21 June 2016

**From the Principal’s Desk**

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

It has been a very busy and rewarding term for our students, teachers and school. I am continually reminded of how proud I am of our school and community. Please take the time to read over the newsletter and be informed. Two hundred families have downloaded our QSchools App — have you?

**Semester 1 Report Cards are Issued This Week.**

Kirwan SS delivers the Australian Curriculum to all students. Assessment tasks and evidence of student work allow teachers to make judgements (against set Australian Standards) about how well students are currently achieving. A ‘C’ at Kirwan is the same standard as a ‘C’ in Sydney. The achievement standards are written at a ‘C’ standard and are typical of what a successful student knows and can do by the end of that year level. So a ‘C’ means that the student has consistently demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the curriculum taught to date at year level standard. In short, a ‘C’ is exactly where the typical student needs to be. With this in mind, it may simply be a lot harder to get an ‘A’ or a ‘B’. To achieve an overall ‘A’ or ‘B’, students need to consistently demonstrate knowledge, skill and understanding at a higher standard than a typical standard. If your child has received a ‘D’, he or she may still be capable of achieving a ‘C’ by the end of the year. Furthermore, this means that it may not be reliable to compare a student’s previous year level grades with the current grades. Make sure you examine the ‘effort’ column. We celebrate ‘effort’ and ‘achievement’.

For more information on the Australian Curriculum and Standards, visit [http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/).

**Under 8’s Day**

Don’t forget our Under 8’s Day this Thursday. All families of Preps and Year Ones are more than welcome to come along and join in the fun of being Under 8. Our students will really enjoy the day.

**School Annual Report**

The School Annual Report for 2015 is now up on our school website for your perusal. This report contains information about our targets and achievements from the last school year and includes online links to sites such as the My School website where you can gain up to date information on our school’s performance.

**Sports Days**

Last Thursday and Friday, our school held our 800m and whole school sports day. Congratulations to the Freeman house who took out the honours on the day. I was very impressed with the way all our students participated in every event – well done Kirwan. Today we have our ‘Champions Day’ where the students who were the fastest runners, highest jumpers, furthest throwers, etc., have the chance to make our school athletics team.

**League Success**

Congratulations to our league team who won the Townsville section of the ARLD Cup. We play Proserpine SS in the ARLD Northern Final on Sunday 17th July at Brothers with kick-off at 11 am.

**It’s Holiday Time**

Just in case you’d forgotten, school classes this Friday afternoon for the Winter vacation. I would like to wish those students and their families who are leaving us all the best in your new locations. It is also a time when we ask our families and community to keep an eye on our school. We have had very little vandalism in recent months, and I believe that our community is a big part of this statistic. If you do notice anything suspicious happening in the school, please phone the SCHOOL WATCH HOTLINE on 131788. Security guards and police will also be keeping watch for us.

Enjoy the vacation. Keep safe, because I am looking forward to seeing you all back after the holidays.

Yours in all things Kirwan...

John Kratzmann
Principal
From the Deputy Principal - Tony Woodhouse

As we approach the holidays and students may spend more of their time outside alone, it is important that you spend time talking about stranger danger (or as some articles call them – ‘tricky people’).

What to tell your child about a stranger:
- Tell your child not to listen to or be near a stranger—rather to move away or back inside.
- Tell your child to never ever go with a stranger—no matter what the stranger says.
- Share a code word with your child that is easy for them to remember and assure them that only a trusted adult will know the code word that you both share.
- Tell your child that strangers may make up sad stories, like looking for a lost pet, needing help with a sick child, or needing help with a shopping bag.
- Tell your child that strangers may offer treats, gifts or lollies for ‘helping’.
- Have your child make sure an adult they trust knows where they are at all times.
- Encourage your child if they have to walk by themselves somewhere, to walk near busier roads/streets.
- If ever frightened, tell your child to go into a ‘safe place’ like a shop, police station or school and NEVER get into a car with someone they don’t know.
- Teach your child about TRICKY PEOPLE. TRICKY PEOPLE are grown-ups who DARE TO HELP.
- Teach your child not to DO ANYTHING, or GO ANYWHERE, with ANY ADULTS AT ALL, unless they ask for your permission first.

