24 June 2014

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

With school holidays just around the corner, keeping busy little bodies and minds safe over the holidays becomes a top priority for many parents. Increasingly, at school, we are seeing many more incidents of cyberbullying and misuse of digital technology. Children are just so connected with each other these days that the opportunity to use the technology for the wrong reasons is ever present.

Last year, we invited members of the Australian Federal Police to the school to discuss being cybersmart with students, staff and parents. I will attempt to reproduce some of the main messages here but if you would like to explore the best up to date information about being cybersmart, then the website is: www.cybersmart.gov.au.

How parents can help children avoid the pitfalls of cyberbullying:

- Talk to them about cyberbullying before it happens. Work out strategies to address any potential issues and reassure your child that you will be there to support them.
- Advise your child not to reply to any messages from a bully. Often if bullies don’t receive a response they will give up.
- Learn how to block a bully so they are no longer able to make contact.
- Keep a record of harassing messages in case authorities become involved. Put them somewhere your child won’t continue to see them.
- Contact the website administrator or use the reporting function to ask for content to be removed or to report harassment.
- Talk to your child’s school if cyberbullying involves another student. The school should have a policy in place to help manage the issue.
- Remember that if your child has been involved in cyberbullying and seems distressed or shows changes in behaviour or mood it may be advisable to seek professional support, including through the Cybersmart Online Helpline at cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx.

How parents can help their child have positive experiences using social networking sites:

- Stay involved in your child’s use of new technology. Set up your own account and learn about privacy settings so you can understand how you can best protect your child. It can be fun for you too!
- Check the age restrictions for the social networking service or game. Some social networking sites (such as Club Penguin) are created especially for children under the age of 13, but most mainstream sites like Facebook, Instagram and others require the user to be 13 or older.
- Advise children to set their accounts to private so that only people they want to see it can view their information.
- Encourage children to think before they put anything online. Information posted online can be difficult or impossible to remove. An inappropriate image posted today can have a long term impact on their digital reputation.
- Show them how to set up location services on their phone so they are not inadvertently broadcasting their location.
- Remind children to be careful when making new friends online; people may not be who they say they are. Never arrange to meet an online friend unless a trusted adult is with them.
- Report any abuse or inappropriate content to the social networking site and show children how to do this too.
- Learn how to keep a copy of online conversations and how to block people prior to an issue occurring.

HEAD LICE

Please take the time over the holidays to check your children’s hair for head lice and treat appropriately. We have seen a spike in head lice infestation particularly in the junior school. Your assistance here is much appreciated by everyone.

NEIGHBOURS

At Kirwan, we enjoy the presence of some excellent neighbours who look out for our school during the holidays and weekends. Please be considerate of our neighbours, particularly those in OVERTON Circuit and take care not to block driveways of residents in this area.

Lastly, I wish everyone in the school community a safe and happy holiday. I look forward to seeing smiling faces back after the Winter vacation.

Until next semester ... Kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal
From the Deputy Principal - Tony Woodhouse

**WHAT A GREAT WEEK!!**

**UNDER 8’S DAY 2014**

Last week ended on what could be called ‘Fantastic Friday’. The day started with Under 8’s Day. All those students who attended this morning of activities thoroughly enjoyed themselves and demonstrated excellent behaviour. A BIG thank you to our teachers and teacher aides for their work organising and running the event and also a BIG thank you to those parents and carers who were able to assist (and join in) on the day.

Our Under 8’s activities were followed by a concert in the afternoon with performances from our choir, senior string ensemble and our concert band, who all sounded amazing!! A big thank you to Mr Curro and Mrs Ransom for organising the concert and a big thank you also to our instrumental music teachers and all our performers. If your student is interested in learning an instrument (Year 3 and up for strings and Year 5 and up for woodwind, brass and percussion) or joining our choir, please see Mr Curro in the music room.

It goes to show what a great school Kirwan is and how proud everyone should be.

**KIRWAN MORNING**

In the mornings, all students who arrive at school before 8:30am will need to sit and wait in the shed area. We have some students who wait near and around CPA3 and the classrooms. If you could remind your child that they should make their way to the shed area when they arrive at school and wait to be released by the staff member on duty at 8:30am. Thank you for your support with this.

**WHILST ON HOLIDAYS….**

Give your child lots of opportunities to read. Inspire your young reader to read every day. I have included some different ways to inspire your young reader (and to make reading fun and enjoyable).

1. Take books with you if you are going away. If your child has a favourite book or magazine, and you have a visit somewhere, take the book with you. It certainly helps pass the time!
2. Play word games. Find a word in the story and change it or substitute it for another. If the word is fat, change it to ‘thin’ or something silly. Do this every time the word appears. See how it changes the story.
3. Create a book together. Get some blank paper and some photos (the cheesy ones are best) and get them to write and create their own book. For older students, get them to write about the people or images they see in the background.
4. Read to one another. If you have a few children, get them to read to each other.
5. Seven sentence stories - this is better for older students. See if they can summarise a story in seven sentences.

**Have a safe break and we’ll see everyone in Term 3.**

*Tony Woodhouse – Deputy Principal*

**NQ Selection**

Congratulations to Kaya Anapa (U12) and Harley Taylor and Jonathan Alfred (U11) on their selection in the NQ Rugby League teams for their respective ages. Well done boys and good luck at the State Trials!

