25 February 2014

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

MEET AND GREET IS DEFINITELY ON TONIGHT

• Meet and Greet Parent information sessions Tuesday 25 February from 5:30pm until 6:00pm AND 6:10pm until 6:40pm.
• P&C Meeting Tuesday 25 February from 7:00pm.

All are very welcome to attend. I particularly welcome new families to the P&C. This will be a big year with two lots of Senior Students and a school fete. Willing helpers will enjoy the company of other like-minded parents and the satisfaction that comes with pitching in to help a good cause.

SCHOOL LEADERS

Yesterday, we celebrated the induction of our school leaders for 2014. I would like to particularly thank the Mayor, Councillor Jenny Hill and Cowboys Representative, Mr Dallas Johnson, for their presence at this ceremony. Our school leaders acquitted themselves particularly well, speaking confidently in front of the assembly and speaking with pride about their school. I look forward to a positive and committed student body working to support the Kirwan State School Community in 2014 – a year which promises to be a year of firsts and lasts.

PARKING AT SCHOOL

While I acknowledge that, just like most other schools in urban areas, we have some congestion around the access roads from about 2:45pm until 3:05pm, I am pleased that MOST parents adopt a sense of patience and care. I do, however, receive reports from time to time, about illegal parking and unsafe behaviours around our school.

Under no circumstances are parents to use the staff or admin car parks during drop off or pick up time. The staff carpark is locked during this time. (This excludes parents who come very early or very late to drop children off at Outside School Hours Care.) The keyhole car park is only to be used by emergency vehicles and delivery vehicles.

Please have patience and follow road rules around our school. These guidelines are largely in place to prevent accidents and keep our children safe.

LEM

Last week, our new teachers were introduced to our school LEM phonics program. I was also pleased to note that a group of parents were keen to learn more about this program with Greg O’Keefe last week. We have achieved some fantastic success with this program over the last 4 years and I am looking forward to some more sensational results this year. If you have questions about the program, I suggest that you save them for your Parent Teacher Interview in weeks 9 and 10 of this term. Our teachers will be only too happy to suggest ways that you can assist your child to be a better speller and decoder.

Until next week ... kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal
From the Deputy Principal - John Kratzmann

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Our entire staff is focusing on rewarding students who use our school’s toilets appropriately. For example, students who walk in and out, take an appropriate amount of time (during class), are reported by (their peers) that they have used the soap dispensers sensibly when washing hands and in general are found to respect the amenities, may receive a ‘green gotcha’. As a school, we will also focus on lining up after eating times and walking wonderfully in lines around the school. Make sure you ask your child about the ‘green gotchas’. If they get one, celebrate it, congratulate them, and reinforce the high expectations we have for each and every child here at Kirwan.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

On behalf of our school staff, students and community, thank you to all parents, carers and friends who use their common sense and patience when dropping off and collecting students from our school. It is important:

- to follow correct road rules and signs, 
- be patient – 1 minute here and there is okay, 
- demonstrate respect and responsibility to your children, and 
- use the designated parking spots only if you have the correct permits.

Please keep in mind that, in the best interests of our students, our car parks will be closed in the afternoon. As a reminder as well, please only park in the Good Start Early Learning car park if you are picking up students from Good Start. It is not a car park for collection of Kirwan students.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP INDUCTION

On Monday we officially presented badges to our student leaders for 2014. It was easy to be proud of our school. At the induction ceremony:

- we presented our Year 6 and 7 School Captains, Music Captains, Sports Leaders, Student Councillors and Junior School Helpmates with badges recognising their positions; 
- Mayor Jenny Hill, Cowboy Dallas Johnson, our music specialist Sharon Ransom and Principal Mrs Jackson presented varying student awards; 
- we had 120 parents and over 500 students in our hall – all displaying exemplary manners; and 
- the morning was a credit to our school team – a huge thank you to all who contributed to a very successful morning.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support of our school leadership program. We value student leadership at all levels and appreciate the guidance, advice, reassurance and support you give your children every day.

See you tonight at our meet and greet.

John Kratzmann – Deputy Principal

From the Deputy Principal - Tony Woodhouse

READING TO YOUR CHILD

It is important to make reading aloud to your child part of your daily routine. Set aside a regular time every day, find a comfortable place without any distractions, and choose something interesting to read together.

- Things to do before reading
  - Encourage your child to select the book. Give them a pile of well-known books so they can choose which one will be read aloud.
  - Familiarise yourself with the book as this will make you a better storyteller. Take a minute to look over the book before you share it with your child.
  - Settle your child down and talk a little about the book, e.g. “This story looks as if it is going to be funny.”
  - Browse through the book so your child becomes familiar with books and how they are handled, e.g. holding the book the right way, turning the pages.

- Things to do when reading
  - Read clearly. Make the story interesting by exaggerating expressions for different character voices and sounds; the more dramatic the better. You may like to add simple props so your child can identify with different characters or act out parts of the story.
  - Hold the book so your child can see the pictures and writing.
  - Sometimes let your child hold the book and turn the pages.
  - Draw attention to the pictures.
  - Point to the words as you read.
  - Ask and answer questions as needed.

- Encourage your child to join in and ‘read’ too. Invite him or her to describe pictures, ‘read’ pages or join in with words that are repeated.

- Accept and praise your child’s attempts to ‘read’.

- Things to do after reading
  - Talk about the characters and what happened in the book.
  - Help your child tell the story from the pictures.

When you read easy books, your child will soon be joining in with you. When you read more advanced books, you instil a love of stories and you build the motivation that encourages children to become lifelong readers.

