



# KIRNEWS

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04 November 2014

## From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

### FETE FEEDBACK

My sincere apologies to Mrs Michelle Lowe, one of our amazing fete conveners; unfortunately, I inadvertently left your name out of my congratulations and thanks last week. Well done Mrs Lowe. We couldn't have done it without you.

### PLANNING FOR TRANSITION

If you are new to our school, then you may not be aware of our end of year procedures regarding transitions. On Monday 8 December in the morning session, all children at Kirwan State School and some new students for 2015 who are coming from other Townsville schools, spend the morning in a classroom which could be theirs in 2015.

This means that, for example, all Year 1s go to a Year 2 class with a Year 2 teacher.

All Year 3s go to a Year 4 classroom with a Year 4 teacher.

All Year 5s go to Year 6 class with a Year 6 teacher etc., etc.

New Preppies for 2015 will also be part of the program, joining us for the morning to spend a prep morning with their new teacher in 2015. Year 6s and 7s will be spending the day in transition at Kirwan State High School if that is their chosen school for 2015. Year 6 and 7 students who do not wish to attend the Kirwan State High School transition are expected at school as per usual.

A few notes about this arrangement:

- We spend a great deal of time and effort to make balanced classes, taking into consideration a range of factors in making our decisions about class groupings for 2015.
- We do our very best to make the transition day class groupings as close as possible to the real thing for 2015 but, as many of you might know, given fluctuating enrolments over the Christmas vacation, sometimes we are forced to form new classes and move students across to other classes if numbers in one class become unbalanced.
- If your child has to move classes next year, we will do this as quickly as possible and with as little disruption as possible. Classes for the start of the year will be posted on the windows of the admin block from about 20 January. You are free to come in and check to see where your child is placed. Please remember that no classes are final until AFTER DAY 8 as it is our enrolment at 11:00am on Day 8 of the school year which determines our staffing for the year.

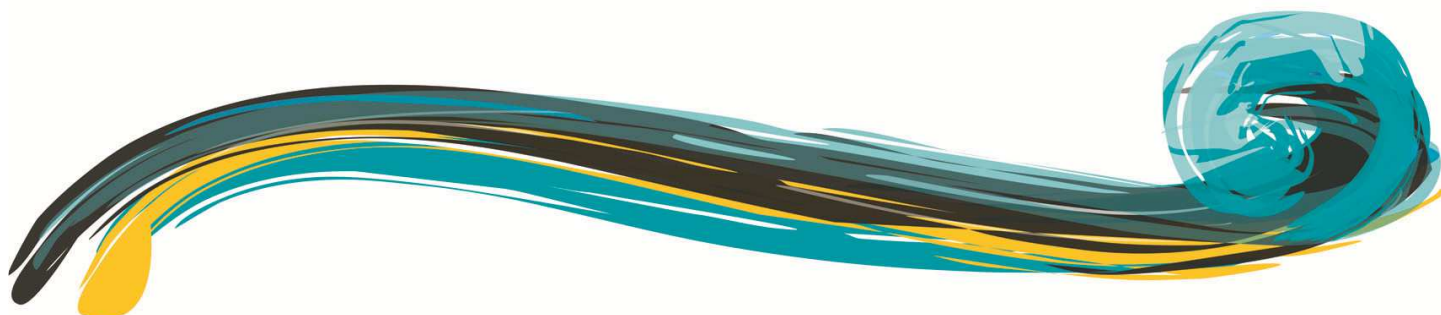
### MINISTER'S VISIT

This Thursday 6 November, we are very privileged to be receiving a visit from the Honourable Minister for Education, Mr John Paul Langbroek. Minister Langbroek will be in the school for approximately an hour looking at some of the fantastic programs which we are able to offer students including our Author in Residence, Inquiry Cycles for Teachers, LEM and Dance Troupe.

I look forward to showcasing the school on your behalf.

Until next week ... Kind regards

**Melissa Jackson**  
Principal



## From the Deputy Principal - Tony Woodhouse

### ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY?

We issue a lot of newsletters each week with over 300 electronic newsletters being emailed to parents. This saves time, paper, and ensures you get the newsletter every week. Contact the office to join the list.

### JUST A REMINDER...

The keyhole staff car park is not for pick-up and drop-offs. This area can become very easily congested and can make it difficult for taxis and emergency services. Thank you for assisting with this.

### GET SET FOR PREP

Last week, we held two information sessions and a come and try morning for our preppies coming to Kirwan in 2015. It was great to see all of our new preppies settle right into the morning routine and make new friends.

