



KIRNEWS

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From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

The range of feedback from teachers about their respective parent teacher interviews has been very encouraging and positive. We value the amount of impact that a strong relationship between parents/teachers/students can have on student attitude and performance at school. As parents you need to know what your child is learning and how they are going (against a standard that is nationwide). I encourage all parents to visit your child's teacher and rigorously discuss what they are learning, how they are going and the next building blocks for success that your child needs.

A Focused, Caring Learning Community

I was asked last week at an enrolment interview by a prospective parent (coming from a small school) how we can keep track of her child in such a large school. It was only a 30 minute interview so I had to keep the answer as brief as possible. I started by saying that everything we do here is based on evidence. This evidence is at large, student learning data or samples of every child's curriculum work. I explained that each child has a learning portfolio in the classroom that teachers access daily. I discussed that the building block for successful students is building the knowledge, skills and capabilities of our teachers and school staff. We do this by working together (professional training) to be very clear on what the students' learning is (curriculum) against what students can do (evidence) and what they need to do to get the best result possible. I identified with mum that our school focus is on writing and reading and our staff are continually challenged to improve their explicit teaching and classroom practice. This is done through targeted professional development, cycles of inquiry, team meetings, peer coaching, staff learning walks, Admin conversations around their student data, and importantly a strong sense of personal accountability by each and every teacher. I clarified that every student has individual learning goals and targets aimed at what they need next and these are targeted, taught and revised in cycles. But wait.... there's more....

As you can tell, I was passionate about the answer. As a large school we value teams and working together for every child in our care. As you know, we also value high standards – from our whole school community. Please read on....

NAPLAN

Students from years 3 and 5 will be taking part in the NAPLAN tests in week 4, commencing May 11th. No doubt, there will be lots of talk in the media as the NAPLAN testing program gets closer. This is often a topic of much debate and interest in the general community. If your child is involved in the NAPLAN tests, I ask that you keep the following in mind.

- We expect children to do their very best on the tests but NAPLAN tests do NOT count towards Report Card results or indeed, OP results later in schooling life.
- The best preparation for NAPLAN testing is good quality teaching and learning. Your child's teacher is well aware of the anticipated content of the tests and will do everything possible to ensure that your child is well prepared.
- Make sure your child has a good breakfast on testing days and make sure they arrive with plenty of time to spare. Children who arrive late will NOT be permitted to join in the test with their classmates.
- If your child is sick on NAPLAN test day/s, let the school know as soon as possible so that we can arrange for a catch up test if possible.
- If you have any concerns about your child's participation in NAPLAN tests, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's teacher in the first instance or a member of the administration team.

Assistant Regional Director Visit

This Thursday, Dr Graham Foster (North Queensland Regional Assistant Director – ARD) is visiting Kirwan SS to discuss aspects of our school's learning agenda. The ARDs visit every school in the Northern Region. I am looking forward to his visit, largely to get his feedback on our learning agenda (this is largely like a business plan). I know from good sources that Kirwan is very highly regarded in school circles in the region.

The Little Mermaid Jr

Last week you would have received a personal note from me persuading you to come along to our school musical. My only comment is through a rhetorical question. "Would you like to be the only ones to miss out on something this special that only comes around every 2 years?" Book your tickets now.

Thank you

I have heard very positive reports about parent and carer road rule behaviour in the mornings and afternoons during drop off and pick up times this week. Your patience and sticking to the road rules is appreciated. Keep up the good work.

Yours in Education...

John Kratzmann

Acting Principal



From the Deputy Principal - Tony Woodhouse

In early 2015, our school, along with thousands of others across the country, will begin preparations for the third Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). The AEDC measures five key areas of development in children during their first year of full-time school (our prep students) to build a national picture of health and well-being. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families.

Teachers are trained to assess each child and answer questions. Children don't need to be present so no class time is missed, and parents/carers don't need to supply schools with any new information for the census. Teachers' individual assessments are then analysed by the AEDC and reported as anonymous groups of children in the final report.

Teachers have also noticed practical benefits in the classroom. Some said in previous years that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole. Others reported that the census results were useful in planning for transitions to school and for developing class programmes.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don't need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census. To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website www.aedc.gov.au.

Tony Woodhouse – Deputy Principal

From the Deputy Principal – Trish McEvey



ROCK PAPER SCISSORS on Bamford Lane in Kirwan has kindly agreed to sponsor part of our new Weekly Student Citizenship program. As Term 2 is our MUSICAL term, the focus will be on student engagement and performance in Music. Each week members of the Admin team will select two students from upper and lower school demonstrating outstanding behaviours in Music. These students will be awarded with a YOU ROCK voucher entitling them to a free meal at ROCK PAPER SCISSORS.

