



KIRNEWS

Kirwan State School
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From The Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to Term 2 and a particularly warm welcome to new families who have joined our ranks from near and far.

This promises to be a busy and engaging term for our school community with some serious events and some fun events in the pipeline. If you are new to our school, I urge you to participate as fully as possible in the life of the school. We welcome everyone with open arms. Our newsletter is the first point of contact for many families and it contains the bulk of the information you will need about up and coming school events.

ANZAC Ceremonies

I am always proud to say that Kirwan State School enjoys strong links with our defence community given that many of our families are involved in the armed forces and indeed participate in offshore deployments. This Thursday, 24 April, our school will come together to commemorate the bravery of those members of the armed forces who paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we now enjoy. This ceremony, which will commence at 10:00am, is open to any members of the Kirwan Community who wish to join us. This is a solemn occasion which mirrors the "real" ANZAC ceremony on Friday. I must congratulate our Defence and Indigenous Aides for their work in organizing this event this year; many thanks to Leigh Reid, Jenny Sheehan, Michelle Lowe, Debbie Norford and Lorna Savage.

On Friday 25 April, our school will, as it has done for many years, join with the Thuringowa ANZAC march. All students, staff, parents and caregivers are very welcome to attend and march with our school. Children must wear full school uniform, hats and bring a water bottle. The march commences in the car park near the Shell Service Station at the rear of The Willows Shopping Centre with a meeting time of 9:45am. This march concludes in the gardens near the Council Chambers on Thuringowa Drive. Parents need to collect children from this area at the end of the march. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

NAPLAN

Testing for children in Years 3, 5 and 7 will commence in the week of May 12th. The following schedule will apply:

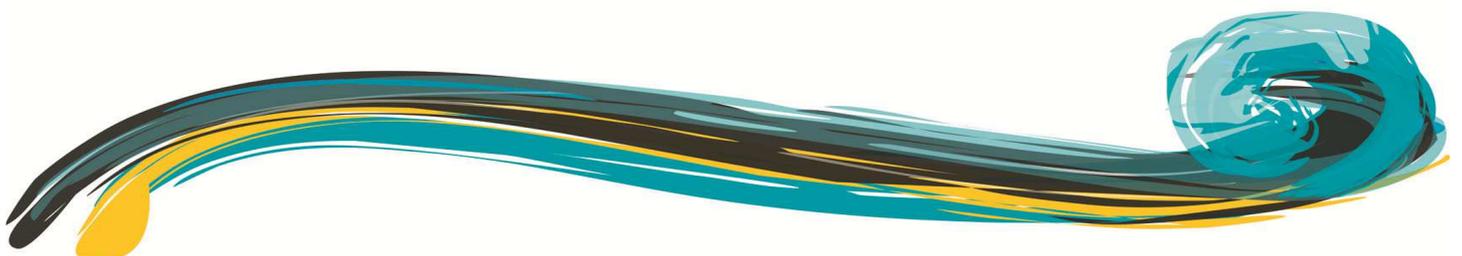
Tuesday 13 May	Language Conventions and Writing
Wednesday 14 May	Reading
Thursday 15 May	Numeracy
Friday 16 May	Catch up tests

No doubt, there will be lots of talk in the media as the NAPLAN testing program gets closer. This is often a topic of much debate and interest in the general community. If your child is involved in the NAPLAN tests, I ask that you keep the following in mind:

- We expect children to do their very best on the tests but NAPLAN tests do NOT count towards Report Card results or indeed, OP results later in schooling life.
- The best preparation for NAPLAN testing is good quality teaching and learning. Your child's teacher is well aware of the anticipated content of the tests and will do everything possible to ensure that your child is well prepared.
- Make sure your child has a good breakfast on testing days and make sure they arrive with plenty of time to spare. Children who arrive late will NOT be permitted to join in the test with their classmates.
- If your child is sick on NAPLAN test day/s, let the school know as soon as possible so that we can arrange for a catch up test if possible.
- If you have any concerns about your child's participation in NAPLAN tests, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or a member of the administration team.

Until next week ... Kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal



BILL NETTLE RUGBY LEAGUE CUP

On the last Friday of Term 1, Kirwan SS participated in the Bill Nettle Rugby League Challenge Day, held at Brothers Rugby League ground. Thirty-two Kirwan SS students represented our school in two league teams – one in the Open Tier competition and one in the Development team competition. Mr Savage, myself, Mrs Norford and a very supportive group of parents were all very proud of our players. The Open Tier team narrowly missed out on a spot in the grand final going down in the semi, 4 – 0, while the development team were competitive in every game. There is something special about our Kirwan sporting teams – all players displayed great sportsmanship and effort, and grew each game in their technique. Thank you also to our fantastic parents and families for your support; very much appreciated.



Kirwan Rugby League Team with Johnathan Thurston - April 3, 2014

The day before the carnival, Johnathan Thurston visited Kirwan and spoke to the players. He reminded the players of the things that go through his head before he makes a tackle, runs the ball, sets up a play and how he manages a win and a loss. Our players asked some very interesting and probing questions of JT. We all spoke of the strategies he gave us on the day of the carnival; good advice.

