From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

DISCIPLINE AUDIT

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, our school was the subject of a Discipline Audit last week as part of a new process which will eventually be rolled out to all Queensland State Schools.

Our initial reports were very good with the vast majority of our indicators in the high and outstanding categories. We had **no indicators in the low area AT ALL.**

Once I have received the report in full, along with our executive summary, I will post this on the website for your perusal.

Just a reminder that our TEACHING AND LEARNING AUDIT results are up on our website for you to view. Enjoy!

**PREP ENROLMENT 2014……HERE ARE THOSE IMPORTANT DATES AGAIN!**

- Thursday 19 September 9:30 until 10:50am - Prep Come and Try
- Friday 8 November 9:30 until 10:50am - Prep Come and Try
- Friday 6 December - full school transition. This is the day where ALL classes move up one year level (7s to Kirwan State High) and our new PrepPies go into their (almost certain) new class for 2014.

**NAPLAN RESULTS**

I have received advice that our school reports in NAPLAN this year will be available in the next few days. Initially, these reports are school based electronic reports so that we can access our data for planning and reflection. Student reports (written) will arrive later.

As soon as we receive your child’s (Year 3, 5 and 7) NAPLAN report, we will send these home with your child.

Please remember that a NAPLAN test is a one off, one day event which has NO BEARING on a child’s school report card. NAPLAN data is highly useful in helping us to compare some key knowledge and understanding with students in other schools across Australia. While we acknowledge that our top students also tend to do very well in NAPLAN, we also acknowledge that NAPLAN is not the be all and end all.

The best measure of your child’s success, is their report card which measures how they stack up against the Australian curriculum.

**EISTEDDFOD**

Good luck to all our competitors who have been working so very hard with their wonderful teachers, for so long, to bring about their very best performances for the Townsville Eisteddfod.

I was very privileged to have a “sneak peek...well a sneak listen really,” to Mrs Ransom’s sensational choir last week. Wow! What a treat the Eisteddfod goers are in for.

Best wishes......... GO Kirwan.

Until next week ... kind regards

**Melissa Jackson**

Principal
From the Deputy Principal - Donna Cockrem

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
This week sees the start of the parent/teacher interviews. It is an intense time for teachers as they are dealing with a lot of information. To obtain the best out of your interview, here are a few things that will help the process.
- Timely arrival at interview - if late, advice would be appreciated.
- No-shows - Please advise if unable to meet the commitment. Another time may be able to be arranged.
- Where possible, reduce distractions.
- Find out - Ask for clarification of anything that is not clear to you. School has changed considerably over the years.
- Engage - The interview is a two-way event. You can often assist the teacher to appreciate aspects of your child’s learning.
- Get your message across - You may be able to SUGGEST action for the teacher to consider.
I trust that the interviews will contribute significantly to the progress of the students in the long run.

SHAKE A LEG
For the first time in 2013, Dancenorth has established a school holiday program – Holiday Fun from 3-5 October. The Dancenorth Community & Education team will convert the book SHAKE A LEG by our very own Boori Pryor to dance. Incorporating both movement and voice, the week will culminate in a formal performance at the School of Arts Theatre.

UNDER 10 FOOTY
Congratulations to the Under 10 rugby league team who have progressed to the grand final tomorrow night. Kirwan will play Ryan in a tough encounter at 6.00pm at Brothers. Come and support our team!

GOTCHAS
Congratulations to the following students who received their 50 Gotchas! These students have or will receive a certificate and a prize for their fantastic efforts on their respective assemblies.
- Skye Briggs 3C
- Jorja Denney 5C
- Jayla Mow Prep C
- Zeanna Hurley 3C
- Hayden Noble-Clark 2D
- Paige Lawrence 7C
- Jasmin Kennedy 1B
- Lara Parter 1B
- Ava-Lilly Cutmore Prep A
- Kaelie Boyce 2C

Donna Cockrem – Acting 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 respectively.

Prep A: Nicholas Revelion 3C
Prep B: Brandon Gurney 3C
Prep C: Kayden Allman 3D
Prep D: Lilita Harlock 4D
Prep E: Darius Topp 4B
Prep F: Emma Curtis 4C
1A: Beau Reynolds 4D/E
1B: Makayla Armstrong 5A
1C: Kacie Didmon 5A
1D: Westen Salsbury 5B
1E: Madalyn Beauchamp 5C
2A: Joran Hopper 6A
2B: Abbie-Rose Williams 6A
2C: Rebecca Ellis 6B
2D: Cody Rigg 6C/7D
2E: Jackson Miller 7B
3A: Tahnya Ahistedt 7B
3B: Romisha Cham 7C

Student Council Disco – This Thursday 12/9
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 for the disco on Wednesday 28 August 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.

From the Deputy Principal - Patricia Winter

THE END OF TERM IS FAST APPROACHING
Two more weeks before the September holidays and our students are very excited about holidays. This is also time for assessment in many classes and the completion of various tasks for the end of the term. Please continue to bring our students to school on time for a prompt start to the day.

