27 May 2014

From The Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Those of you who have been a part of the Kirwan Community for the last couple of years may remember that I raised the question of Independent Public Schooling (IPS) for Kirwan State School as part of the Quadrennial School Review process last year.

While our consultation last year was a starting point, with the new round of IPS school applications not far around the corner, I would like to raise this question once again with the school community.

Included in this newsletter is a Frequently Asked Questions brochure regarding Independent Public Schools in Queensland. I urge all families to read this brochure in the next week and discuss the merits (or otherwise) of Kirwan State School seeking to become an Independent Public School.

In the next week, I will include an online survey and a written survey asking families for their response to this question.

A few quick facts:

• Townsville currently has 3 Independent Public Schools – Kirwan State High School, Pimlico State High School, Hermit Park State School;
• Becoming an Independent Public School would mean the formation of a “School Council” (a separate body to the P&C) whose focus would be strategic direction of the school;
• Kirwan State School would continue to operate in a very similar manner to the way it does now. Indeed, some people might find it hard to see the difference. We already champion innovation and autonomous decisions.

I will be discussing this at the next P&C meeting. Please come along to that meeting if you would like to have some personal input.

Until next week ... Kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal
The “Bullying. No Way!” website is accessed through three portals - one each for students, parents (and teachers):

- The Student Portal contains two spaces with content for students 13 years and younger, and for students 14 years and older. Each space contains facts, information about what students can do, advice for students to consider and where students may go to seek assistance or further information.
- The Parent Portal provides information about bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in schools. The information includes facts and tips about what to do and who to talk to.

**CYBER SAFETY**

The internet, mobile phones and instant messaging provide wonderful opportunities for children to learn, be creative and socialise online. They also provide opportunities for inappropriate behaviour, bullying and harassment to occur - causing pain and suffering to the targets of such behaviour.

It is important to be aware of what your child is seeing or doing when online. For more information visit: http://education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/behaviour/qsaav/nto-parents.html.

This site has some great information about how you can keep your child safe online and what to do when your child is cyber bullied.

Another great site with some very useful information, videos and games and quizzes, all designed for students of different ages, is the Cyber [Smart:] website. Please visit http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/default.aspx.

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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**
- Steven Griffiths 3C
- Boylee Love

**PrepB**
- Sacha Fish 3D
- Isra Tschirpig

**PrepC**
- Aston Tschirpig 3E
- Jai Clark

**PrepC**
- Kiya Vaysey 3F
- Shazlyn Julian-iva

**PrepD**
- Zane Dempsey 4A
- Ella Shepherd

**PrepE**
- Kayla Wilson 4A
- Tyler Andersen

**Prep/1F**
- Nathaniel Rodway 4B
- Jack Humphreys

**1A**
- Morgan Cupo 4C
- Saida Tracey

**1B**
- Ava Shavona 4D
- Piper Jones

**1C**
- Samantha Channell 5B
- Isaac Geue

**1D**
- Shanay Cox 5C
- Jazmin Corbet

**1E**
- Dyllion Bowman 5D
- Christian Hensman

**2B**
- Beau Reynolds 6A
- Savana Eppignton

**2C**
- Matilda Jarvis 6B
- Trent Wessels

**2D**
- Jacob Wood 6C
- Heath Jones

**2E**
- Andrew Jenner 6D
- Byron Austin

**3A**
- Bree McCaillon 6E/7C
- Leilani Quirkie

**3B**
- Chloe Bellman 7B
- Franki Yates

**3C**
- Jai Cope 7B
- Antonia Lynam

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**Renowned Townsville Artist Visits Year 2B**

Renowned Townsville Artist Anna Mango visited Year 2B as part of the Artist in a Suitcase Creative Classroom Program. Anna brought with her, art works held in the Perc Tucker Regional Gallery collection. They included works by Australian artists John Coburn, Robert Preston, Matthew Clark and New Zealand artist HAHA. Students created their own fantastic art works using line and colour. Their art works will go on display in June at the Perc Tucker Gallery.
Fete - 24 October 2014

A huge thank you to Mr Sam Cox MP and Barbeques Galore for their kind donation of a Weber BBQ. For all your BBQ, camping and outdoor needs, please support those who support us.

Barbeques Galore Thuringowa
Ryland Place, 70 Hervey Range Road
Thuringowa Central Qld 4817

Monday - Friday: 9:00am-5:30pm
Saturday: 9:00am-4:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am-3:00pm

Tommie collecting our BBQ from Barbeques Galore

P&C Pieces

- The next P&C general meeting is on Tuesday 17 June at 7:00pm in the staffroom. See you all there!
- Don’t forget to get your Reversible School Hat in your house colour for sports day this Friday. 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 this Friday. Helpers are needed to sell on the day.
- Our next Parent meeting will be on Thursday 05 June at 2:00pm in the Staffroom.
- The Dinner Dance note is due back TOMORROW!

Tuckshop Talk

May 28 Sandra, Carol, Michelle (½ day)
May 29 Leanne, Leah, Emma (½ day)
May 30 Sports Day
June 02 Mad Murdock Monday
June 03 Jenni, Fiona

- There are no Shakes or Playwaters 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.
- See you all out and about...

Jenny & Leigh – DSTAs

Kirwan's email address: admin@kirwanss.eq.edu.au
Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888