20 May 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers

REPORT CARDS
This year, report cards for the first Semester of the school year will not be distributed until AFTER the Winter vacation. This decision is simply to allow teachers as much teaching time as possible in Unit 4 before they have to make a final assessment. This means that your child’s report card will have the most recent, up to date information included.

On the subject of reporting, in 3 weeks time, our teachers will be meeting with teachers from Heatley State School and Bohleval State School to share work samples and quality teaching practices. This moderating work, which forms part of our teachers’ ongoing professional development for the year, is crucial in ensuring that our standards are high and that our judgments are an accurate reflection of a child’s achievement.

Our teachers are looking forward to the professional conversations.

KOKUGAKUIN SCHOOL
I am thrilled to announce that the Japanese students from the Kokugakuin School will, once again, be paying us a visit for a half day on 31 July. This is the third year of this wonderful event which has become a much anticipated one in our school calendar.

As we have two cohorts of school leaders this year, the buddy places (30 in total) will be open to both Year 6 and Year 7 students. Students who are interested need to write a persuasive text telling me why they think they would make a good buddy to the Japanese students. These applications close on 20 June.

I am, once again, looking forward to watching our visitors’ delight (or otherwise) as they taste Vegemite and beetroot, pavlova and Iced Vovos, play Aboriginal children’s games and demonstrate their prowess at Origami. Last year we were also treated to a school song from our nervous visitors.

P&C MEETING
I look forward to seeing you at the P&C meeting tonight at 7.00pm. All are very welcome.

Until next week ... Kind regards
Melissa Jackson
Principal
From the Deputy Principal - Tony Woodhouse

GOOD HEALTH

Thanks to those parents who are vigilant and diligent in identifying and managing the issues of ill-health that occur from time to time with their children. Thank you also to the parents who are externally watchful for head lice. (They always make an appearance.) If your child is afflicted with head lice or an illness that may require them to remain at home for a short period, please check with the school to verify the period of exclusion or go to the Queensland Health website and view the Time Out poster. (You will also find a copy of the poster within your enrolment folder.) Please remember to send a letter or phone or email the school to let us know of any absences.


READING SUCCESS

The single most important activity for building understandings and skills essential for reading success appears to be reading aloud and reading with children. High-quality book reading occurs when children feel emotionally secure and are active participants in reading. Asking predictive and analytic questions in small-group settings appears to affect children's vocabulary and comprehension of stories. Children may talk about the pictures, retell the story, discuss their favourite actions, and request multiple re-readings. It is the talk that surrounds the storybook reading that gives it power, helping children to bridge what is in the story and their own lives.

It is not just books that help children to read but immersing your child in print, labels, newspapers, subtitles on TV or with films, billboards and signs. There are so many ways you can 'read' with your child.

Reading at home and valuing reading develops in young children a love for reading and writing. As Rosinski and Fredericks put it, "A literate home environment doesn't teach children how to read; rather, it provides children with opportunities to enjoy reading and discover the many ways it can be used to enrich the experiences in their lives."

BEGINNER INSTRUMENTAL STUDENTS

Our beginner instrumental students have been working hard to master the basic techniques of their musical instrument. Their hard work and commitment has certainly paid off and they began playing in our Beginner Concert Band yesterday. Most of these students have only had the opportunity so far to play with 2 – 5 other students in lessons; now they will be playing and performing with 21 different students across 3 instrumental families. I am looking forward to hearing them. Well done.

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 Jaymnie-Leigh Hall 3C Mitchell Royan
PrepB Holly Richards 3C Cape Streger
PrepC Te Mana Royal 3C Cl Milton
PrepD Charlie Harris 3D Chloe Costello
PrepE Brodie Cains 3E Mackenzie Gullison
PrepF/1F Taehya Chong 4A Nikita Saputo
1A Chelsea Mackay 4A Te-Hani Simmons
1B Logan Barow 4B Kaitlyn Stewart
1C Olivia Honson 4C Amelia Kugler
1D Nicola Massaro 4D Jett Newman
1E Sophia Taylor 5A Bryanna Harris
2A Dane Ranson 5C Emily Rogers
2B Ava Lesseon 5D Kyron Cherry
2C Jasmin Kennedy 6B Jon Alfred
2D Lucy-Anne Thomas 6C Kia Mills
2E Joseph Evans 6D Jorja Denney
2F Lachlan McCornley 6B/7C Sasha Taylor
3A Zachary Taylor 7B Chauntey Stewart
3B Luke Bennie

Request for Additional Student Reports

Please be advised that notice of 72 hours will need to be given to office staff to the event that an additional student report is required. We thank you for your co-operation of your understanding and co-operation.