CURRICULUM
3C’s Bag Challenge – By Elia Shepherd
This term 3C has been making bags. We had to choose which list of materials we would use to make our bags from. Our class decided to make our bags out of old clothes. Our teacher, Miss Hampton, bought clothes from a place like Life Line. The next day she brought the clothes to school and we broke up into 3 groups. We chose which piece of clothing we would work with. Our choices were a jumper, a frilly skirt or a tight, brown skirt. We designed our bags and planned how to make them. Then we worked together to pin the bags and then we sewed them using a small sewing machine. Finally when we were done we took photos of our bag with our groups. Then we reflected on if our bags met the criteria and if we would change anything. This design challenge was our practice for our water cooler challenge assessment. It was fun and everyone enjoyed it!

Thank you for the report Elia, and excellent work Year 3.

Patricia Winter – Acting Deputy Principal

Kirwan Keepers

09 – 20 September ........ Oral Reporting - Parent Teacher Interviews
12 September ............................................. Student Council Disco
13 September ... Year 7 Parent Group meeting – 6:00pm Resource Centre
16 September ... Cyber Smart Parent Info - 5:30pm Resource Centre
17 September .......... Next P&C Meeting– 7:00pm in the Staffroom
18 September ... Cyber Smart Student Presentation – Years 4-7
19 September ...... First Prep Come and Try Session – 9:30 – 10:50
20 September .............................................................................................................................................. Last day of Term 3
08 October.............................................................................................................................................. First day of Term 4
October (Date TBA) ...... Prep Information Session Day (2 x sessions)
08 November .... Second Prep Come and Try Session – 9:30 – 10:50
13 November .................. Music Information Night – 7:00pm
06 December .............. Kirwan State School Transition Morning
09 December ..................... Kirwan’s Carols by Candlelight
13 December ..................... Kirwan’s Carols by Candlelight

Last day of Term 4

Congratulations to Holly Doran who competed at the Little Athletics Regional Championships over the weekend for selection for State Champs early next year. Holly came home with 5 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze. She has been selected in all events she competed in over the weekend. Well done Holly!

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
Year 7 Parent Group

- Our Back to School on Saturday was a great success, with lots of scrumptious goodies on offer. Many thanks to all the wonderful bakers and volunteers who helped run the stall on Election Day, including Jessica S, Abbie C, Jade S & Chelsea W. All Year 7 students will benefit from your efforts - well done!

- Our next meeting will be held this Friday 13 September at 2:00pm in the Resource Centre. We hope to see you there!

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

Bookings for Vacation Care

- Bookings for Vacation Care are now open. Vacation Care is paid for in advance. Bookings will not be accepted until paid for. Enrolments and bookings slips are available from Kirwan OSHC or email Barbara at kosh2@bigpond.com. Bookings close on 18 September but will close earlier if positions are filled.

Heatley Secondary College

Year 7 – 8 Information

- Heatley Secondary College extends a special invitation to all Year 7 students to attend the Year 7 into 8 Open Day on Thursday 12 September, 11:30am – 2:30pm. The session will begin in the Auditorium in the Multimedia Centre on Fulham Road at 11:30am. Students will need to bring their own morning tea, and wear school uniform including FULLY ENCLOSED SHOES. For more information contact the College Office on 4726.8333.

- All Year 7 students and their parents/caregivers are invited to attend the Heatley Secondary College Year 7 into 8 Information Night on Wednesday 23 October, 7:00-8:30pm, in the Multimedia Centre on Fulham Road. Contact 4726.8333 for more information.

From the Guidance Officer - Food for Thought

Ways to Parent with Finesse

1. React to “shockers” with semi-interested boredom. When children announce something to which you feel an instant reaction in your gut take a deep breath, smile calmly, and say, “Really? Tell me more.” Remember, part of the reason children “come up with” shocking news is to get you to react or push your buttons. Parents with finesse do not often get tricked into reacting to their children; instead become the trickster by showing calmness and level-headedness.

2. Set up a sequence of events that discipline the children and RIDICI. For example, on a swimming outing, before leaving explain to them the expectations, the rewards and consequences (e.g. that you will be leaving the pool at 7:30, and home at 8pm. If out on time, next time they may stay 10 minutes longer; if they don’t get out on time, they will lose swimming time that matches the length of their late-ness. It took three outings, but by the fourth, Enrolment paperwork is available for collection from the office at which time an interview for you and your Prep child will be arranged. Please note the following dates:

- September 19 – Prep Come and Try Session 1 (9:30am – 10:50am).
- October (Date TBA) – Prep Information Session Day (2nd Sessions) in the Resource Centre.
- November 8 – Prep Come and Try Session 2 (9:30am – 10:50am).

Tuckshop Talk

- PLEASE – NO FOREIGN COINS!
- Please do not make up your own prices! Orders will be substituted if money is not correct. Thank you.

P and C Pieces

- Election Day Sausage Sizzle – a BIG thank you to Kim, Sandra, Ken, Jason, Katrina, Ian, Sally, Michelle, Jenna, Tracey, Tammie, Kathy, Wendy, Lindah and Raylene for helping out at the sausage sizzle on Saturday - it was a huge success.
- Next general meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 September at 7:00pm in the staffroom.
- Special Thank You - The P&C would like to say thank you to Michael Brownlie for his fantastic efforts producing the Annie Jnr DVD for our movie night in July. Your efforts were greatly appreciated.

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888