Who is a stranger?
A stranger is anyone who your family doesn’t know well. It’s common for children to think that “bad strangers” look scary, like the villains in cartoons. This is not only not true, but it’s dangerous for children to think this way.

- Pretty strangers can be just as dangerous as the not-so-pretty ones. When you talk to your children about strangers, explain that no-one can tell if strangers are nice or not nice just by looking at them and that they should be careful around strangers.
- But don’t make it seem like all strangers are bad. If children need help—whether they’re lost, being threatened by a bully, or being followed by a stranger—the safest thing for them to do in many cases is to ask a stranger for help.
- You can make this easier for them by telling and showing them which strangers are okay to trust.

Who are safe strangers?
Safe strangers are people children can ask for help when they need it. Police officers and firefighters are two examples of very recognizable safe strangers. Teachers, teacher aides and principals, are adults children can trust too, and they are easy to recognize when they’re at work. But make sure that you emphasize that whenever possible, children should always have an adult with them in a public place to ask for help.

You can help your children recognize safe strangers by pointing them out when you’re out shopping or driving. Also show your children places they can go if they need help, such as local stores and restaurants and the names of family friends in your neighbourhood.

What Else Can Parents Do?
- Know where your children are at all times. Make it a rule that your children must ask permission or check in with you before going anywhere. Give your children your work and mobile phone numbers so they can reach you at all times.
- Point out safe places. Show your children safe places to play, safe roads and paths to take, and safe places to go if there’s trouble.
- Teach children to trust their instincts. Explain that if they ever feel scared or uncomfortable, they should get away as fast as they can and tell an adult. Tell them that sometimes adults they know may make them feel uncomfortable, and they should still get away as fast as possible and tell another adult what happened. Reassure children that you will help them when they need it.
- Teach your children to be assertive. Make sure they know that it’s okay to say no to an adult and to run away from adults in dangerous situations.
- Encourage your children to play with others. There’s safety in numbers!

Over the holidays it is important to also remember that no-one is allowed on school premises without the Principal’s permission. This also includes letting animals (pets) on the school site. If you notice any suspicious activity, please phone 131 788.

Tony Woodhouse – Deputy Principal
50 Gotchas

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved 50 Gotchas!

Andrea Scarfidi
Te-Hani Simmons
Zoe
Revianna Garcia
Zak Bagley
Dominic Anderson
Chelsea Mackay
Charlie Cohen
Mekenzie Ashton
Thomas Kugler
Ethan Jeffery
Charlize Lane-Russo
Benson Bridgman
Poppy Smart
Sonny Meti

50 Gotchas

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved 50 Gotchas!

Jarell Gillin-Smith
Ithara Higgoada
Kayedan Sabsy
Maddison Hoffasapian
Natt Somnerville
Zoe Burgess
Kyla Mabo
Kingston Mc
Tayton Lovett
Caiden Green
Shanay Cox
Lockie Cook
Khloe Leyley
Tadgh Morris
Payten De Carli

P.E. News

ATHLETICS DAY

Congratulations to all students and staff on the success of Athletics Day last Friday. It was a fantastic example of team work and without everyone doing their part it could not have run as smoothly as it did. Special thanks to Brian and Ben for doing a fantastic job in preparing the oval, (it looked great), and the cleaning staff for organising the bins to keep the oval clean. Thank you also to Kim our tuckshop convener for organising the food and drinks on the day, and of course all the teachers and aides for doing such a great job in making it a fun day for the students. It was great to see parents watching their children compete and I hope you all had a great day as well. Last of all a big thank you to the admin team and office staff for their support on the oval and behind the scenes. I look forward to presenting the results of Champions Day next week. Stay tuned...

OVERALL ATHLETICS DAY RESULTS

Girls Overall Winner
Wilson
Boys Overall Winner
Freeman
Aggregate Winner
Freeman
Average & Overall Winners
Freeman

Jo O’Sullivan – HPE Teacher

Tuckshop Talk

Jun 22 Sandra, Carol
Jun 23 Emma, Petal, Tricia
Jun 24 Ann, Joann, Jackie
Jul 11 Brett, Jo
Jul 12 Kim

* SPORTS DAY THANK YOU: A huge thank you to Brett and Mitch for cooking and Mr Coops for stacking the cold room. Thank you to Sandra, Ja, Michelle, Emma, Tricia, Belinda, Joann, Jackie and Ann for serving. Excellent job everyone. Well done!
* Flexi-schools re-opens on 11 July.
* Thank you to Tracy and Parker for assisting with icy cups.
* Please note: tuckshop is running down stock. Some items may be substituted.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Tahnee Marshall (6A), who has been selected in the Queensland State School Girls Hockey Team. Tahnee has also been selected for the North Queensland 10 and U17 yrs golf team. Well done Tahnee!