PARENT AND CARERS MEET AND GREET

We look forward to a big turn out of parents and carers to one of the most important days on the school calendar - a time to meet with your child’s teacher to discuss the learning and the standards of their year level, the class routines and expectations and to build a strong partnership between the home and the school, working together to ensure that each child thrives and excels. Meeting other staff and parents also builds our school community. We look forward to seeing you.

Have a great week!

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 Julius Bogdanek 3B Felicity Thompson
PrepB Jackson Steel 3B Danika Poole
PrepC Noah Jubbs 3C Ella McCarthy
PrepD Chase Hines 3C Tshana Steen
PrepE Toby Manders 3D Danielle Melvin
Prep/F/1F Chloe Anderson 3E Dylan Mundy
1A Kye Fish 4A Ethan Finlay
1B Paula Doherty 4A Isabella Johnson-Briggs
1C Jack Wiese 4B Zachary Harrod
1D Ethan Jorgensen 4D Pheebe Kellihir
1E Bonnie-Jane McBride 5A Joewena Cruz
2A Rawiri Roberts 5C Madison Mitchell
2B Ammon Phineasa 5D Lachlan McCulloch
2C Jaylin Tomoe 6A Abigail Cains
2C Makayla Armstrong 6B Shinae Bloye
2D Ryan White 6C Tipene Treacy
2E Nathaniel Kimber 6C Ashlyn Clarke
3A Curtis Spence 6D Brooke Stanek

Year 7 Talbudgera Camp Deposit Due Friday

The Year 7 Talbudgera Camp deposit of $300 is due this Friday 28 February. Mrs Brodie is booking the flights on Saturday. The remaining balance will be due the beginning of Term 3. You will be invoiced for this remaining balance when final costing is determined.

Kkirwan leepers

Kirkwood Park

25 February........ Parent Teacher Information Sessions – 5:30pm & 6:10pm
25 February..........P&C General Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
04 March..............Fete Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
05 March..............Run Novely/Interhouse Swimming Carnival
11 March...............Defence Parent Chat Group – 2:00pm Defence Room
18 March...............Interschool Swimming Carnival
18 March............ P&C Annual General Meeting – 7:00pm in the Staffroom
28 March........... Student Resource Scheme paid in full by
01/02 April .................School photos
04 April .................Photo Day of Term 1
22 April .................First Day of Term 2
24 October .............School Fete – 5:00-9:00pm

L. P&C Pieces

When walking around the school grounds please use the designated pathways.
This is part of our school’s Workplace Health and Safety Policy.

SafeST Committee Email Address
For any safety concerns email: safety@kirwanes.qld.edu.au

When walking around the school grounds please use the designated pathways.
**Fete in 2014**

This year we will be holding our fete on Friday 24 October from 5:00pm-9:00pm. We will be having a meeting on Tuesday 04 March at 7:00pm in the staffroom. Helping with the fete is fun and rewarding. You get to meet new people and make great friends so if you would like to help out in any way, big or small, please come along.

**Defence News**

- Our next Parent Chat Group will be on Tuesday 11 March starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room. Babies and toddlers most welcome. If you have a school or defence related matter, please come in and see us or leave a message for us at the office.
- See you all out and about...

  *Jenny & Leigh– DSTAs*

**Money Collection Window**

Please use the money envelope box in the BSM's window to put all monies and forms. If paying by card, you will need to pay at the front office.

**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.

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**School Photos**

**Tuesday 1 April & Wednesday 2 April 2014**

Money envelopes will be distributed on 4 March. Students are to bring envelopes on or preferably before Photo Day. Sibling photo envelopes will also be available for students at the school.

**Tuckshop Talk**

Feb 26 Sandra, Carol, Michelle (½ day)
Feb 27 Leah, Emma
Feb 28 Belinda, Jo
Mar 03 Brett
Mar 04 Jenni, Fiona

- PLEASE NOTE: There are no Slushies. We are currently waiting on parts for the machine which will be 6-8 weeks away.
- Tuckshop DOES NOT ACCEPT foreign currency or play money!!
- There are no Playwaters.

**2014 Interhouse Swimming Carnival**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date: Wednesday 05 March</th>
<th>Venue: Kirwan Aquatics Centre (beside Kirwan High School)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost: $3-80 (pool entry and bus fare)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Depart School</th>
<th>Swimming Times</th>
<th>Depart Pool</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>8:50am</td>
<td>9:00am – 9:45am</td>
<td>9:45am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>9:35am</td>
<td>9:45am – 10:30am</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>10:30am – 11:15am</td>
<td>11:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>11:05am</td>
<td>11:15am – 12:00noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>11:50am</td>
<td>12:00noon – 12:45pm</td>
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Important points to note:
- The permission form, medical form and money should be returned before 05 March.
- Students will change into their swimming gear before they board the bus and change back into their uniforms when they return to school.
- All students need to have a swim shirt to swim in. If they do not have one, they will not be able to swim.
- Students will also need a towel, hat, sunscreen and water bottle.
- Each year level will spend 45 minutes at the pool and will be engaged in novelty events only.
- Students will use the lanes in the shallow area of the pool.
- There will be no free swim time or playing on water slides.
- Year 6/7C class will be attending the Year 7 carnival together.
- Students in Years 4 and 5 ordering lunch at first break should write on their order that they are swimming. Lunches can be collected upon their return to school.
- Students not going to the carnival will stay at school and join another class.

*Emma Talbot – HPE Teacher*

**Office Hours Strictly 8:00am – 3:30pm**

*All graphics supplied by Microsoft and Eureka*

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**Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary**

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**Kirwan’s email address:** admin@kirwanss_eq.edu.au  Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888