20 May P&C Meeting
7:00pm in the Staffroom.
All Welcome!

LIVING WITH BATS

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Bats, which include flying foxes, are found across Queensland, with many bat colonies roosting near human populations. Whilst bats are vitally important to the environment, some bats may carry bacteria and viruses, such as Australian bat lyssavirus (ABLV), which can be harmful to humans. Bats are found in both rural and urban environments and provided they are left alone and not touched, pose minimal risk to humans.

As children, out of curiosity or empathy, may want to investigate or rescue fallen bats, it is important to educate them about how to act safely around bats.

KEY MESSAGES WHEN TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT BATS

- Don’t be scared of bats flying overhead
Bats are often seen flying overhead at night-time. Bats, including flying foxes, are crucial to keeping native forests healthy. They play an important role in the environment by eating insects and dispersing seeds and pollinating flowering plants.
- Don’t try to touch or pick up bats
Bats roost in trees. If a bat is found on or near the ground, it is probably sick or injured. Disturbing an injured bat may frighten it, causing it to scratch or bite. If you see a bat on or near the ground, stay away from it and tell an adult. The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has details on how to report injured, sick or orphaned bats.
- What to do if you are bitten or scratched by a bat
If you are accidentally bitten or scratched by a bat, tell a responsible adult immediately, wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water and see a doctor as quickly as you can. This is because bats can pass on viruses to you that can make you very sick.
- The Department of Health has produced a 'Kids and bats' poster which can be found at Protecting kids from Australian bat lyssavirus. This poster can be used with primary school-aged children to educate them on what to do around bats.
- Don’t try to hurt bats
Trying to hurt bats may put yourself or others at risk. If you injure a bat, they may end up on or close to the ground where they may scratch or bite you or other people.
- Watch bats from a distance
You can learn about bats by watching them in real life roosting in trees, flying at night or as part of a wildlife show. You can avoid being scratched or bitten as long as you remain a safe distance from them and don't try to handle them. Wildlife carers are trained in handling bats and are vaccinated so they don't get sick from bats.

KEY WEBSITES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- Department of Health
Australian Bat Lyssavirus
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Types of Bats
Living near flying foxes
Reporting injured sick or orphaned wildlife

From the Chaplain

I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the Kirwan School Community for your support for the Chappy Week Celebration. A special thank you to Mrs Jackson, Mr Woodhouse, Mrs Murdock, Mrs Flynn, Mrs Cross, Mrs Newman, Mr Cockburn, Mr & Mrs Reid, and Mrs Dodd for your help with the sausage sizzle. Mrs Jackson did a great job at cooking on the BBQ and it was a great success! I think everyone enjoyed the Radio Broadcast, activities and the sausage sizzle.

Trudy Godwin – School Chaplain

Fun Run Money Due THIS Friday 23 May

The due date for Fun Run money has been extended to Friday 23 May. Please have all Fun Run money returned by this date.
Important Information about Lost Property

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. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity on Friday afternoon.

Fête - 24 October 2014

- Our next fete meeting is on Tuesday 03 June at 7:00pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome.

