19 February 2013

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

WHAT MAKES A GOOD SCHOOL??

This question could, arguably, be debated for days on end. Is it the buildings? Is it the teachers? Is it the curriculum? Is it the “feel”? Is it the school’s ability to engage the community?? Is it high standards?? Is it expectations?? Is it good behaviour management?? Is it the fact that kids achieve well??

Regardless of what you may believe is the true answer, this school received 100% satisfaction for this question last year in the school opinion survey. This school also received a 100% satisfaction rating for the question of school/community relationships.

I have been asked to present a snapshot of Kirwan State School at the State Principals’ conference in Brisbane next week on the topic of Community Engagement. I am both humbled and honoured to have been asked to do this! Kirwan State School has been recognized as a school which engages the community in the business of children’s learning and has some outstanding results to show for it.

I will be highlighting the fact that we recognize and value the work that parents do with their children and the importance of that very significant partnership in helping kids succeed at school. I will also be highlighting the fact that we have a very professional, dedicated band of teachers and staff who believe in the potential of our students. Thank you for supporting us in our work with your child.

MEET THE TEACHERS

Don’t forget our barbecue this afternoon at 5:00pm. This event is free! I look forward to seeing you there.

P&C AGM

This will be held at 7:00pm after the Meet the Teachers Barbecue. Once again, I look forward to seeing you there.

DARE TO LEAD

I have asked members of the DARE TO LEAD team to conduct a SNAPSHOT of our school on Friday 15 March. During this time, Lyndall Hill from Dare to Lead will interview various members of the school community including teachers, staff, parents and students. The “snapshot” will capture our school’s perception of Indigenous Perspectives and how they are embedded within the school community.

If you are interested in being part of the consultation parent group on this day, I would appreciate an email or a phone call to register that interest. Please use admin@kirwanss.eq.edu.au or phone the office on 4799 1888.

PARKING AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Parents are reminded that the HANDICAPPED parks at the front of the school are designated parking spaces for those who carry and display relevant handicapped stickers. Please be considerate of parents whose needs determine that they have access to these parks.

Until next week… kind regards

Melissa Jackson

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.

1A Emma Jones 3D Ameaya Ransom
1B Keyen Harrison 4A Aiden Dotta
1C Samuel Conroy 4B Tristan Dodsowell
1D Tianen Lenoy 4C Imogen Goldworthy
1E Brok Lythgo 4D/5E Ryan Graham
2A Bridie Allen 5A Shanneah Harrison
2B Jai Cape 5C Tyler Caris
2C Jayde McGlynn 6A Sarah Snell
2D Bethany Gorman 6B Holly Doran
2E Jackson Ross 6C/7D Jett Manning
3A Ashlyn Lott 7A Adam Sims
3B Hanna Sabin 7B Jaimie Robertson
3C Tahnee Marshall

P&C AGM/Election of Officers & General Meeting TONIGHT
Tuesday 19 February
7:00pm in the staffroom

Medical Forms
PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR CHILD/REN’S MEDICAL FORMS TO THE OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU.

Interschool Swimming Trials
All Year 3-7 students who missed the trials this morning may come to another trial at Kirwan High Pool this Thursday 21 February at 7.30am.

Pool entry of $2.50 needs to be paid at the front desk as you enter the pool.

2013 Interhouse Swimming Carnival
Date: Wednesday 06 March
Venue: Kirwan Aquatics Centre (beside Kirwan High School)
Cost: $4.30 (pool entry and bus fare)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Depart School</th>
<th>Swimming Times</th>
<th>Depart Pool</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>8:50am</td>
<td>9:00am – 9:45am</td>
<td>9:45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>9:35am</td>
<td>9:45am – 10:30am</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>10:20am</td>
<td>10:30am – 11:15am</td>
<td>11:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>11:05am</td>
<td>11:15am – 12:00noon</td>
<td>12:00noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>11:50am</td>
<td>12:00noon – 12:45pm</td>
<td>12:45pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Important points to note:
- The permission form and medical form should be returned to your child’s teacher before March 6th.
- Students will change into their swimming gear before they board the bus and change back into their uniforms when they return to school.
- All students need to have a swim shirt to swim in. If they do not have one, they will not be able to swim.
- Students will also need a towel, hat, sunscreen and water bottle.
- Each year level will spend 45 minutes at the pool and will be engaged in novelty events only.
- Students will use the lanes in the shallow area of the pool.
- There will be no free swim time or playing on water slides.
- Year 4/5/6 class will be attending the Year 4 carnival together.
- Year 6c/7d class will be attending the Year 6 carnival together.
- Students in Years 4 and 5 ordering lunch at first break should write on their order that they are swimming. Lunches can be collected upon their return to school.
- Students not going to the carnival will stay at school and join another class.

