15 May 2012

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Firstly please note that the P&C meeting which was to be held tonight has been postponed until next Tuesday 22 May. My sincere apologies for the late notice.

Yesterday, on senior parade, I addressed the topic of resilience. I asked the students what they thought resilience was and I received some sensational answers:

- Getting on with others
- Toughness (we qualify that answer!)
- Being positive
- Bouncing back

Recently, staff were invited to attend a session with renowned psychologist, Michael Carr-Gregg. For those of you with a teenage daughter, you may have heard of his articles in "Girlfriend" Magazine. Michael has been commissioned to launch the department's Learning and Wellbeing strategy, which encompasses both staff and students. He talked about a range of topics from youth depression and suicide to staff overall health and wellbeing. I have included an extract from his talk about resilience. I found this very interesting and certainly highly relevant in our fast paced society. I heard a recent statistic that 47% of children think that their parents work too many hours. Resilience is a necessary ingredient in making it all work.

A summary of resilience research found five common themes. Students had:

1. A charismatic adult who made the student feel:
   - Safe
   - Valued
   - Listened to
   - Student had behaviour modelled by a charismatic adult which was absorbed by the student

2. Positive self talk:
   - Automatically responded to situations with positive self-talk rather than negative self-talk
   - Will have flexible thinking
   - Will have optimism

3. Islands of competence:
   - Art, music, dance, sport, drama – provided by charismatic adult
   - Students hang out with other positive kids with islands of competence
   - Students also interact with other charismatic adults
   - Develop "flow", where time flows due to engagement in something

4. Social and emotional competencies
   - Anger management, conflict resolution, decision-making, empathy
   - Learnt from charismatic adult(s)

5. Spirituality
   - Relatedness and connectedness
   - Aim in school: students feel part of something bigger than themselves
   - Develop mental health literacy
   - 1 in 4 students have a depressive episode by age 18
   - 70% never discuss it with anyone

We can't solve all the problems of the world here today, but if we can build a little resilience in our children then I believe that we have accomplished something worthwhile.

If you have children completing NAPLAN tests this week, then you may be called upon to help find a little resilience.

SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN AFTER SCHOOL

If you are staying behind to watch your child participate in sporting or other opportunities after school, please be mindful of keeping an eye on all your children including younger toddlers. Our cleaners and grounds staff are hampered in their work as they cannot operate certain machinery if children are running around buildings where they would normally be working.

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Until next week

Kind regards

Melissa Jackson – Principal
From our Deputy - John Kratzmann

**SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**

1. **Parent Guardian Survey**
   
   All feedback that our school gathers lets us know what we are doing well and what we need to focus on. Maintaining and promoting a supportive and positive learning climate is very important to our school. Parent/carer support is valued and appreciated and as you know, we all work hard every day to make our school a supportive, respectful and safe place for our students to learn and grow. We are currently conducting a random survey of parents and carers to help us assess our progress with our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support program. If your child brings home a survey envelope, your honest feedback is valued and appreciated. Please return the envelope ASAP.

2. **Green Gotcha Focus**
   
   As well as promoting reading, writing and numeracy, this week our teachers will be explicitly teaching all students the skills involved in ‘playing fairly’. A person who plays fairly and gets on with the game allows others to enjoy the game. People who play fairly get a reputation as good people to be around. As a school, we are going to teach our students to:
   - comment on other player’s good moves;
   - take turns;
   - pay attention to rules;
   - accept ‘bad luck’; and
   - allow other players to have a reasonable turn.

   When we see students practising these skills in the playground, they will get a ‘Green Gotcha’. Make sure you ask your child about the ‘Green Gotchas’.

   See you out there....

   **John Kratzmann – Deputy Principal**

---

From our Deputy - Helen Yench

**EARN AND LEARN – WOOLWORTHS**

The card for the Earn and Learn stickers is included with the newsletter this week. Start collecting your stickers when you make purchases at Woolworths and when the sheet is full, drop it into one of the KIRWAN STATE SCHOOL marked boxes at the WILLOWS, the AVENUES or PARKSIDE shopping centres. Last year we raised over 60000 learn dollars which was spent on resources for the students in the way of games, puzzles and books. Ask your friends to support our school by either completing cards themselves or giving their shopper stickers to you to add to your card. Additional cards will be available from the school office or from any Woolworths supermarket enquiries counter.