And speaking of our musical, have you got your tickets for The Little Mermaid yet? It's so important that most, if not all, of our students and their families have the opportunity to experience Kirwan State School's production of THE LITTLE MERMAID JR. Students and teachers are working very hard on this magical performance and we NEED to increase our sales. Head straight to the Ticketek online or call 4727.9797 to purchase your tickets for either 23 or 24 June.

Trish McEvey – Acting Deputy Principal

Art in a Suitcase

Year 2B had heaps of fun learning origami last week. Townsville artist Alison McDonald came to class and showed four fantastic art works from the Perc Tucker Gallery where we looked at shape and form and how artists change a 2D image into a 3D image. We are now creating our own works that will be hung in the gallery mid-year.

Kirwan's Achievers

Congratulations to the following students who were the proud winners of the *Student of the Week* award for their class recently.



PrepB	Anika Harvey	2D	Xander Morris
PrepC	Kiani Burgess	2E	Jazmyr Aleo
PrepC	Keira Jensen	2F	Jahmayka-Rose Henaway
PrepD	Lincoln Steele	3A	Piper Ohl
PrepE	Vasefenua Roberts	3B	Cooper Hovasapian
1A	Sharnita Geesu	3B	Ava Leeson
1B	Dakota Jubbs	3C	Diesel Taylor
1C	Ylee Matara	3C	Hyun Seo Yoon
1D	Aimee Mundy	3D	Austin Wood
1E	Phoenix Rogers	3E	Matilda Brice
2A	Ky Brennan	3E	Isaac Voysey
2A	Malachi Newham	4C	Tshana Steen
2B	Chloe Anderson	4D	Shonaleigh Logan
2B	Caiden Green	5B	Andrea Scarfidi
2C	Tayla Tulk	6C	Amelia Eustace

Book Fair This Week

Our school is once again hosting a Scholastic Book Fair. The fair is on this week in the Resource Centre and will be open during the following times:

- 8:00 -8:45 am
- 1st and 2nd Break
- 3:00 – 3:30 pm (Tuesday till Thursday)

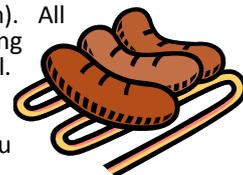


This fair is full of fantastic titles and items suitable for all ages. All purchases at this fair support our school library.

Michael Colwell - Librarian

Chappy Week Celebration- Tue 19 May 7-9am

It is only two weeks to Chappy Week! Community Radio Station 99.9 Live FM will be broadcasting from Kirwan SS on Tuesday 19 May from 7:00am. There will be a Sausage Sizzle, 10-Second Talent Quest and fun activities. It will also be a Uniform Free Day (gold coin donation). All funds raised will go towards supporting Chaplaincy at Kirwan State School. Please bring some small silver coins (5c & 10c pieces) for the Coin Trail. Don't miss out on the action! See you there!



Sausages & Bread \$2
Fruit Juice Popper \$1

Trudy Godwin- School Chaplain

ICAS 2015 - Invitation for Year 3-6 Students

ALL students in Years 3–6 are offered the opportunity to participate in the 2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) program.

ICAS is a highly regarded assessment program for schools in English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing which enables schools to identify students' levels of academic performance. Schools and students receive comprehensive hard copy and online reports on their performance in each subject. Students also receive a certificate to recognise their achievement. More information is available at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas.

In line with our focus on reading and writing this year, we have decided to target students demonstrating specific strengths in these areas. These students will be identified by their previous and current academic records and will receive a letter of offer to participate in the writing assessment competition.

In the meantime, all students have the opportunity to enter some or all of the competitions as detailed below. A permission form will be sent home with this newsletter for your use. For any further information please don't hesitate to contact Trish McEvey.

2015 SITTING DATES AND ENTRY PRICES:

- Science – 3 June 2015 (\$8.80 GST inclusive)
- Writing – 15 June 2015 to 19 June 2015 (\$18.70 GST inclusive)
- Spelling – 16 June 2015 (\$12.10 GST inclusive)
- English – 28 July 2015 (\$8.80 GST inclusive)
- Mathematics – 11 August 2015 (\$8.80 GST inclusive)

Defence News

- Our next Parent Chat Group will be on Tuesday 19 May starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room.
- If you are interested in attending a course relating to parenting, such as:
 - Engaging Adolescents for Defence Families, 1, 2, 3,
 - Magic Coaching Parent Program,
 - Heartsmarts for 4-6 years,
 - Circle of Security – a relationship based parenting program, please contact Centacare on 4772.9000 for more information and please tell them you are a defence family as the fees may be waived for defence.
- See you all out and about.