Gentle Reminder
Please pay your school supplied resources as soon as possible:-
- Prep – LEM Phonics/Numercacy Book ........................................ $5.00
- Year 1-Year 7 – LEM Phonics Book ........................................ $5.00
- Year 1 – Student Assessment Folder ....................................... $1.00
- Year 6 – School supplied diary .............................................. $3.00
- Year 7 – School supplied diary .............................................. $3.00

Karen Finnigan – Acting Business Services Manager

From the Deputy Principal - Donna Cockrem

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

I had great pleasure in escorting our school leaders to the Mercure Inn last Wednesday for a student leadership conference. The fourteen students were outstanding ambassadors for Kirwan. This invaluable training event showed our young leaders practical ways in which they can lead during their time at Kirwan. I asked a few of our leaders to write a blurbs for Kirnews. This is what they had to say.

• School Captain Macgregor Reid: “What I enjoyed about the GRIP leadership day was that they taught us how to improve as a leader. They made the day enjoyable by playing games and a session called ‘loud noises.’”
• House Captain Tomas Chester: “At our leadership workshop there were many schools there. We had lots of fun. We played games to do with leadership and they taught us ‘heads, shoulders, knees and toes.’ This meant to be a good leader you need to have a good leader mind (heads), (shoulders) to carry the load and (knees) to share your ideas and go forward and to balance your responsibilities (toes).”
• House Captain Denzel Tate: “What I liked most about the day was how they made us have fun while learning how to be a good leader in our school and by playing games to improve our leadership in a good way.”
• Music Captain Veronica Conkey: “Our school leaders and Ms Cockrem went to a leadership course called GRIP. GRIP stands for growth, relationship, integrity and people. The things that they taught at this course were very helpful to teach people how to become good leaders. The school leaders also learnt about the methods of leadership through the duties of police officers, fire fighters and ambulance officers. These methods of leadership helped them to learn that leaders are active, give good instructions and are caring towards other people. On this day the student leaders learnt that it is not a right to be a leader; it is a responsibility.”

TOILET HYGIENE
Unfortunately our senior girls’ toilets have been left in a disgusting state over the past few weeks. Discussions have been held with all year six and seven girls around this matter. Could you please follow up with lengthy discussions at home and re-enforce this message.

WOOLWORTHS
Soon we will celebrate the arrival of new educational equipment thanks to the support of the local and school community through the Woolworths Earn & Learn 2012 program. Thanks to all our school families for collecting Earn and Learn Stickers last year. Across Australia, more than 12,500 schools and early learning centres will be welcoming thousands of new supplies earned through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Nationally the top three subject areas that schools ordered equipment for were Mathematics, English and Arts and Crafts. Schools were able to select the resources that they most need, giving them a major boost at no extra cost. Woolworths Earn & Learn program was open to all primary and secondary schools and early childhood learning centres in Australia. Between May and August last year, shoppers were encouraged to collect Earn & Learn stickers for schools to redeem against a wide range of more than 9,000 educational resources. Since the Woolworths Earn & Learn program commenced, more than $26 million worth of new equipment and resources has been contributed to schools across Australia.

Stay tuned for this year. Hopefully we can collect more stickers and receive even more educational supplies for our classrooms.

Donna Cockrem – Acting Deputy Principal
Kirwan's email address: admin@kirwans.eq.edu.au

Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888

**Kirwan Keepers**
19 February __________________________ Parent Meet and Greet - 5:00pm
19 February __________ P&C AGM & General Meeting - 7:00pm in the Staffroom
21 February ______ Indigenous Parents Group Meeting – 2:00pm in the Library
22 February __________________________ Payment due for Year 7 Shirts
22 February __________________________ Year 7 Parent Meeting – 2:00pm in the Library
25 February __________________________ Badge Ceremony - 9:00am
26 February __________ Defence Parent Chat Group - 2:00pm Defence Room
06 March __________ School “Fun Novelty” Swimming Carnival @ Kirwan Aquatics Pool
19 March __________________________ Intercomp Swimming Carnival @ Long Tan Pool
28 March ___________________________ Last Day of Term 1
15 April ________________ ______________ First Day of Term 2
17 April & 24 April _______________ School Photos (NOTE date change from 16-3-17)
04 – 05 June __________________________ School Musical