**NAPLAN**

Testing in Years 3, 5 and 7 is underway and will continue until Thursday this week, with Friday being put aside for catchup for those students who may have been absent during the week.

**ADHD WORKSHOP**

Parents of children with ADHD may be interested in a workshop to be held in Townsville at Rydges Southbank, 23 Palmer St, Townsville on 14 July 2012 from 9:30am to 2:30pm. For answers about challenging behaviours and taking a journey to better understand the world of a child with ADHD, I encourage you to attend. The link to register is: www.everydaywithadhd.com.au

**Helen Yench – Deputy Principal**

---

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** Leena Wallis 1E/2 Lucas Aleman
- **PrepB** Grace Saker 2A Jake Thompson
- **PrepC** Bianca Longley 2B Ethan Finlay
- **PrepD** Koi Aaron 2D Pheebe Kelliher
- **PrepE** Dane Ransom 3A Keely Harrison
- **1A** Emily Oliver 3B Chloe Jacobsen-Tosh
- **1B** Danika Poole 3C Imogen Goldsworthy
- **1C** Hailey Donald 7A Madelynn Lowe
- **1D** Lincoln Cowan

---

**Year 7 Camp Money Due This Friday**

The final installment of $128-60 for the Year 7 camp is due this Friday by 3:00pm. If full payment is not received by this Friday, your child will not be able to attend the camp.

---

From our Chaplain

“Chappy Week” (May 20-27)

Next week is Chaplaincy Week across Queensland. “Chappy Week” is a time for the community to celebrate the week that Chaplains do in schools. Kirwan School will be having a “Chappy Week” celebration next Tuesday morning before school. Radio 99.9 Live FM will be broadcasting from “The Shed”; there will be a Sausage Sizzle, and Chaplaincy information and photo display. Tuesday will also be a “Uniform Free” day for a gold coin donation.

This week students will be invited to create an acrostic poem with the word “Chappy.” Tuckshop vouchers will be awarded during Chappy Week for the best entries from each year level.

**Tuesday 22 May (7:00am – 8:45am)**

7:00am - Live FM Radio Broadcast
7:30am - Sausage Sizzle
Sausage and Bread: $ 1.50
Juice Popper: $1.50

**Trudy Godwin – School Chaplain**

---

2A need your help!

2A is looking for Milo/Quik/coffee tins for their fete stall. Please help!
IMPORTANT: Tonight’s scheduled meeting has been postponed due to illness. The meeting will now be held next Tuesday, 22 May at 7:00pm in the Staffroom. This will be the last general meeting of the term, so come along and check out what is happening with your P&C!

RECIPE BOOK: We are still hoping to have a recipe book to sell at our fete. If you would like to contribute a recipe, please email it to pandc@kirwanss.eq.edu.au or drop it into the P&C box in the office. Don’t forget to include your family/child’s name so we can print it in the book.

SCHOOL FUN RUN: The fun run this year is on Wednesday 13 June. All are welcome to come and cheer on the students. Money raised will go towards the school’s sports department. There are great prizes this year and every student who raises $10 or more can enter the draw for a FAMILY HOLIDAY TO DISNEYLAND. We also have an online fundraising site set up so family and friends around Australia and even the World can still support your child in their efforts to raise funds. The highest fundraiser at Kirwan State School this year will win an iPod nano 16GB. Emma Talbot and Raye Currey are your fun run co-ordinators.

Lyndal Humphreys – P&C President

Fete Craft Group

This week we are planning to make cute aeroplanes with wooden pegs and paddle pop sticks! Come along and join us for a social morning of craft to make items for our fete stall - tomorrow Wednesday 16 May from 9:30am-12:00noon at 19 Dayton Drive, Kirwan. Morning tea and craft supplies will be provided and children are also very welcome. Please register your interest with Leanne (Ph 4723.8278) or Lindah (Ph 4723.9450) so we know how many to cater for. All you need to bring is your enthusiasm and we look forward to seeing you!!

