From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

P&C MEETING

Our last P&C meeting for the term will be held tonight in the staffroom at 7.00pm. If you are a new parent to our school, I would like to extend a personal invitation for you to attend. Our P&C Committee and members are a vibrant group of people who enjoy the opportunity to work together for the children of the Kirwan community. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new parents and gain an insight into the school. I hope to see you there.

NAPLAN RESULTS

Last Friday the Kirwan School NAPLAN results were released through our ONEschool database. While I know that some media outlets were reporting that children would receive their NAPLAN reports immediately, this is not the case. The printed, official NAPLAN reports will arrive after the holidays; we will distribute these as soon as they are delivered to our school.

While I do not have individual reports to share this week, I do have overall school achievement data available to me. Some highlights include:

- Year 3 Spelling which is absolutely sensational!! We are better than most schools in Australia in Spelling in Year 3.
- Year 3 Reading – 91% of our students are above the national minimum standard.
- Year 3 Writing – 95% of our students are above the national minimum standard.
- Year 3 Grammar and Punctuation – 91% of our students are above the national minimum standard and 38% are in the top two bands in this area as well!!
- Year 3 Numeracy – 92% are above the national minimum standard.
- Year 5 Reading – 88% of our students are above the national minimum standard.
- Year 5 Spelling – 91% of our students are above the national minimum standard.
- Year 7 Numeracy is absolutely sensational. We are better than most schools in Australia in Maths in Year 7!
- Year 7 Grammar and Punctuation is excellent with 20% of our students in the top two bands and 90% above the national minimum standard.

This year we have also noticed significant improvement in our reading for all year levels. We have far less children below the national minimum standard for reading in all year levels than we have ever had before.

There is certainly some celebration in our results this year but we still have a way to go. While I am happy that children are being supported to move out of the bottom two bands in reading at Kirwan, I know we can do more to support our “average” kids to move up into the top two bands. I would also like to see our “averages” shift above the national average. **We can do better than the rest of Australia.**

Our spelling results are certainly showing significant improvement given the strength of our LEM program. Fantastic work children, teachers and parents!

HOLIDAYS

Spring vacation commences this Friday. Please note that school starts back on Monday 08 October. There is no Student Free day in the first week back. We do, however, have a Student Free day in Week 3 of Term 4 on Monday 22 October. This Student Free day is a very important state-wide day which is set aside for moderation of students' work.

I trust that all our students will enjoy the beautiful Spring weather and catch up on some rest over the holidays. Stay safe. I look forward to seeing you all back after the holidays.

School Watch ................. Please watch our school over the holidays. If you notice anything suspicious, please call School Watch on 131788.

Until next term ... kind regards

Melissa Jackson

Principal
From our Deputy - Helen Yench

STRANGER DANGER
With holidays approaching, it is a relevant time to talk to your children about being aware of their surroundings when walking to or from friends’ places or shopping centres (and to and from school). Being observant is the key to knowing what is happening while they are out without adult supervision. Ensure they have the presence of mind to take a mental description of the person and the time and place where anything may have occurred. Have a wonderful break and stay safe.

PREP INTERVIEWS
We are coming to the end of our interviews of 2013 Prep students. If you are aware of any families where parents have Prep-aged children but they have yet to enrol them, could you please encourage them to make contact with the school as soon as possible? A Prep “Come and Try” day will be held again on 13 November from 9:30am to 10:45am and our Transition morning for all students is 7 December from 9:00am to 10:50am.

From our Deputy - John Kratzmann

50 GOTCHAS – THIS WEEK
Dana Andlaw.............1A Eddy Blizzard.............1A
Katie Gorman.............7D

SCHOOL WIDE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT
All staff at our school strive for the best for each and every student and family that attends our school. This is very evident in our whole school approach to supporting positive behaviour. In every classroom, every week, students are consistently rewarded for demonstrating wonderful behaviour. Our teachers teach the behaviour we expect to see. At the end of a busy term I can honestly say that I am proud of the efforts of all staff members in our drive for Positive School Wide Behaviour and that I am very proud of our students for the way they are ‘showing off’ our school rules – safe, respectable and responsible. Well done.

SPORTS COMPETITIONS
This week our school has teams competing in Gala sports carnivals. Boys and girls are heading to Brolga Park on Thursday to take on other Townsville schools in Soccer while Friday sees our Netball team and Under 11 League players involved in Townsville-wide Netball and League Gala days. Good luck to all teams competing. I look forward to hearing the results. Go Kirwan.

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: Glenn Wescombe 4B: Jessica Plant
PrepB: Makadie Blagg 4C: Kyle Whitton
PrepC: Kassandra Craigie 4D: Sophie Jones
PrepD: Tianwayne-Aroha Lenoy 5A: Chumane Botha
PrepE: Kevin Farrell 5B: Darryl Surtees
1A: Bella Roberts 5A: Raven McDonald
1B: Chloe Costello 5B: Willow Hills-Amory
1D: Keely Blackford 5C: Hayley Fraser
1E/2E: Daniel Tolbot 5D: Andrew Hilleary
2A: Alannah Hansen 6A: Taylor Barry
2B: Jack Kenny 6B: Victor Cham
2C: Braiden Driscoll 6C: Jake Spencer
2D: Zachary Maltby 5/6/7: Shay Denney
3A: Stella Abbott 7A: Bridget Botha
3B: Michael Davison 7C: Brooke Hadley
3C: Jahmali Mabo 7D: Josh Mundy
3D: Braith Hardes

Kirwan Idol

Well done to all competitors of the very first Kirwan Idol! Over the past weeks we have had over 80 performers entertaining us with dancing, singing, instruments and comedy. We are now up to the semi-final stage. Next term (Week 2) will see the first of our semi-finals. The four semi-finals will be contested at first and second breaks in the hall Thursday and Friday. Spectators will be invited to come along and support the acts for an entry fee of $1. Students may bring their lunch and best audience manners.

