16 September 2014

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

This week is a week of celebration and congratulations:

EISTEDDFOD RESULTS:
• Folk Choir – 1st place
• Unison Choir – 1st place
• Senior Concert Band – 3rd Place
• Junior Concert Band – first ever performance and a mark of 83/100 against some very stiff competition!!

I would like to personally congratulate the music and instrumental music teachers and, above all, the talented and committed students who have put so much effort into their performances this year. Well done to ALL!!

LIONS PEACE POSTER COMPETITION

My sincere thanks and congratulations to Zoe Royan who was our school representative in the Lions Peace Poster competition this year. Zoe produced an amazing poster of peace symbols and was rewarded at a Lions Club ceremony last weekend. Well done Zoe for being such a great ambassador for Kirwan and for World Peace in general!!

PREP ENROLMENTS

Places in our 5th Prep class for 2015 are filling FAST. If you have little ones who will turn 5 before the end of June next year, please contact the school to arrange an interview as soon as possible. Similarly, if you know of families who may have prep aged children, please “give them a nudge”. It certainly helps with our long term class planning to know how many we will have to cater for early on.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Hard to believe that we have reached the end of Term 3!! I wish everyone a safe and restful Spring vacation and I look forward to seeing everyone back on deck safe and sound on Tuesday 7 October. Please note that Monday 20 October is designated as a STATEWIDE Student Free day. This is Week 3 of Term 4.

Until next term ... Kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal
From the Deputy Principal – Tony Woodhouse

EISTEDDFOD

Firstly, a big congratulations to every student who participated in this year’s eisteddfod. We had several groups perform including our Strings Orchestra, Junior and Senior Concert Bands and Choir; every student showed just how wonderful Kirwan is. I would also like to acknowledge the work of our Instrumental Music teachers, Mrs Ransom and Mr Curro. Remember it is not too late to sign up to learn an instrument in 2015. Well done everyone!!

SECURE SEPTEMBER

Every September, Education Queensland focuses on online safety and positive online behaviour. If your children are like most kids, they probably use whatever technology they can get their hands on at home and love to spend hours on social media or online game sites. On such sites children can post messages. Our children need to be aware of the importance of always posting positive online messages. Children need to remember what they post today, like messages and photos, could still be there tomorrow, next week, next month, next year... It is really important your children think before they share their next status update, comment or photo. Kids should ask themselves the following three questions before they post a message.

• Is it true?
• Is it useful?
• Is it positive?

If the answer is ‘no’ to one or more of these questions, encourage them to think very hard about editing the post or making the decision to avoid posting it online. All children should be aware that there is a chance a silly or unkind post from today could still be there in 50 years’ time and that the information could be seen by future friends, bosses and even their children.

And now for some fun stuff: Test how good your children are at recognising phishing with the quiz, How cybersmart are you? http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Home/Kids/Have%20Fun/How%20cybersmart%20are%20You.aspx

Check out the Creep Quiz and give online creeps the flick http://www.creepquiz.en.edu.au/

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Thank you to those parents who were able to meet with their child’s class teacher, an important part of the feedback process to assist with student improvement. Better life opportunities are created when there is a healthy learning relationship between all parties and where there is collaborative action, and barriers are overcome when communication is open and honest. Teachers account for 30% of the variance in making a difference (Hattie, J. 2003) but parents are the first educators in a child’s life. Our current bookings are now closed, but you are always welcome to chat with your child’s class teacher to find out how you can assist them at home and support their academic growth.

Finally, have a safe and relaxing holiday, and we look forward to seeing you again on Tuesday 7 October for our final term of 2014.

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.

PrepA Jade Ober 3E
PrepB Nathaniel Jack Clapp 3E
PrepC Noah Jubb 4A
PrepD Jack Worthington 4A
PrepE Darius Harrison 4A
PrepF/1 Annaliese Blagg 4A
1A Amber Gross 4B
1B Seth Riddin 4B
1C Matthew Antoniutti 4C
1C Samantha Channell 4C
1D Daniel Craigie 4D
1D Daniel Craigie 4D
2A Dillon Holland 4D
2A Pete-Jansen Vanek 5C
2B Jack Lloyd-Jones 5D
2B Scarlett Sagaco 6A
2C Makayla Armstrong 6B
2D Christian Tapaitau 6C
2E Isabella Gibson 6C
2E Ethan Angel-Hands 6C
2E Charlie May 6C
3A Madeleine O’Neill 6D
3A Bradley Broom 6D
3B Phillip Angel-Hands 6D
3C Amelia Evans 6D
3C Zane Geue 7B
3E Jet Smalley

From the Deputy Principal – Trish McEvey

PROVIDING A BALANCED READING PROGRAM

In the last few weeks we have shared how Kirwan State School teachers use modelled, shared and guided reading as instructional approaches. Our final aspect of a balanced reading program to outline in this series is Independent Reading.

INDEPENDENT READING – What is it?

Independent reading is planned, prepared reading in which students have more of a say in determining the pace in which they gain information and meanings. It is not merely silent reading. It is strategic and an essential element of a balanced reading program.

THE TEACHER

✓ Supports students with the most appropriate text selection for the intended learning based on the students’ needs.
✓ Makes explicit to the students the purpose for reading.
✓ Directs or guides attention to salient aspects of the text.
✓ Responds to students’ questions about the reading.
✓ Tracks and monitors progress.
✓ Provides students with feedback.