- Class Stalls are:
  - Prep A: Show bags/Lucky dips
  - Prep B: Popcorn
  - Prep C: Drinks/Chips/Chocolates
  - Prep D: 100 Board
  - Prep E: Toffees/Cakes
  - Prep F/F1: Drinks/Chips/Chocolates
  - 1A: Ice-creams
  - 1B: Ice-creams
  - 1C: Roast Beef Rolls
  - 1D: Cent Sale
  - 1E: Tattoos
  - 2A: Craft Stall
  - 2B: Craft Stall
  - 2C: Cent Sale
  - 2D: Glow Products
  - 2E: Hair spray
  - 3A: Sausage Sizzle
  - 3B: Sausage Sizzle
  - 3C: Sausage Sizzle
  - 3D: Coin on a Can
  - 3E: Knock ‘Em Downs
  - 4A: Plant Stall/Tombola
  - 4B: Plant Stall/Tombola
  - 4C: Plant Stall/Tombola
  - 4D: Show bags/Lucky dips
  - 5A: Baked Potatoes
  - 5B: Baked Potatoes
  - 5C: Baked Potatoes
  - 5D: Second Hand Books
  - 6A: Dunking Machine
  - 6B: Roast Beef Rolls
  - 6C: Roast Beef Rolls
  - 6D: Toffees/Cakes
  - 6E/7C: Plot of Gold
  - 7A: Furry Floss
  - 7B: House of Horrors

Fête Sponsor of the Week

A huge thank you to Marlin Tiles on Dalrymple Road for their kind donation. For all your tiling needs, please support those who support us.

French News

Congratulations to the 21 students who participated in the Alliance Française poetry competition and to the 2 students who made it to the final interview of the Julie Radcliffe speech contest against students from Years 6 to 10. The 2 students were interviewed about their speech by a panel of three judges this past weekend and both came out with smiles.

This week is another big week with the start of the Language

Merce

Bonne Chance!

Mademoiselle

Congratulations from the HPE DEPARTMENT

- Congratulations to Kaya Anapa who made the NQ Rugby League team.
- Heath Jones, Harley Taylor, Jonathan Alfred, Andrew Evans and Riley Green made the Thuringowa 11 Years Rugby League team. Well done! (Sixty-six boys trialled so this team was very hard to make.)
- Kirwan students who finished in the top 10 at Interschool Cross Country now qualify to trial for the NQ Cross Country team.
- 10 Year boys – Seth Johnson and Tyler Winnett
- 12 Year boys – Trent Austin and Jett Manning

Best of luck at the NQ Cross Country trials today.

Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher

P&C Pieces

- The next P&C general meeting is on TONIGHT Tuesday 20 May at 7:00pm in the staffroom. See you all there!
- Don’t forget to get your Reversible School Hats in your house colour for sports day on 30 May. They are available from the uniform shop in F Block on Wednesday mornings from 8:15-8:45am and are $12 each.

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

Year 6/7 Parent Committee

The Year 6/7 Parent Committee will be selling house coloured icy cups at the sports carnival on Friday 30 May. Helpers are needed to sell on the day.

Craft Group

The craft group ladies meet every Tuesday from 9:00am. If you would like to meet some friendly ladies who have a passion for craft, tea and coffee and a good old yarn, please go along and join them at 79 Burnda Street, Kirwan. The more the merrier!

Tuckshop Talk

May 21 Sandra, Carol, Michelle (½ day)
May 22 Leanne, Leah, Emma (½ day)
May 23 Belinda, Jo
May 26 Mad Murdock Monday
May 27 Jenne, Fiona

- There are no Snacks or Paydays until further notice.
- Tuckshop DOES NOT ACCEPT foreign currency.

Defence News

- Hi everyone! Our next Parent Chat Group is on Tuesday 03 June starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room.
- On Sunday 25 May from 10:00am to 1:00pm DCO will be celebrating National Families Week. This Fun Day will be held at Kennedy Regiment Plaza and the Parade Ground at Jezzine Barracks Precinct. There will be outdoor activities and amusements as well as the Defence Wall of Inspiration Mural in the North Queensland Army Museum. A sausage sizzle and refreshments will be available for purchase.
- See you all out and about...

Jenny & Leigh – DSTAs

Kindy Fundraiser – Entertainment books

C&K Kirwan are currently selling entertainment books to raise funds for the Kindy. Books are $60 with lots of great offers for Townsville businesses. If you would like to purchase a book please contact Nicole Argall on 0439 952 226 or you can go online and purchase a digital membership at: https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/27118q4

Thanks...

Kirwan Kindy

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