Dear Parents and Caregivers

REPORT CARDS FOR SEMESTER ONE
As the end of the semester approaches, I would like to provide a timely reminder to all families that Report Cards for Semester One will be issued at the end of Week 1 Term 3. This decision has been made this year to allow all teachers to “teach” right up until the end of the current unit of work, therefore allowing students to demonstrate their most current achievement. Classrooms are very busy at the moment with all children being asked to produce their very best work for assessment.

This Friday 20 June, our littlest Kirwan Kids are set to enjoy an exciting morning of fun and frivolity at Under 8s Day!! Our Prep teachers have been very busy planning and getting organized for this annual day which is certainly one of the most colourful on the Kirwan Calendar. Mums, Dads, Grandads and Grandmas are also very welcome. You don’t have to be young….just young at heart. I look forward to seeing many smiling faces enjoying the morning of learning through exploration and play.

Also on Friday 20 June at 2:10pm, our music students will be showcasing their diligent work and enormous talent at a whole school music extravaganza in the hall. Once again parents and family members are more than welcome to come along and enjoy the show. My sincere congratulations to Mr Thomas Curro and our own Mrs Sharon Ransom for their efforts in preparing students for this exciting event.

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT NEWS
In Week 5 we trialled a rewards play afternoon for those students who “never set a foot wrong”. By all accounts, this was well received by all, especially by those students who earned extra playtime with the teachers.

We will be continuing this event into Term 3 having made some slight adjustments so that the reward time runs even more smoothly. I should point out that over 92% of our students earned this reward!! Congratulations.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
I have received several replies to the paper and online survey regarding Independent Public Schooling and your thoughts as to whether or not Kirwan State School should apply to become an IPS School or not.

If you have not had a chance to respond, please find the link below which will take you to the online survey. I encourage as many as possible to give me your views. This is your school for your children.

Here is the link to complete the survey on-line: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/899BLR6.

Until next week ... Kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal
It is great to hear of so many students reading at home. Below is some information and some top tips about how you can help support your child with reading at home.

James Clements (a Headteacher from the UK) comments, “With all the research proving that Reading For Pleasure is inextricably linked to attainment, and benefits all aspects of children’s lives, parents need to understand the huge impact reading with their children can make and how vital it is that Reading for Pleasure doesn’t stop at the school gate but is continued at home.”

Here are some top tips from James to help parents keep books beyond bedtime throughout primary school:

1. **Make the time**
   Just 10 minutes of reading with your child each day is one of the best ways you can support your child’s education.

2. **Choose different types of books**
   Reading as wide a range of books as possible opens your child up to different types of language and different ways of writing. You and your child might take it in turns to choose what you read together; you might share a treasured book from your childhood, or they might introduce you to the latest playground craze. You might choose something challenging that stretches their understanding and introduces them to new ideas or you might curl up with an old favourite. You won’t both love every book you share, but reading a wide range of different books can help children to develop their own taste in books and it can open them up to books and genres they wouldn’t necessarily choose themselves.

3. **Take turns to read**
   Sometimes you’ll want to listen to your child read aloud – it’s great for developing their fluency and expression and gives you the chance to check they’re not struggling with any of the words. At other times you can read aloud, modelling expressive reading and letting them enjoy the story. It could depend on the book you’ve chosen. Finding ways to read together can be really effective and enjoyable – you might read a paragraph each or take over every time a certain character speaks. By both reading and listening your child gets the best of both worlds, learning more than if they simply read aloud to you or listen to you.

4. **Talk about the book – asking your child questions**
   Asking for their opinion or for them to make predictions can be an important way of helping them to think about what they’re reading. As a rule, open questions that begin with ‘how’ and ‘why’ tend to be more engaging rather than simple recall questions. (“How do you think Mole is feeling as he enters the Wild Wood? Why?” might work better than “What is Mole afraid of?”). If you can, try to get your child to refer back to the text to tell you how they know the answer. (“How do you know he’s afraid?”) Above all ask questions and talk about what you’re reading because you are genuinely interested in what your child thinks, rather than just to check they can find the right answer.