Recently the following students took part in the Far North QLD BMX Championships.
Liam Smith (6D): rode hard but just missed the final in 12 year boys.
Jack Humphreys (6B): 3FNQ in 11 year boys and 3FNQ in 11-12 year boys cruiser.
Brooke Smith (4A): 3FNQ in 10 year girls.
Emily Woodbury (3C): 3FNQ in 9 year girls.
Harrison Lowe (4A): 3FNQ in 9 year boys.
Jye Smith (Prep B) and Benson Bridgman (Prep C) both raced very well in the sprocket class. Congratulations everyone!

Defence News

Well, it’s the end of a very long and busy term. We hope you well all have a fantastic and restful 2 weeks holiday. We will see you all back at school on Monday 11 July looking refreshed. The first Defence Parent Chat Group will be on Tuesday 12 July from 2:00pm in the Defence room. Come in for a cuppa and a chat. We hope to see some new faces.

Keep smiling...
Leigh & Theresa – DSTAs

P&C Pieces

GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will take place tonight at 7:00pm in the Staffroom. All new members are welcome – we would love to see some new faces.

FLEXISCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING

A reminder that you can now order items from the uniform shop such as jumpers, reversible hats and sports bandanas, place tuckshop orders and pay for P&C fundraising events (such as the Prep Tea Towels) online via Flexischools. Jump online and check out how easy it is!

EASY, ONLINE REGISTRATION

- Go to www.flexischools.com.au
- Click REGISTER NOW
- Enter your email
- You will be emailed a link to an online form - follow the link
- Choose a username and password and complete the form
- Add each student and their class
- Top-up the account – VISA or Mastercard preferred

FETE NEWS

Our next meeting is at 5:30pm tonight in the Staffroom. Please come along and add your ideas or email fete@kirwanss.eq.edu.au if you can’t make the meeting but want to offer help or make a suggestion.

FETE SPONSORS OF THE WEEK

The Ville – 1 x night of accommodation in a new Resort Room.
Townsville Tenpin & Fun Centre – 2 x Family passes for Bowling and Dodgems (valued at $54 each).
Fishing Warehouse - 3 x polo shirts, 1 Penn Pack (stubby cooler, beach towel, cap and bag).
The Cheesecake Shop Willows - $30 gift voucher.

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop opens every Wednesday from 8.15am – 8.45am in H Block selling second-hand uniforms as well as new school jumpers, hats and hair accessories. You can also order online via Flexischools and have the items delivered to your child’s classroom! There is NO EFTPOS available at the Uniform Shop; cash only please.
Music Polo Shirts & Long Black Pants – $12.00 each
Polo Shirts, Skirts & Skorts – All $5.00 each
Check Dresses and Shirts – All $10.00 each
Jumpers $40 each
Hats in House Colours $12.00 each
Sports Bandanas $5 each
Hair ties – Assorted prices
Please be advised that we are unable to swap uniforms or sell uniforms on your behalf.

PREP TEA TOWELS

An order form went home last week to all Prep students regarding our Prep Tea Towel fundraiser. The unique souvenir tea towels contain pictures drawn by all the students and staff in our Prep classes. The pictures are arranged into one commemorative design and screen printed on high quality white tea towels. (A sample tea towel is hanging near the payment window.) It IS ONLY $12 for one limited edition souvenir tea towel and $10 per tea towel if you order 3 or more. All funds raised will go towards purchasing new readers for the Prep classes. Tea towels can be ordered by dropping the order form with payment into the P&C Box at the payment window in an envelope clearly marked “TEA TOWEL ORDERS – PREP CLASS” by no later than Friday 24th June 2016. You can also order the tea towels online via Flexischools. Make sure you don’t miss out on this unique opportunity to preserve your child’s artwork and remember friends and teachers forever!

Bree Harris – P&C Secretary