Can you help?

Each week we will be asking for donations of various items to help our fete craft stalls. Please help if you can! This week we are looking for:

• Organic wheat; Felt (any size and colour)

If you can help with any of these items, please leave them with the lovely Admin ladies. Thanks!

Thank You

Thank you to all the families who supported our book fair this term. Due to its success the school received a large percentage of profit to go towards new resources for the library and the entire set of shortlisted books in the upcoming Children’s Book council awards. Thank you all for making the fair a success! We will be holding another fair in Term 4. The theme of this fair will be Book Fair Luau with all new product and novelty items. We look forward to seeing you all again then.

Resource Centre Staff

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Kirwan School Cross Country Team. All runners did their best on a very warm afternoon. All your hard training paid off. We had Thomas Chester (8E) and Chelsea Royan (2B) qualify for trial for the NO team; trials to be held on 22 May. We wish them the best of luck. Thank you to Mrs Martin, Miss Gorman and Miss Mackenize for assisting with training the team over the last 6 weeks. Yours in Sport...

Mrs Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher

Vacation Times for 2012 and 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resumes</td>
<td>23 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>31 Mar – 15 Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>23 Jun – 08 Jul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>22 Sep – 07 Oct</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“School Dollars”

Our school will be participating in the Willows Shopping Centre’s “School Dollars” which runs from 24 May to 21 July 2012. When you shop at Willows Shopping Centre you can allocate every dollar you spend as points towards our school. The local school with the most points wins!!

Prizes for winning schools are:

1st Prize $10,000
2nd Prize $7,000
3rd Prize $5,000
4th Prize $3,000
5th Prize $1,000

Customers are asked to present their shopping receipts to the Customer Service Desk and select our school to allocate their points to – each dollar spent equals 1 “School Dollar” point.

GO KIRWAN!!

Defence News

- Hi everyone. Our next Parent Chat Group will be held Tuesday 22 May starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room. Babies and toddlers welcome.
- If you have any school related defence questions, please come in and see us or ring us here at school.
- Tweenage Riot/Teenage Rampage is on again!! Saturday 26 May at Geckos Family Centre, Lavarack Barracks.
- Times: Ages 8-11 - 4:00-7:00pm, then 12-16 year olds - 7:30-11:00pm. Heaps of activities, movies and food and drink to buy. Please RSVP to Geckos by 18 May.
- Cost is $5 for Tweens and $10 for Teens.
- See you all out and about!

Jenny & Leigh – DSTAs

Kirwan Calendar

15-18 May..................................................NAPLAN Testing
16 May..................................................Fete Craft Group — 9:30-12:00 @ 19 Dayton Drive Kirwan
18 May..................................................YEAR 7 CAMP – Final Payment due TODAY
21-25 May..................................................Chappy Week
22 May..................................................Breakfast Sausage Sizzle – 7:30am onwards in the Shed
22 May..................................................Uniform Free Day – Gold Coin Donation
22 May..................................................Defence Parent Chat Group – 2:00pm in the Defence Room
22 May..................................................P&C Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom (Postponed from last week)
04-07 June..................................................Year 7 Camp
11 June..................................................Queens Birthday Diamond Jubilee Public Holiday
13 June..................................................School Fete Run
27 October..................................................School Fete

Tuckshop Talk

May 16 Sandra, Michelle
May 17 Rayleen, Leanne
May 18 Rayleen, Carley (½ day)
May 21 Rayleen
May 22 Carley

Parents, please make sure you are ordering from the menu and that you are ordering items on the correct days to avoid disappointment.

School Fees

Please pay all outstanding School Fees as soon as possible!

Class Assembly Items

Students will be presenting class items on assembly this year and we encourage our parents and family members to attend on the following dates.
21 May ..................................................6A
30 May ..................................................Prep A/B
04 June ..................................................6B
Year 4–7 Assemblies are held each Monday afternoon at 2:00pm. Year Prep–3 Assemblies are held each Wednesday afternoon at 2:00pm.

Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888

Kirwan’s email address: admin@kirwanss.eq.edu.au

Environmental Message

Use a green bag instead of plastic, The planet will think your efforts are fantastic!