From the Principal's Desk

11 February 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers

**LEADERS' INDUCTION CEREMONY**
I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate our leaders for 2014. I look forward to the “formal” welcome and induction on Monday 24 February.

This Thursday, Mr Kratzmann and Mrs Lowe will be taking our 2014 school leaders to the GRIP Leadership conference for the day. The program, which we have been accessing for the last few years, covers topics such as:

- The School Yard Superhero (Leadership is actually an opportunity to serve);
- Lead like a Strawberry not like a Watermelon (Integrity and being yourself);
- Leadership Everest: Succeeding in Student Leadership (Rewards and Challenges of being a Leader);
- Goal setting and planning.

In keeping with our school vision for the next four years, I look forward to growth in potential and watching our young leaders set the scene for the year.

**LEM AND PARENT INFORMATION**
From 20 – 22 February, our new staff will be engaged in learning about the LEM program which we use at Kirwan State School. Once again we welcome Mr Greg O’Keefe to our school to conduct this training.

Greg will be running a parent information session on Thursday 20 February, in the Resource Centre, from 6:00 until 7:00pm for all interested parents. **ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

For new parents to our school, particularly those who have children in younger year levels, you may find your child coming home with an interesting slant on the sounds in the English language. For example, did you know that the letter A actually has 5 sounds and that there are actually 6 vowels, not five?

If you don’t believe me, ask your child!!! I’ll publish the answers next week!!!

We have enjoyed enormous success with spelling and phonics as a result of this program, so I encourage you to find out as much as you can – helping your child with the phonics and spelling aspects of literacy will go a long way towards improving their results.

**PARENT TEACHER INFORMATION SESSION**
Don’t forget this very important event next Tuesday 18 February commencing at 5:30pm; P&C meeting to follow at 7:00pm.

Until next week ... kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal
read, encourage them to share the love of reading with their friends in the morning.

Tony Woodhouse – 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 recently:

1A Ty Ayres 4A Ella Shepherd
1B Amy Edgerton 4A Zachary Maltby
1C Bailey Hoggan 4B Chloe Nielsen
1D Amalie Walker 4D Hamish Stewart
1E Ava-Lilly Cutmore 5A Kyrah Craige
1F Maddison Hovasapian 5B Emily Funk
2A Laura Shaw 5C Michael Costello
2B Zach Omar 5C Stella Abbott
2C Logan Weir 5D Seraph Trefers
2D Amyllee Partridge-Wragg 6A Justine Mead
2E Belle Stanek 6B Danielle Connolly
3A Taj May 6C Jack Little
3B Amelia Lynd 6C Ethan Smith
3B Amity Burow 6D Maddison Jones
3C Danielle Hopkins 6E/7C Ryan Graham
3C Cage Streeter 7A Isabella Sawyer
3D Jezzal Jawai 7B Julia Harvey-Sasso
3E Zoe Patrani 7B Marcus Cowan

School Photos

Tuesday 1 April & Wednesday 2 April 2014
You will receive a flyer/envelope for each of your students explaining the products available. Students are to bring envelopes on or preferably before Photo Day. Sibling photos will also be available for students at the school.

P&C Pieces

- Our first general meeting for 2014 will be held on Tuesday 18 February at 7:00pm in the staffroom.
- The AGM will be held on Tuesday 18 March 2014 at 7:00pm in the staffroom.
- School Jumper – this year we will be offering an optional school jumper as part of our school uniform. This will be available by order only and order forms will be sent home with students this week. Samples will be available to try on for sizing in the second hand uniform shop on Wednesday mornings between 8:15am and 8:45am.

Laurel Jones – P&C President

PE Excess Stock Sale

Wednesday 18 February 2:30-3:30pm
Multi-Purpose Hall
Prices – 50c - $10
Items include:
- kickboards, flippers, footballs, basketballs, netballs, soccer balls, cricket wickets, cricket bats, tennis balls, hoops & more.

JAFFA Club

JAFFA club will commence again on Monday 17 February. JAFFA club is Christian-based and is part of Scripture Union’s network of ‘Supa Clubs’ that meet in primary schools throughout Australia. ‘JAFFA’ stands for Jesus a Friend for All. Activities include games, stories, songs and drama. A parental permission note will be given to students on their first visit to JAFFA Club if they are keen to continue to be a part of the club.