ADOPT A COWBOY PROGRAM

As you know, we value JT as our Adopted Cowboy. He visits our school each month. Mrs Newman (our Adopt a Cowboy Coordinator) works with teachers to arrange real life learning experiences for students during his visits. On his last visit last term, JT provided the motivation and real life examples for students to enrich their writing through brainstorming verb groups, noun groups, similes and metaphors (round his life as a professional sportsman). He had a ball and more importantly, our students ended up with fantastic ideas for their writing. Keep in mind that we use JT to sell the messages to all students that reading and writing is a MUST. It is also important to note that the Cowboys are the only NRL club that promote the Adopt a School program. Every Cowboy player is attached to a school and regularly visits during the season.



GOTCHAS

Our school values our school-wide Positive Behaviour Program. Research directly notes that positive reinforcement of desired behaviours has a greater impact on changing behaviour than negative influences or punishment. This morning I had a very positive conversation with a teacher who was excited about how much positive change she can see on playground duty when she hands out Gotchas to students who are doing the right things. At Kirwan we celebrate the positive, reward students who show effort and the desired behaviour, and also train students to understand what the desired behaviour looks like.

I look forward to a very productive term of learning in our wonderful safe and supportive school environment.

John Kratzmann – Deputy Principal

WELCOME BACK TO TERM 2

Firstly, a big thank you to those families and carers who came to the Preps' Easter Bonnet Parade on the last day of term one. It was great to see so many wonderfully creative bonnets. I know that the children had a great time parading their bonnets, not only to the families who came but to all the other students at our school.



Remember that every day counts and it is important for your child to attend school every day. I have included a chart which shows just how much school could be missed by absences over a few days and across the year. If your child is absent, please let the school/teacher know as soon as possible.

He/ She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>Half a year</u>
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 year</u>
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 Weeks per Year	Nearly <u>1 and a Half years</u>
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 Weeks per year	Over <u>2 and a Half years</u>

Tony Woodhouse – Deputy Principal

From the Head of Curriculum

Kirwan students in Years 4-7 are encouraged to participate in the 2014 ICAS program. Students wishing to participate in the 2014 ICAS program will need to complete the entry form and return with fees by Tuesday 6 May, 2014. Entry forms are available from the office or attached to the electronic edition of Kirnews.

WHAT IS ICAS? ICAS is a highly regarded assessment program for schools in English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing which enables schools to identify students' levels of academic performance. Schools and students receive comprehensive hard copy and online reports on their students' performance in each subject. Students also receive a certificate to recognise their achievement. Achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels:

1. **High Distinction** to the top 1% of students
2. **Distinction** to the next 10% of students
3. **Credit** to the next 25% of students
4. **Merit** to the next 10% of students
5. **Participation** to all other students

Results are also available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely. ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student's portfolio for future tertiary entrance or job opportunities.

Details of the 2014 tests, fees and dates are listed below.

Subject/Paper	School Years	Official Sitting Date	Entry fee, incl. GST
Science	4 – 7	4 June 2014	\$8.80
Writing	4 – 7	16-20 June 2014	\$18.70
Spelling	4 – 7	17 June 2014	\$12.10
English	4 – 7	29 July 2014	\$8.80
Mathematics	4 – 7	12 August 2014	\$8.80
			TOTAL (for all)
			\$57.20

For any further information, please contact Trish McEvey on 4799.1888 or pmcev2@eq.edu.au.

Kirwan Keepers



24 April	School ANZAC Service – 10:00am in the Shed
25 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
01 May	Fun Run
01 May	Year 6/7 Parent Committee Meeting – 2:00pm Staffroom
02 May	All Fun Run money due back
05-06 May	Mother's Day Stall
06 May	Defence Chat Group – 2:00pm in the Defence Room
13 May	Fete Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
20 May	P&C Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
29 May	800m Races & March Past
30 May	Kirwan Athletics Carnival
18 June	Champions Day
24 October	School Fete – 5:00-9:00pm

P&C Pieces

- **Reversible School Hats** are available from the uniform shop in F Block on Wednesday mornings from 8:15-8:45am. They are \$12 each and are in the four house colours. Stock is limited so get yours now ready for sports day.
- The **next P&C Meeting** will be held on Tuesday 20 May at 7:00pm in the staffroom.

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

Fete - 24 October 2014

- Our **next fete meeting** will be held on Tuesday 13 May at 7:00pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome.
- Have you asked your child what stall their class will be running at the fete?
- We are looking for donations of the following items which can be left with Kim at the Tuckshop:
 - Second hand books;
 - Pot plants;
 - Clean/label-free jars (jam, peanut butter, pasta sauce, coffee, etc);
 - Scrap material, paints, embroidery threads, cottons, beads & craft glue.

Mother's Day Stall

The Year 6/7 Parent Committee will be holding a Mother's Day Stall from 05 May – 06 May. Gifts will range in price from \$2 to \$5. Classes will be allocated times to attend and the stall will also be open before school from 8:15am.

Craft Group

The Craft Group will be meeting again on Tuesday 29 April at 9:00am. More help is needed, so please consider going along and getting your craft on. Contact Rosemary on 0409.123.649 for further details.