Tony Woodhouse – Deputy Principal

---

**From the Deputy Principal – Tricia Winter**

**SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**

Our School Wide Positive Behaviour program is our way of explicitly teaching and targeting behaviour. All of our students and staff articulate the common language – “Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible”. Over the next couple of weeks students will be focusing on “Being Safe”. We will be using the PBS language and giving green Gotchas (double points) to students who are displaying behaviours that show them keeping hands, feet, objects and unkind words to themselves. We will be working with students in the playground to encourage safe fair play, problem solving and sharing in games. We will be encouraging our students to make positive choices.

**WHOLE SCHOOL REWARD DAY**

To reward our students who are making great choices we are again having a whole school reward celebration. Students who have had NO major behaviour incidents will receive an extra 15 minutes of playtime on Friday 27 June. Those students who do not meet the criteria for the reward day will stay in class and continue with curriculum work as per any other day.

Tricia Winter – Acting Deputy Principal
Congratulations

Congratulations to Holly Doran, Courtney Reynolds, Kaitlyn Tkacz, Willow Hills-Amory, Emily Ohl, Kia Mills and Demica Targett who have been selected in the Thuringowa District Softball Team to compete in the North Queensland Trials in Herbert River in July. Well done girls and good luck at the trials!

Congratulations also to Jett Manning and Isabella Sawyer who have been selected in the NQ Touch Team! Well done!!

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

Music News

MUSIC CONCERT – THIS FRIDAY 20 JUNE
The music team and I would like to invite all parents to our end of term concert! There will be performances by the string orchestra, the concert band, and the school choir.

WHERE: Friday 20 June (THIS FRIDAY)
WHERE: Kirwan State School Hall
TIME: 2:00pm – 2:50pm

Come and support our students as they perform for you.

Thomas Curro – Music Teacher

P&C Pieces

• The next P&C general meeting is TONIGHT Tuesday 17 June at 7:00pm in the staffroom. See you all there!

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

Indigenous News

A Parent Group Meeting will be held tomorrow, Wednesday 18 June at 2:00pm in the Indigenous Room. We will be discussing Kirwan Primary NAIDOC celebrations and would like to hear about any ideas you might have, so please come and join us for a cuppa.

Year 6/7 Parent Committee

• Our next Parent meeting will be held on Thursday 17 July at 2:00pm in the Staffroom.
• Cadbury chocolates have arrived and have been sent home with Year 6 and 7 students. Please ensure all money and unsold chocolates are returned by 17 July. If you would like extra boxes to sell please see Kim in the tuckshop.

Attention Year 6/7 Parents/Caregivers

Can you please supply a school photo of your child from Prep/Year 1 to be added to the Yearbook? Please make sure that you write your child’s name and class on the back of the photo so that we can return it to you. Photos can be given to the class teacher or emailed to the following addresses:
- Year 6 - Carol Stanek: carol.stanek@bigpond.com
- Year 7 - Angela Sawyer: a.j.sawyer@bigpond.com

Term & Vacation Times for 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Term Dates</th>
<th>Vacation Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>28 Jan – 04 Apr</td>
<td>05 Apr – 21 Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>22 Apr – 27 June</td>
<td>28 June – 13 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>14 July – 19 Sep</td>
<td>20 Sep – 06 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>07 Oct – 12 Dec</td>
<td>13 Dec – 26 Jan 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Term Dates</td>
<td>Vacation Dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>27 Jan – 02 Apr</td>
<td>03 Apr – 19 Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>20 Apr – 26 June</td>
<td>27 June – 12 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>13 July – 18 Sept</td>
<td>19 Sept – 05 Oct</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Medication at School

At times it is necessary for children to take medication during school hours. We are aware of this need and are willing to assist you in this situation. However, due to directives from Education Queensland, and in conjunction with current regulations, prescription medicine only can be administered by school staff and under doctor’s instructions. This means that all medication must come to school in a container, which is clearly labelled by the pharmacist with the child’s name, dosage and instructions for dispensing, together with the doctor’s name. If the medication is not prescribed by a medical practitioner, we are unable to administer this during school hours to him/her. Parents are very welcome to come along to the school and administer the medication at the appointed time, or alternatively, seek medical advice from their doctor re a prescription for the required medication. We appreciate your cooperation in this important matter.

OFFICE HOURS STRICTLY
8:00AM – 3:30PM

Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888