**P&C Pieces**
After you’ve met our amazing staff at the Meet & Greet tonight, please stay for our P&C Annual General Meeting. We are seeking a new executive, so if you are interested in becoming President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer PLEASE come along. Being a member of the P&C is extremely rewarding and you will get to meet some terrific people. Members of the outgoing executive are very happy to help newcomers take the reins and show you the way! Following the AGM, there will be a short general meeting to discuss some key points that will get the ball rolling for 2013. From the current executive, (myself, Ken Ellis, Rayleen Currey and our “secretary” Lindah Surgeon) and the sub-committees, thank you for your support over the last year. It’s been a busy year and we could not have done it without our great parents and carers, or without the support of our own families!

**Lyndal Humphreys – Out-going P&C President**

**Indigenous Parents Group**
Our first meeting will be held this Thursday 21 February at 2:00pm in the Resource Centre. This meeting will be to discuss the Federal Government Initiative – Investing in Focus Schools. Hope to see you there!

**Tuckshop Talk**
Feb 20 Sandra, Michelle (½ day)
Feb 21 Leanne, Leah
Feb 22 Rayleen, Bellinda, Carley (½ day)
Feb 25 Brett, Elaine, Jenny
Feb 26 Carley, Helen

* NO FOREIGN CURRENCY.
* Please order the correct food on the correct days or food will be substituted.
* Playwaters are discontinued and no longer available.

**Defence News**
☞ Hi everyone! Our next Parent Chat Group for the year will be on Tuesday 26 February starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room.
☞ If you need any assistance with school or defence-related matters, please come in and see us or phone the school.
☞ See you all out and about...

**Jenny & Leigh - DSTAs**

**Year 7 News**
☞ The next Year 7 Parent Meeting is on this Friday 22 February – 2:00pm in the Library.
☞ Senior shirt money is due by this Friday 22 February. Shirts are to be paid by either cash or cheque ONLY. Sorry NO EFTPOS.
☞ Please be aware that the Year 7 Committee will hold no responsibility for any changes made by parents to shirt sizing.

**Shave for a Cure**
Rose Dolgner (one of our School Crossing Supervisors) is participating in this year’s Shave for a Cure. Rose will be getting shaved between 14 and 17 March. If you would like to sponsor Rose you can leave your donation with your details (so that Rose can issue you a receipt) at the office.

**Change of Brass Lesson Times**
Lessons from Monday 25 February will change permanently to the morning session from 9:20am onwards.

**Music Corner**
**WHERE IS YOUR RECORDER?**
Year 1, 2 and 3s learn recorder as part of their classroom music lesson every week. There are a lot of students, from every class, still attending music lessons every week without a recorder. To ensure that your child does not fall behind, PLEASE purchase a recorder before their next lesson and make sure it is put into their classroom recorder box.

**MUSICAL TICKETS ON SALE NOW**
Musical tickets are now on sale from the Civic Theatre!

**Sharon Ransom – Music Teacher / Instrumental Co-ordinator**

**ANNIE NEWS**

**ATTENTION MUSICAL CAST REHEARSAL TIME CHANGE!**
Every Wednesday
Prep, Years 1 and 2 rehearse 3:00-4:00pm
Years 3-7 rehearse 3:00-5:00pm.

**Car Parking**
☞ DO NOT PARK IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS WHEN DROPPING OFF AND COLLECTING CHILDREN.
☞ PLEASE DO NOT USE THE HANDICAPPED ZONE UNLESS AUTHORISED.
☞ LEAD BY EXAMPLE BY NOT JAY-WALKING OR PARKING IN “NO PARKING” ZONES, ETC.
Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

**Term & Vacation Times For 2013 and 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term Dates</th>
<th>Vacation Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>29 Jan – 28 Mar</td>
<td>29 Mar – 14 Apr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>15 Apr – 21 June</td>
<td>22 June – 07 July</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>08 July – 20 Sept</td>
<td>21 Sept – 07 Oct</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>08 Oct – 13 Dec</td>
<td>14 Dec – 27 Jan 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>28 Jan – 04 Apr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>22 Apr – 27 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>14 July – 19 Sept</td>
<td>20 Sept – 06 Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>07 Oct – 12 Dec</td>
<td>13 Dec – 26 Jan 2015</td>
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**Office Hours Strictly 8:00am – 3:30pm**

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