SEMI 1 (Thursday 1st Break – Week 2)
1. Rachel Pritchard
2. Abbie Cook
3. Chumane Botha
4. Madison Craig
5. Sharla Campbell

SEMI 2 (Thursday 2nd Break – Week 2)
1. Molly-Beth Campbell
2. Jessica Price
3. Sophie Boyce
4. Sarah Friend
5. Jennifer & Antonia

SEMI 3 (Friday 1st Break – Week 2)
1. Marcus Cowan
2. Peyton, Molly-Beth, Chelsea, Emily and Sophie
3. Brooke Stanek
4. Brianna Bingham
5. Bridget Botha

SEMI 4 (Friday 2nd Break – Week 2)
1. The Cowans
2. Ameya Ransom
3. Aggie Vateiti
4. Molly Everett-Matthews
5. Cookies & Cream

Fete Craft Group

Come along and join us for a social morning of craft to make items for our fete stall; tomorrow, Wednesday 19 September, from 9:30am-12:00noon at 19 Daytona Drive, Kirwan. This week is all about finishing touches! Morning tea and craft supplies will be provided and children are also very welcome. Please register your interest with Leanne (4723 8276) or Lindah (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!

Any crafty donations for our stall are very welcome and can be dropped off on Thursday mornings to the Fete Coordinators (where show bag pre-orders and ride wristbands are being sold). We thank you in advance for your valuable contribution!
P and C Pieces

NEXT P&C MEETING
♦ Don’t forget our general meeting TONIGHT, Tuesday 18 September at 7:00pm in the Staffroom. Our meetings are a great place to hear what is happening in our school and how you can help. Please come along and contribute - we value everyone’s input. We wish everyone safe travels these holidays. Next term will be very busy and exciting, and we look forward to getting ready for the fete together!!

FETE COMMITTEE
◆ Only 39 days until the Kirwan Carnival!!
◆ LAST CHANCE – This week is your last chance to pre-order and save on Showbags. Final sales will be held on Wednesday 19 Sept from 2:15-3:00pm and Thursday 20 Sept from 8:15-9:00am. Showbags will still be available to purchase from the Prep A Stall at the fete if you have not placed your order this term.
◆ Rides and Slides Unlimited Rides Wristbands are also still available to pre-purchase this Wednesday from 2:15-3:00pm and Thursday from 8:15-9:00am. They will also be available to purchase early next term. All wristbands are $23 each if you pre-purchase – a saving of $5 per band.
◆ Dodgers – all sold and unsold tickets need to be returned to the P&C box in the office by TOMORROW Wednesday 19 September.
◆ $2.00 Donation Request Letter – Donation request letters have now been sent home to all children and it would be greatly appreciated if all $2 donations be handed into your class teacher ASAP so we can start purchasing items for your children’s class stalls. The more $5s we receive the more successful these stalls will be!
◆ The Kirwan Carnival will be holding 2 delicious stalls at this year’s fete – a cake stall run by 1C and a sweets/toffee stall run by Prep E. Whilst on holidays, we’d love for you to drop out some of your old fete favourite recipes and think about donating a cake or 2 or maybe even some toffees, coconut ice or rum balls. These are just a few ideas to get you started in helping make these stalls a sweet success. Donations will only be accepted on Thursday 25 and Friday 26 October and all items will need to include an ingredients list.
◆ This Thursday morning may be the last chance to bring in all your unwanted items – we would still love any pre-loved books, boardgames and general bric-a-brac.

WE STILL NEED
- Beads, Beads & more Beads!! (glass, wooden, plastic – all shapes & sizes)
- Coloured Hairspray – do you have any half used tins left over from Sports Day? If so, we would love to take them off your hands.
- Halloween Decorations – black poplin fabric, plastic spiders, webs, masks, etc.
- Softdrinks and Poppers.

Kirwan Prep Year 2013

Enrolments are now open for the 2013 Prep Year. Please contact our office staff to put your child’s name down for the Preparatory Year and to collect enrolment paperwork.

Interviews of Prep students and their families have commenced. (Please note that it is mandatory for your prep child to attend the interview with you.)

Expressions of Interest – Mini Rugby Program

The Western Suburbs Rugby Club is offering a FREE Mini Rugby Programme for children aged 8 and 9 this year. They are keen to implement this program into after school activities at our school commencing in the first week of Term 4. To register your Expression of Interest please contact Tony Jacobs 0431.254.529.

Tuckshop Talk

Sep 19 Michelle, Sandra
Sep 20 Leanne, Kaitlyn (½ day), Mikayla (½ day)
Sep 21 Rayleen, Carley (½ day)
Oct 08 Tony
Oct 09 Carley

◆ Please use correct change when ordering tuckshop.
◆ Tuckshop does not accept foreign currency.
◆ Tuckshop is running down stock – drinks may be substituted.
◆ FRIDAY $3 Cornettos and Magnums, $1 Fini Rollers and Killer Pythons.
◆ A BIG thank you to all tuckshop volunteers for their hard work.

Class Assembly Items

Students will be presenting class items on assembly this year and we encourage our parents and family members to attend to on the following dates:
19 September – Prep E
Year 4–7 Assemblies are held each Monday afternoon at 2:00pm.
Year Prep–3 Assemblies are held each Wednesday afternoon at 2:00pm.

SCHOOL WATCH

Phone 13 17 88

Office Hours Strictly 8:00am - 3:30pm

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