THE STUDENTS

✓ Understand the purpose for reading the text.
✓ Are familiar with the chosen strategy and the purpose of using the strategy for this activity. Eg: Using a collaborative close to focus on cohesion in an informative text, using reciprocal teaching to identify the specialised language of a science text, using a three level guide to discuss the modality of a persuasive text.
✓ May work silently or discuss the text with a group.
✓ May discuss the text and its content with consecutive activities. Eg: Think, pair, share.

Trish McEvey – Acting Deputy Principal

Onesight Eye Testing Clinic

If your child received paperwork for the ONE SIGHT eye-testing, this will be conducted at Heatley Primary School TOMORROW Wednesday 17 September between 10:00am and 12:00 midday. Please turn up at a time convenient to you between these hours along with your completed permission forms.

LAST DAY OF TERM 3
IS FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER.
FIRST DAY OF TERM 4
IS TUESDAY 07 OCTOBER.
Please note – Monday 06 October is the Labour Day Public Holiday.

2B News

Year 2 students have had a busy term. They hosted visitors from the Turtle Foundation who spoke about how turtles breed and survive in the wild. They have also visited Reef HQ and were privileged to look through the turtle hospital. Year 2B have also been busy screen printing t-shirts with an environmental message ‘Turtles are Terrific’. We hope that everyone keeps an eye out for our terrific turtles when they are out on the water.

Important Information about Lost Property

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

As we keep accumulating a huge amount of lost property we are asking parents to check for belongings regularly 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.

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@kirwan.qld.edu.au
Kirwan Hockey

This year Kirwan entered a hockey team to compete in the Primary School Mazon Cup. With the majority of the team not having played hockey before, they worked hard at training and on the field, and achieved outstanding results. The finals were held on Friday 12 September and Kirwan placed third in the competition. Not only did they impress their opposing school teams with their great sportsmanship and determination throughout the competition, by competing in the competition they won some new hockey equipment for the school. Everyone had a great time and learnt a lot along the way, but there are several people who need a mention.

• The players who do play club hockey: thank you for being supportive of the new players to the game and always encouraging them.
• The players who are new to the game: thank you for showing great enthusiasm and dedication to always try your best. You made amazing improvement every step of the way.
• Most importantly, thank you to the parents who brought the players to the field every week. Without you, I wouldn’t have had a great team to cheer on each week.

Although I have played hockey for a long time, this is my first time coaching. I am proud of the team spirit and effort all players demonstrated and hope with the enthusiasm shown for the game, the local clubs will get some new players.

Jodie Wright

P&C Pieces

• Our next general meeting is on TONIGHT at 7:00pm in the staffroom. See you all there.
• FUN RUN PRIZES – The winners of the highest money raised for the fun run were:
  Highest Senior – Flynn Currey
  Highest Junior – Ethan Jeffery
  Highest Family – Jack & Sarah Murdoch

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

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

Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888

Eisteddfod Results

All Kirwan Primary students who participated in the Eisteddfod this year were well behaved on the day and gave their very best effort in everything they participated in. Each team co-operated well and encouraged each other and together we achieved some great results.

The ensembles that participated were the Strings Orchestra, the Junior Concert Band, the Senior Concert Band and the School Choir. The Senior Concert Band came third in their section. The Choir, who performed in four sections, achieved two first places and a highly commended.

Parents and teachers of our students, please congratulate and encourage them to keep up the good work. They have done an amazing job representing our school with their talents.

I would also like to thank parents for your help with supervising the students. Your help made the day run very smoothly.

Thomas Curro – Music Teacher

Parent/Teacher Interviews and School Gates

A reminder to parents who will be attending Parent/Teacher interviews that the back school gates close at 3:45pm.

Fete - 24 October 2014

• Our next fete meeting will be on Tuesday 7 October at 7:00pm in the Staffroom.
• SHOWBAGS – This is the last week to pre-order your showbags. Please place order and money in the P&C box in the office.
• There are only 5 weeks until the fete. Please consider if you are able to help on your child’s class stall and let your child’s teacher know.
• DODGERS have gone home with every student to sell. Please return all tickets and money to the P&C box in the office by 10 October. Unsold dodgers also need to be returned and placed in the P&C box.
• RIDES WRISTBANDS will be ON SALE every Thursday only from 8:15am – 9:00am in the shed. Pre-sale wristbands are $30.00 each and give your child unlimited rides at the fete.
• OUTSIDE STALLS – Would you like to have your own market stall at our fete? For more information please email pnc@kirwansss.eq.edu.au.
• DONATIONS REQUIRED – the following items are required to help make our stalls a success.
  - Potted plants
  - Packs of serviettes and paper plates
  - Tattoos
  - Brown paper bags
  - Clear cellophane
  - Bags of balloons
  - Coloured hair spray (half tins OK)
  - Second-hand books

Please leave all donations with Kim at the tuckshop.

Important Dates for 2015 Prep Enrolments

• 30 October – Prep Information Sessions – 9:30am & 6:30pm
• 31 October – Prep Come and Try Day – 9:15-10:50am
• 8 December – Whole School Transition (Preppies 9:15-10:50am)

Defence News

Hi everyone...

We would like to wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday. For those who are posting out we wish you happy and safe travels and we will miss you! See you all next term!

Jenny & Leigh - DSTAs

Year 6/7 Parent Committee

• CHOCOLATES AND MONEY are now overdue. Please return all money and unsold chocolates ASAP.