Jenny & Leigh – DSTAs

Tuckshop Talk

May 06 Carol
 May 07 Leah
 May 08 Belinda, Jo
 May 11 Helen, Leanne
 May 12 Fiona

- SLUSHIES ARE BACK!! NEXT WEEK MILO SLUSHIE \$1.
- Please note: Check menu when ordering to avoid disappointment.

Kirwan Keepers



04-08 May..... Mother's Day Stall
 05-07 May..... Book Fair – Resource Centre
 19 May..... Chappy Week Celebration – 7:00-9:00am
 19 May..... Defence Parent Chat Group – 2:00pm Defence Room
 19 May..... P&C Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
 17 June..... Athletics Day
 23 & 24 June..... School Musical "The Little Mermaid"
 26 June..... Last Day of Term 2
 13 July..... First Day of Term 3
 17 July..... Champions Day
 14 August..... Interschool Athletics (Red Track)

Congratulations

- Congratulations to:-
- Luca Yates for making the NQ Basketball Team;
 - Tahnee Marshall and Lachlan McCulloch for making the NQ Hockey Team; and
 - Alex Gleeson and Wesley Turner for making the Thuringowa U11 Rugby League Team.

Mother's Day Stall – THIS WEEK

**Open 8:15am to 3:30pm – Monday 04 May – Friday 08 May
 In the Multi-purpose Hall**

Don't forget your Mum this Mother's Day and purchase a gift from our stall – prices start from just \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00 & \$10.00. Individual classes will have assigned times during the week to visit the stall. Please ask your teacher for allocated times.

Advertising in the Musical Program

**Do you own a business? Are you looking for new ways to advertise?
 Would you like to support Kirwan State School's Musical?
 Then why not advertise in our musical program!**

This year Kirwan State School is staging a musical performance of The Little Mermaid at the Civic Theatre on 23 and 24 June. As in previous years we are producing a good quality glossy program to be sold on the night. We are offering businesses the opportunity to advertise in this program.

Pricing for an advertisement in our program is as follows:

SIZE	PRICE
9cm x 5cm -----	\$50
19cm x 10cm -----	\$100

If you are interested in advertising in our musical program please email nhamp3@eq.edu.au with your advertisement attached. We will then invoice you for your ad.

Thank you for supporting our school.

Natasha Hampton (on behalf of the Musical Committee)

Musical – "The Little Mermaid"



Musical Rehearsals

All cast members including all Prep students, have rehearsal every Tuesday afternoon from 3:00pm-4:30pm in the hall. Only 6 to go!

Lead Role Rehearsals with Mrs Ransom

1st Break - (not Mon) Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri – Scene 1-10

2nd Break – Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri – Scene 11-20

Many lead roles still don't know their lines – please HELP them learn them. We only have 6 weeks left!!

Kind regards...

Sharon Ransom – Music Teacher



P&C Pieces

- Our next P&C Meeting will be held Tuesday 19 May at 7:00pm in the staffroom. All new members are welcome. See you there.

Katrina Jeffery – P&C Secretary

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is OPEN every Wednesday from 8:15am-8:45am in H Block selling second-hand uniforms. We are in need of more second-hand uniforms so if you have some spare, please consider donating them to the school. Please be advised that we are unable to swap uniforms or sell uniforms on your behalf.

SPORTS DAY BANDANNAS – GET IN EARLY – Purchase your sports day bandanna in your team colours from the Uniform Shop - \$5.00 each.

Border = Green; Freeman = Red; Perkins = Blue; Wilson = Yellow

HATS – The uniform shop is selling new reversible hats in the four house colours for \$12 each.

Sample Weekly lunchbox planning tool – healthy lunchbox combinations

	Morning tea	Lunch
Mon	Reduced fat yoghurt and a mandarin	Multigrain roll with boiled egg, tomato, cucumber, lettuce, reduced fat cheese All day: bottle of water
Tues	½ orange and reduced fat yoghurt	Cold rice, chicken and vegetable salad All day: bottle of water
Weds	Pikelets with banana	Pita pocket with lean ham and salad All day: bottle of water
Thurs	Four dried apricots and baked beans	Ham and salad wrap All day: bottle of water
Fri	Small low fat blueberry muffin	Chicken and salad sandwich on wholegrain bread Grapes All day: bottle of water