21 May 2013

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Thank you one and all for the fantastic support of our school Chaplaincy Program this morning. A sausage sizzle is always a good start to the day and this one was no exception; community engagement at its finest.

REPORT CARDS
Please note that your child’s report card will not be issued until after the June/July vacation. This is to allow our teachers and students to complete their fourth unit of work in the Australian Curriculum. Armed with completed and current work, teachers will be able to make a balanced and full judgement about your child and how they are performing.

This week and next week, our teachers are comparing student work with their peers and examining this against the standard for the year level to check that our assessment processes and decisions are rigorous. As I have stated in this newsletter many times, I am very determined that an ‘A’ at Kirwan State School is the same as an ‘A’ at Ascot, Fig Tree Pocket, Winton, Goondiwindi, Muttaburra and all points in between. Your child should know why they got the mark they did AND they should be able to tell you how they can do better next time.

DATE CLAIMER
Under 8s Day will be held on 20 June. This event – one of the most colourful on the Kirwan Calendar – will involve Preps and Ones. Parents and family members are most welcome.

NAPLAN
I am already fielding interest about WHEN parents will find out how their child went in their NAPLAN tests. The advice I have at this stage is that parent reports will be issued to schools by Friday 5th October. I am looking forward to some great results!

ANNIE
Don’t miss out on a marvellous opportunity to see a quality live performance while at the same time supporting your school. Book your tickets at www.ticketshop.com.au. Don’t forget the dates……..4 and 5 June.

The school will be offering a VERY LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES for students to go to Annie by bus on Tuesday 4th June during school time. The cost of this excursion will be $10.00 and places will be issued on a first come, first served basis. Watch for a permission letter coming home with your child.

Until next week … kind regards
Melissa Jackson
Principal
From the Deputy Principal – John Kratzmann

**MOVIE NIGHT – THIS SATURDAY**
See you there ... this Saturday 25 May our P&C is holding a movie night fundraiser. (See the flyer attached to the newsletter.) I am proud of Kirwan for many reasons – one being the way our community gets behind the school and our events. The P&C has some different ideas for fundraising this year - let’s support our school. I look forward to seeing all your smiling faces there on Saturday evening.

SWPBS
This week every student in every class will engage in lessons explicitly aimed at the skills around suggesting and persuading instead of bossing. Students will role play and discuss what it feels like to be bossed by others at playtime. Students will also explore the best ways of convincing friends, making suggestions, negotiating and dealing with bossy friends. Our goal is and has always been to provide a safe, respectful and responsible learning environment for every single child. We are well on the way.

**JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE**
Our ARL Development Cup rugby league team play our first night game next Monday night against Holy Spirit School. Kick-off is at 6:00pm and the game will be played at Brothers Rugby League grounds. Come along to support your school and enjoy some fantastic schoolboy footy.

John Kratzmann – Deputy Principal

**From the Deputy Principal – Donna Cockrem**

**MUSICAL**
The sewing team is still chasing orphan clothing. Please search the cupboards for any unwanted children’s clothing. The sewing team will gladly turn these old favourites into orphan costumes. Have you purchased your tickets to see our wonderful production? The audience. You can purchase tickets at the Civic Theatre, Riverway or online. We have currently sold 432 tickets – the target of 1000 is still a long way off!

Donna Cockrem – Acting Deputy Principal

**Tuckshop Talk**
May 22- Sandra, Rayleen, Michelle (½ day)
May 23- Leanne, Leah
May 24- Rayleen, Belinda, Carley (½ day)
May 27- Jenni, Robert, Brett
May 28- Carley, Helen

- Parents please write your child’s CORRECT class on their bags.
- Tuckshop only accepts current Australian currency.

**P&C Pieces**
- Our next general meeting will be held tonight at 7:00pm in the staffroom.
- Family Movie Night – Don’t forget to come along to our family movie night under the stars this Saturday evening, 25 May to watch Madagascar 3. Entry is just $2.00 each and food and drinks will be available to purchase. Bring the whole family and don’t forget a blanket to sit on.
- Picture Products – Order forms have now been sent home for this fundraiser. Spare forms are available from the P&C folder outside the office if you want to share this great offer with friends and family!
- Fundraising Meeting – The next meeting is on Tuesday 14 June at 2:00pm in the staffroom.

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

**Kirwan’s Achievers**
Congratulations to the following students who were proud winners of the Student of the Week award for their efforts recently:
- PrepA Shaine Blinkhorn 3A Aiesha Mohideen
- PrepB Peyton Gunton 3B Max Channell
- PrepC Tia Sihavong 3C Jessica Jackson
- PrepD Seth Treffers 3D Beebee Kiliher
- PrepE Joshua Cameron 4A Cadence Purkis – Arthur
- PrepF Braith Talora 4B Tyrona Sonogan
- 1A Cameron Braby 4C Bryanna Harris
- 1B Isabella Gibson 5D /Jhoezenia Cruz
- 1C Brodie Streeter 5A Tori Tasker
- 1D Lulu Morley 5A Chumané Botha
- 1E Max Cook 5B Nikita Packwood
- 2A Harley Pool 5C Tyler Caris
- 2B Jack Cotter 5D Brendan Donald
- 2C Amelia Evans 7B Samara Southey
- 2D Jack Hebei 7C Zane Hogan
- 2E Felicity Thompson

**Kirwan’s Footy**
- Congratulations to students Tomas Chester (6C/7D) and Harrison Dempsey (6D/7A) who have been selected for the NQ Rugby League team.