**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Jayden Parker of 2B who competed in the Gymnastics Grand Prix in Mackay over the weekend. Jayden won 5 gold medals including overall champion. Well done Jayden!

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From the Deputy Principal - Tricia Winter

**THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN TERM 3!**

More information to follow next term.

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**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 | Lorenzo Gee-Hoy | 3B | Baillie Teeneey |
| PrepB | Xavier Lozanic  | 3C | Connor Van Antwerp |
| PrepC | Ethan McCarr    | 3D | Danielle Melvin |
| PrepD | Emma Conroy     | 3E | Harley Pool     |
| PrepE | Isaac Ward      | 4A | El Ober         |
| 1A   | Ty Ayres-Robson | 4A | Ethan Finlay    |
| 1C   | Telifah Langford| 4B | Melissa Fraser  |
| 1D   | Madison Pickering| 4C| Olivia Wood |
| 1E   | Ellie Armstrong | 4D | Chloe Leanes    |
| 2A   | Aaliyah Hipworth| 5B | Emma Manning    |
| 2B   | Bridie Marshall | 5D | Tenason Stark   |
| 2D   | Lara Parter     | 6A | Chelsea Firth  |
| 2E   | Mason Locke     | 6B | Carlie James    |
| 2D   | Tyler Denham    | 6C | Chelssey Garcia |
| 2E   | Cloe Manning    | 6C | Jack Little     |
| 2E   | Brok Lythgo     | 6D | Shaneesha Harrison |
| 2E   | Xavier Dotta    | 6E/C| Zoe Royan |
| 3A   | Lorafina Alfred | 7B | Marcus Cowan    |
| 3A   | Shaun Phillips  | 7B | Jennifer Hepburn |

**French News**

This term has been a very busy one for French students. Merci to all students who participated in the Alliance Francaise French poetry competition and Julie Ratliff prize for a 300 word Franch speech. Annie Hiller and Brooke Stanek were joint 1st in the Julie Ratliff prize and competed against students from Years 6 to 10. Madison Noseda and Chumane Botha received a Certificate de Participation in the Prix Julie Ratliff.

Felicitation to Ryan Graham who came 3rd in the poetry competition. Merci to all the students who participated - Ethan Smith, Jazmine Shaw, Brooke Stanek, Sophie Jones, Zoe Royan, Josh Smart, Caleb Mario, Chumane Botha, Jennifer Hepburn, Jennifer Reid, Jovana Dixon, Hayley Fraser, Tyler Caris, Hannah Pettit, Danielle Price, Demica Targett, Willow Simmons, Sasha Taylor, Willow Hills-Amory and Madison Noseda.

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**Mademoiselle Smart – French Teacher**

**Lost Black Cardigan**

Hi! I’m Alice from 3A and on Monday last week I took my cardigan off at 1st Break and left it in my eating area. I remembered when I got back to class that I hadn’t picked up my cardigan so my teacher let me go to collect it but someone had already picked it up. Unfortunately I took it to school without my Mum putting my name on it. If you have a black Size 8, Ladies “Peter Morrissey” cardigan, with elastic across the back about waist height, rolled type collar and it’s not yours can you please return it.

I have been looking in the lost property bins all week and it hasn’t been put in there. I would appreciate whoever took it to return the cardigan to me, as I am getting cold and would like my cardigan for the coming months.

Thanks...

*Alice 3A*
Kirwan Kindergarten - 2015 Enrolments

C&K Kirwan Kindergarten, located on the Kirwan State School grounds, will be offering positions shortly for kindergarten next year. If you have a child who is eligible for Pre-Prep by turning 4 by 30 June, you are welcome to drop in to fill out a waiting list form, or you can fill out the form on the C&K website. C&K Kindergartens have qualified teachers who provide an amazing learning environment for your child in the year before formal schooling. Our parents have been very happy with their child’s kindergarten year. We look forward to seeing you.

Miss Julie & Miss Judi (Co-Directors/Teachers)

P&C Pieces

• The next P&C general meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 July at 7:00pm in the staffroom. See you all there!

Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary

Important Dates - Prep Enrolments 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>Prep Bookings Open</th>
<th>Prep Interviews with Admin</th>
<th>Prep Information Sessions</th>
<th>Prep Come and Try Day</th>
<th>Whole School Transition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-19 September</td>
<td></td>
<td>30 Oct</td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>30 October</td>
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Important Information About Lost Property

As we keep accumulating a huge amount of lost property we are asking parents to check for belongings as we will be donating un-named items forthnightly to charity. The Lost Property bins are located near Admin. LOST PROPERTY WILL BE DONATED TO CHARITY THIS FRIDAY IF NOT COLLECTED.

Defence News

Hi everyone... Have a very happy and safe break and we will see you next term feeling refreshed and energised! Take care to everyone here and abroad. See you all out and about...

Jenny & Leigh - DSTAs

Last day of Term 2 is Friday 27 June. First day of Term 3 is Monday 14 July.

Term and Vacation Times for 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term Dates</th>
<th>Vacation Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>05 Apr – 21 Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>28 June – 13 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>20 Sept – 06 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>13 Dec – 26 Jan 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>03 Apr – 19 Apr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>27 June – 12 July</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>19 Sept – 05 Oct</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>12 Dec – 24 Jan 2016</td>
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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.l.sawyer@bigpond.com

OFFICE HOURS STRICTLY
8:00AM – 3:30PM

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