    - Other countless scenarios.
  - I am advised that a simple way to avoid this information being detected is to turn off the GPS tracking application on your smart phone device before taking pictures and posting them to internet sites.
  - For those with internet access – Here is a YouTube report from a United States News Service.
    - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZ24Ae7WwYW](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZ24Ae7WwYW)

  If you have the opportunity, please take the time to watch this report and take all necessary precautions.

  Senior Constable Kerrin SHEDDY
  Ipswich Crime Prevention

Vacation Care – Break 1

Bookings are open for Vacation Care and will close 23 March. No bookings will be accepted after this date. Booking forms are available from OSHC.  ☎ 4799 1853 or email kirwanoshc@bigpond.com.

Kirwan Kalendar

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<td>Fete Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom TONIGHT</td>
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<td>15 March</td>
<td>School Disco</td>
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<td>16 March</td>
<td>Please pay all outstanding invoices by this date!</td>
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<td>20/21 March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>20 March</td>
<td>Defence Parent Chat Group – 2:00-2:50pm</td>
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<td>P&amp;C AGM and General Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom</td>
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<td>28 March</td>
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Tuckshop Talk

Mar 14 Sandra, Michelle, Jo (½ day)  
Mar 15 Rayleen, Leanne  
Mar 16 Rayleen  
Mar 19 Rayleen, Brett  
Mar 20 Carley

* THERE ARE NO PLAYWATERS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!!*

Defence News

- Hi everyone! Our next Parent Chat Group will be on Tuesday 20 March starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room.
- If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to come in and see us or ring us here at school.
- See you all out and about.

Jenny & Leigh – DSTAs

Environmental Message

We don’t want rubbish to be seen so keep our environment crystal clean.

Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888

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