Emma Talbot – PE Teacher

**Kirwan keepers**
- 21 May P&C General Meeting – 7:00pm Staffroom
- 25 May P&C Family Movie Night – 5:30pm for 7:00pm – The Great Gatsby
- 31 May Free Dress Day – Gold coin donation to support Musical
- 04 – 05 June School Musical
- 14 June Year 7 Parent Group Meeting – 2:00pm Resource Centre
- 20 June Under 8’s Day
- 21 June Year Prep –3 Assemblies are held each Wednesday afternoon at 2:00pm
- 25 May P&C Family Movie Night – 5:30pm for 7:00pm - The Great Gatsby
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**PE News**
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Emma Talbot – PE Teacher

**Assembly Times**
Year 4-7 Assemblies are held each Monday afternoon at 2:00pm.
Year Prep-3 Assemblies are held each Wednesday afternoon at 2:00pm

**P&C Family Movie Night**
When walking around the school grounds please use the designated pathways. SafeST Committee Email Address
For any safety concerns email: safety@kirwanss.eq.edu.au

This is part of our school’s Workplace Health and Safety Policy.
When your child meets his/her behaviour expectation, he/she selects one reward from the menu.
1. A mystery reward is also very motivating for most children.
2. If a child wants to earn a bigger reward (e.g. computer game, movie, etc.), you could use a token system. Each day he/she could earn tokens that can be exchanged later for a bigger reward.
3. Emphasise social rewards and privileges over material rewards. Material rewards (e.g. toys, money, etc.) are expensive and often don’t work. Many children enjoy having time to spend with their parents or carers. Rewards involving time and activities with parents or carers (no matter what the age), can reinforce and promote good relationships at the same time – movie or pizza night with the family, a family outing or a quick board game.

Follow through with consequence:
1. Is it fair and related to the inappropriate behaviour?
2. Does your child understand why they are being given the consequence?
3. Will there be opportunity for your child to learn from mistakes? E.g. parent/child discussion about the problem at hand, problem solving with your child around better choices, and if necessary, role playing of appropriate behaviour.

Homework for the week ahead:
Double the amount of praise you give your child for his/her good behaviour in the coming week, and monitor its success. Keep a track of responses you use in conversations with your child. (You may need to expand your own vocabulary so you have a variety of positive comments ready to encourage your child.)

Food for thought – Resilience through problem solving
Children with good social and problem-solving skills are more equipped for life. In fact intelligence alone is not enough. Children need to learn how to cope and be successful in life. Children who have learnt these skills are comfortable in new situations. They are cooperative and compromise. They trust others and are friendly to others and join in activities. They cooperate and compromise. They trust others and are friendly to others and join in activities. They handle conflicts well and respect differences of others. They apologize when they are wrong, but will assert themselves when they are right. They are clear in their thinking and non-threatened nor threatening. They are liked. For children with poor resilience and/or who are at risk of depression, these skills are lacking.

When children are young they depend on parents to help them solve problems, but as they grow they will need to learn skills to handle the problems they face. Seligman in his book ‘The Optimistic Child’ provides 5 steps your child can follow, in order to solve problems effectively.

1. Slow down – STOP before acting impulsively, and then start thinking. How we handle a problem depends on what we are thinking. Replace hot thoughts with cool thoughts. Hot thoughts often lead to loss of control. Cool thoughts result in solution that are non-threatening. How we think affects how we feel and what we do.
2. Stand in another’s shoes – understand what the other person was thinking or why they acted the way they did. This is easy to do by meeting with the person, looking at their face, and asking non-threatening questions to get answers (use of technology won’t achieve true understanding). Stay calm.
3. Set Goals – If you have a problem, how would you like things to end e.g. you have a fight with your friend, is your goal to restore friendship or have a stand-off? As your child sets a goal, they should list as many ways as possible to reach it.
4. Choose a Path – which is the best solution? Look at the pros (any good outcomes that might happen) and the cons (any bad consequences) e.g. speaking nicely to someone versus yelling at them.
5. How did it go? Did it work – if not then don’t give up. Pick another solution and give that a try.

Notice that all these steps are about you, the parent, training your child in the art of problem solving. It is
not about you finding their solutions nor is it about you rescuing them. Our aim as parents is to have well-adjusted, social and happy children who are equipped to handle life in all its forms.

Adapted from Seligman, M – The Optimistic Child

I am at school Monday, Tuesday and every second Wednesday. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child’s social, emotional or educational well-being, please feel free to contact the school and make a time to catch up. Cheers.

Maria Musumeci – Guidance Officer

ATTENTION MUSICAL CAST
REHEARSAL TIMES
Every Wednesday
WHOLE CAST REHEARSAL
3:00–5:00pm.

FREE DRESS DAY
There will be a Free Dress Day on Friday 31 May in support of the musical. Please bring a gold coin donation.

TICKETS
Our matinee shows will be sold out to other schools and senior members of the public wanting to see our great show. Please purchase your family tickets for the evening performances at Riverway, Civic Theatre or online.

Only 2 weeks to go!

Term & Vacation Dates

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<td>29 Jan – 28 Mar</td>
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<td>15 Apr – 21 June</td>
<td>22 June – 07 July</td>
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<td>08 July – 20 Sept</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
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Kirwan’s email address: admin@kirwanss.eq.edu.au  Kirwan School Phone Number – 4799.1888