Trudy Godwin– School Chaplain

Kirwan Eaters

13 February .................. First day of swimming lessons for Year 3
18 February ........ PE Excess Stock Sale – Multi-purpose Hall 2:30-3:30pm
18 February .. Parent Teacher Information Sessions – 5:30pm & 6:10pm
18 February .......... P&C General Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
24 February ................. Leaders’ Induction Ceremony – 9:30am
25 February .......... Defence Parent Chat Group – 2:00pm Defence Room
05 March ................. Fun Novelty Swimming Carnival
18 March ..................... Interschool Swimming Carnival
18 March ........ P&C Annual General Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
28 March ...................... Student Resource Scheme paid in full
01/02 April .................. School photos
**2014 Interhouse Swimming Carnival**

**Date:** Wednesday 05 March  
**Venue:** Kirwan Aquatics Centre (beside Kirwan High School)  
**Cost:** $3-80 (pool entry and bus fare)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Depart School</th>
<th>Swimming Times</th>
<th>Depart Pool</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>9:35am</td>
<td>9:45am – 10:30am</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>10:05am</td>
<td>10:15am – 11:15am</td>
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<td>Year 9</td>
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<td>Year 10</td>
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Important points to note:
- The permission form and medical form should be returned to your child’s teacher before 05 March.
- 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 6/7 class will be attending the Year 7 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.

*Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher*

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Isabella Sawyer who has been selected in the Townsville 12 Year Girls Netball Team. Well done Isabella!

**Defence News**

* Our next Parent Chat Group will be on Tuesday 25 February starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room. Babies and toddlers most welcome. If you have a school or defence related query, please come in and see us or leave a note for us at the office.
* See you all out and about...

*Jenny & Leigh – DSTAs*

**Important Information About Lost Property**

All lost property will be placed out in the Tuckshop covered area on Thursday and Friday morning and afternoon for collection of lost items.

As we keep accumulating a huge amount of lost property we are asking parents to check for belongings as we will be donating un-named items fortnightly to charity. The Lost Property bins are located near Admin. Named items will be delivered back to students.

**Become A Volunteer – Join Your P&C**

P&C volunteers are dedicated parents and community members who want to contribute to the management and improvement of their school. Volunteers significantly add to the school community spirit and volunteering promotes enduring social, cultural, environmental and economic value to the school community as well as the volunteer.

Show your children how much you value their education by being involved in your P&C. It’s free and even if you are not able to attend all meetings, being a P&C member is a great way to get actively involved in your school community and have your say.

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**Student Resource Scheme – $40 per student**

The Student Resource Scheme will be operating at Kirwan this year and the forms have been distributed. The letter explains what the Student Resource Scheme covers.

There is a blue form (one per family) that will need to be completed and returned to the school by Friday 14 February. There is a section on the back of the form for card details. Please make sure all sections are filled in correctly as you will be receiving invoices for the amount owing.

*The Student Resource Scheme needs to be paid to the school in full by 28 March 2014.*

If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact Karen Finnigan. There are extra forms available from the office.

*Karen Finnigan – Business Services Manager*

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**Indigenous News**

What a great turnout! Thank you to all the parents who came to our meet and greet morning tea. It was lovely to meet you all. We look forward to working with you and your children for the year ahead.

The Indigenous Room is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 1st break only. So, if you have forgotten your hat or you just need to chill out, come down and see what is happening.

*Michelle Lowe – Community Participation Officer*

**Tuckshop Talk**

- Feb 12 Sandra, Carol, Michelle (½ day), Kaitlyn (½ day)
- Feb 13 Leanne, Leah, Emma
- Feb 14 Belinda, Jo, Kaitlyn
- Feb 17 Brett, Amandla
- Feb 18 Jenny, Fiona

*There are currently NO SUSHIES. We are still waiting for our machine to be returned.  
Tuckshop DOES NOT ACCEPT foreign currency.  
Please check your 2014 price list. Some prices have gone up since last year.*

**Years 2 and 3 Swimming Lessons**

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*Please remember to send along with your child all of the swimming requirements as the office staff will NOT be able to phone if any items are forgotten.

*Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher*