From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The results of our annual School Opinion Survey were released yesterday and once again, I am very pleased to say that our results have been outstanding. I have listed the top 5 and bottom 5 responses to the Parent and Student surveys below.

PARENT SURVEY (TOP 5)
• Teachers at this school expect my child to do his or her best ........................................................................................................... 100%
• My child likes being at this school .............................................................................................................................................. 96.6%
• My child feels safe at this school .............................................................................................................................................. 96.6%
• This school takes parents’ opinions seriously ................................................................................................................................ 96.6%
• Teachers at this school are interested in my child’s wellbeing .................................................................................................... 96.6%

PARENT SURVEY (BOTTOM 5)
• This school provides me with useful feedback about my child ...................................................................................................... 82.8%
• The school encourages me to participate in school activities ................................................................................................... 85.7%
• I understand how my child is assessed at this school .................................................................................................................. 82.8%
• This school encourages me to take an active role ... child’s education ......................................................................................... 86.2%
• This school provides useful information online ......................................................................................................................... 83.3%

STUDENT SURVEY (TOP 5)
• My teachers expect me to do my best ........................................................................................................................................ 100%
• I feel safe at my school ......................................................................................................................................................... 99.2%
• My teachers help me with school work when I need it ................................................................................................................ 99.2%
• I am getting a good education at my school ................................................................................................................................ 98.3%
• My school work challenges me to think ...................................................................................................................................... 98.3%

STUDENT SURVEY (BOTTOM 5)
• I feel accepted by other students at my school .......................................................................................................................... 87.3%
• Student behaviour is well managed at my school ....................................................................................................................... 89.9%
• I understand how I am assessed at my school .......................................................................................................................... 94.1%
• My school takes students’ opinions seriously .......................................................................................................................... 94.2%
• My school gives me opportunities to do interesting things ..................................................................................................... 93.3%

While this data is certainly something to be proud of, there is always room to improve. From this data and from other sources of information, our school’s strategic plan will endeavour to light the way for the next four years. I am looking forward to the journey.

P&C MEETING

Tonight marks the last P&C meeting for the 2013 calendar year. I must say that it is always a pleasure to be a part of this group whose time and efforts have achieved much for the students at our school.

If you have not attended a P&C meeting this year then I urge you to set aside some time in 2014. This will be another fete year and, as we discovered in 2012, many hands make light work.

Until next week, kind regards
Melissa Jackson – Principal
From the Deputy Principal - Donna Cockrem

GOTCHAS - Congratulations to the following students who received their 50 Gotchas!

Lou-Cienna Kereopa Prep A .......... Ava Shawong Prep C
Oliver Rokesky Prep C .......... Madison Pickering Prep C
Kayla Hourn 2B .......... Pheonix Brittain 1E
Abby Hourn Prep E .......... Bethany Gorman 2D
Laura Oliver Prep E .......... Rihann Steven Prep E
Daisy Tree 2A .......... Coby Sawyer 3C
Ethan Smith 5D .......... Aiden Dotta 4A
Aiden Simkin 5D .......... Ethan Morris Prep A
Emily Funk 4D .......... Jade Daly 4D
Lewis Simpson-Rushton 5D

A huge congratulations to Jack Hebei 2D who received 100 Gotchas. These students have or will receive a certificate and a prize for their fantastic efforts on their respective assemblies.

Donna Cockrem – Acting Deputy Principal

From the Deputy Principal - Patricia Winter

CURRICULUM

An integral part of our curriculum is Music. Music involves singing, playing instruments, listening, moving, improvising and composing by using the music elements to express ideas, considering particular audiences and particular purposes, through sound.

At Kirwan we do the following.
• Prep – Percussion
• Year 4-5 – Guitar
• Year 1 to 3 – Recorder
• Year 6-7 – Keyboard

Why is Music so important? Here are the seven top reasons:

1. Music is a universal language. It inspires common human feelings and bridges gaps between cultures that spoken languages cannot. It brings people together and creates a universal community.

2. Music inspires and evokes emotion in a healthy way. It touches our emotional being and evokes moods and feelings that are sometimes difficult to express. It can change a difficult mood and make it happy or excited; it can change a light mood and take it deeper and more profound.

3. Music enhances learning and makes it more enjoyable. It is scientifically proven that music enhances brain functioning. Playing music uses many brain functions simultaneously; motor control, imagination, hearing, sight, memory, etc.

4. Music creates ambience. You can use music in any environment to enhance and augment what is already there. Consider the difference between a party with music and one without, or a sporting event, or a movie, or a romantic restaurant, or driving in your car...

5. Music is spiritual. Music is of the spirit and inspirational to the spirit. All religions use music to help express spiritual values, and all religions use music to uplift the spirit.

6. Music sparks the imagination. It involves mental imagery and inner scenery that opens the mind to amazing insight and spans the distance between the stars.

7. Music is a simple pleasure. All it takes is your ears and your imagination.

We give a big thank you to our Music teacher, Sharon Ransom, who brings music to all our children at Kirwan State School.

Have a great week.

From the Deputy Principal - Patricia Winter

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 Ava-Lilly Cutmore 3C Ella Shepherd
PrepB Heath Chapman 3C Shane Thomson
PrepB Amy Edgerton 3C Reanna Winter
PrepC Jayla Mow 3D Kaitlyn Stewart
PrepD Kalleigh Buckley 4A Torrin Butler
PrepE Sophia Taylor 4B Christian Hensman
PrepF Brodie Ernst 5C Shaila Trefren
1A Bridie Marshall 5D Lara Hamilton
1B Isabella Gibson 6A Connor Anderson
1B Corey Evans 6A Shy Tully
1C Leilani Tanna 6B Chauntery Stewart
1D Zach Omar 6B Holly Doran
1E Max Cook 6B Carlie Boyle
2A Rylee Alloway 6B Charlee Struthers
2B Lochlann Percival 6B Tara Sagaco
2C Tehya Hulet 6C/7D Kiana Ward
2C Mitchell Ryan 6C/7D Tomas Chester
2D Jack Hebei 6C/7D Antonia Lynam
2E Jackson Ross 6C/7D Ethan Targett
3A Alex Price 7C Natasha Aaron
3B Samantha Smart 7C Matthew Street

Working Bee

A working bee is on this Saturday 23 November from 8:00am to help Clarrie install new irrigation.

Please email pandc@kirwanss.eq.edu.au if you are able to assist.

The P&C has donated approximately $4000 towards buying the irrigation equipment required.

Next P&C Meeting TONIGHT
Tuesday 19 November
7:00pm in the Staffroom

Term and Vacation Times For 2013 & 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>
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<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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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>08 July – 20 Sept</td>
<td>21 Sept – 07 Oct</td>
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<tr>
<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>
<td>05 Apr – 21 Apr</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>22 Apr – 27 June</td>
<td>28 June – 13 July</td>
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<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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Children Returning Late in 2014

If your child/ren is/are not returning on Day One 2014 (28 January), please advise the school office of details and expected return date. Advising of your late return ensures a place is reserved for your child/ren.

Are You Transferring?

It’s that time of the year again! The end of the school year is in sight and many of our students will be transferring to new locations. If you happen to be one of those families who know that you will be relocating at the end of the year, (or think you may be), we would love to hear from you. We ask that you fill the form out at the end of Kirnens and return it to the school office for processing. This will help in the smooth running of the office and with the great load of paperwork at this very hectic time of the year. Thank you.

Office Hours Strictly 8:00am – 3:30pm

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