Indigenous News

The Kirwan Primary ANZAC service this year will be incorporating a NAIDOC theme – Serving Country: Centenary and Beyond. We will be honouring all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who have fought for our country. The service starts at 10:00am this Thursday 24 April.

Strong, Smart and Deadly.....Every day counts at Kirwan.

Michelle Lowe – Community Participation Officer

Tuckshop Talk

Apr 23	Sandra, Michelle (½ day)
Apr 24	Leanne, Leah, Emma (½ day)
Apr 25	Public Holiday
Apr 28	Helen, Brett
Apr 29	Jenni, Fiona

- There are no Slushies or Playwaters until further notice.
- Tuckshop DOES NOT ACCEPT foreign currency.

Defence News

- Welcome back to another exciting, jam-packed and fun-filled term!
 - We are having our School ANZAC Service on Thursday 24 April starting at 10:00am here at school in the Shed.
 - On Friday 25 April we are involved in the Thuringowa march. Please meet us at 9:45am in the carpark behind Shell Service Station. Full school uniform including hat, and a water bottle is a must. We will march along Thuringowa Drive to the Cenotaph where the ANZAC Service will take place.
 - Our first Chat Group this term will be held on Tuesday 06 May at 2:00pm in the Defence Room.
- See you all out and about...

Jenny & Leigh – DSTAs

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following students who participated in BMX in the NQ Games over the holidays.

Tyler Andersen	– GOLD MEDAL (10 Yr Boys)
	– GOLD MEDAL (8-10 Yr Boys Cruiser)
Jack Humphreys	– BRONZE MEDAL (9 Yr Boys)
	– 5 TH PLACE (8-10 Yr Boys Cruiser)
Jack Kenny	– 8 TH PLACE (9 Yr Boys)

Well done also to Tyler Andersen and Jack Humphreys who competed in the Qld Country Championships at Biloela in the holidays. Tyler placed 1st in 10 Yr boys and 3rd in 8-10 Yr Boys Cruiser. Jack placed 5th in 9 Yr boys and 9th in 8-10 Yr boys cruiser. Congratulations boys!!

Attn: All Keen Kirwan Runners & Cross Country Team

See details below for the Road Runners Cross Country Series - all keen students who are born 2004-2001 are welcome to come along and have a run! All members of the school cross country team - this is a good opportunity to practise the course.

The 7th annual Townsville Road Runners Northern Schools Cross Country Series is fast approaching.

This year the series will consist of two races to be conducted on Friday 2 and 9 May. It is intended that this series offers all Northern Region schools (primary and secondary) the chance to participate in trial cross country races prior to the interschool and regional events. This year both races will be conducted at Bicentennial Park.

Dates and Course Location – to be confirmed depending on course conditions and weather.

Race 1	Friday 2 May	Bicentennial Park Queens Rd
Race 2	Friday 9 May	Bicentennial Park Queens Rd

Start times

Students born 2002 – 2004:	Start time 3.45pm
Students born 1996 – 2001:	Start time 4.00pm

Distances - Age groups and distances are listed below:

Boys & Girls born 2004	2 Km
Boys & Girls born 2003	3 Km
Boys & Girls born 2002	3 Km
Boys & Girls born 2001	3 Km

Yours in sport...

Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher

PE News

THURINGOWA AND NQ SELECTION CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Isabella Sawyer for making the Thuringowa Netball team recently. Isabella will be competing at NQ trials early next term with the aim of being selected in the NQ team.

UPDATED FUN RUN AND CROSS COUNTRY TEAM SELECTION NEWS

Due to Townsville Primary School Sports changing the nomination date for our school competitors for the Interschool Cross Country we are able to use the Fun Run as our selection as previously planned. We were going to hold trials this Wednesday in order to get nominations in on time; however there is no need to do these trials.

Fun Run will be the selection process for the interschool cross country team. Year 4-7 students will run in their age groups and students who are 10-13 this year are eligible for selection.

Prep - Year 3 students will run in their year levels, so that the run is more about fun.

Fun Run will be held on Thursday 01 May. Year 4-7 students will run in the morning session and Prep – Year 3 in the middle session.

Yours in sport...

Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher

State Honours Ensemble Program Middle School

Ms Ashleigh Porter from our Music Department nominated some of our students in the State Honours Ensemble Program Middle School - Townsville. This well respected program has developed a reputation amongst teachers and students throughout Queensland. The program brings together the finest young musicians, from all schools, state, private and independent, under the tutelage of a team of eminent Conductors.

Congratulations to all students who were nominated and well done to the following students.

- Carlie Boyle – Clarinet – Successful
- Caleb Mario – Saxophone Tenor – Reserve
- Madison Naseda – Trombone – Successful
- Jennifer Reid – Clarinet – Successful
- Zoe Royan – Clarinet – Successful
- Ethan Smith – Trumpet – Reserve
- Franki Yates – Clarinet Bass – Successful

Year 6/7 Parent Committee

There will be a meeting next Thursday 01 May at 2:00pm in the staffroom to finalise the Mother's Day stall and discuss the venue for the end of year dinner dance. See you all there!