If you know of anyone who has not yet contacted the school to enrol their child for prep next year, it would be appreciated if you could remind them. This assists us greatly in preparing our classes for next year.

### HELPING WITH HOMEWORK



Homework is a common expectation for most students. Reading is the most valuable homework item a child can do and should become a daily habit. Parents can help children develop sound study habits from a young age which include establishing a predictable routine, encouraging effective use of time and helping them to be organised.

### Bright Ideas

- *Establish a predictable routine.* If homework is done at the same time each night, getting started is usually less of an issue.
- *Make homework time as enjoyable as possible.* When sharing a book, make yourself comfortable, be involved in the story and enjoy yourself. Don't make reading a test.
- *Establish a good working environment for students.* Make sure they have a quiet area (away from distractions) that is well lit and with good ventilation. A table or a desk makes a good work space.
- *Encourage children to work reasonably quickly and efficiently.* Have a set time limit which they should stick to. A little work each night is more productive than packing it all into one weekly session.
- *Encourage children to become organised by planning homework around their extra-curricular activities.* A weekly planner or diary will help older students to organise themselves.
- *Keep explanations simple and practical when helping a child.* If they become upset or frustrated and the atmosphere becomes tense, stop helping.
- *If your child has a problem, talk about the best way to find a solution.* Perhaps between the two of you it can be worked out.
- *Be realistic and don't expect to solve all homework difficulties.* When in doubt send a note to your child's teacher letting him/her know the problem. They will appreciate being informed.

*Tony Woodhouse - Deputy Principal*

## Sunbus Passes – Message from Sunbus

Parents, please be advised you are able to pick up your children's bus passes from 19.01.15 from the Sunbus office at 451-459 Woolcock Street in Garbutt. Opening hours are 8:00am to 4:30pm. Sunbus will not mail the passes, as they had so many missing ones this year. If you have any questions please contact Sunbus on 4771 9800.



## Book Fair - This Week!!

Our school will once again be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair. The Fair will run from 10-14 November. The fair will be open in the Resource Centre during the following times:



**8:00 – 8:45am (Monday to Friday)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Breaks (Monday to Friday)**  
**3:00 – 4:00pm (Tuesday till Thursday)**

This fair will be full of fantastic titles and items suitable for all ages just in time for Christmas. All purchases at this fair support our school Library.

*Resource Centre Staff*

## 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	Jacqueline Bell	2E	Emily Yule
PrepA	Bree Hughes	3A	Talik MacDonald
PrepB	Holly Richards	3B	Kaylee Steel
PrepB	Lathan King	3B	Alex Trueman
PrepC	Isabel Szymanski	3C	Danielle Hopkins
PrepC	Ethan Whitney	3D	Sarah Rogers
PrepE	Cruz Shelton	4A	Ethan Finlay
PrepF/1F	Chloe Verhaaf	4A	Cobey Sawyer
1A	Isadora Rayment	4B	Jessica Sinclair
1B	John Davis	5C	Monique Kelliher
1C	Sarah Murdoch	5C	Lilly-May Voysey
1D	Emily Kenny	5D	Sammi Cheadle
1E	Jazmyn Aleo	6B	Danielle Connolly
1E	Madison Stevens	6C	Tahlia Spratt
2A	Izaiah Cutmore	6C	Meah Johnson
2C	Cooper Hovasapian	6D	Ryan Birbeck
2D	Lucy-Anne Thomas	7B	Gabrielle Cowley
2D	Ryan White	7B	Darian Murdock
2E	Nathaniel Kimber	7B	Tyson Stankovich

## From the Deputy Principal – Trish McEvey

### AUTHORS IN RESIDENCE

This week Kirwan is hosting two of our Authors in Residence, Boori Pryor and Sally Murphy. We are very privileged to host these two Australian authors and our students are very excited. Sally Murphy's texts, *Pearl versus the World*, *Roses are Blue*, and *Toppling* have all been studied to varying degrees with our Year 4 and 6 students. Our Year 5 students have worked with Boori's *Shake-A-Leg* text earlier this year and our Year 6 students have been studying *My Girragunji*, and our Year 7 students studied *Binna Binna Man*. Later this week they will participate in workshops with Boori and culminate the event with a Trivia Quiz focused on these texts.

### LIFE EDUCATION REMINDER



A reminder that **The Life Education Mobile Learning Centre** has been organised to visit **Kirwan State School** from **14 November – 2 December**. Please return your envelope with the \$7.00 cost (cash only) for your child to attend.

If you have misplaced the envelope simply write your child's name, class and Life Education fees on an envelope containing the relevant money.

The program roll out for classes will be organised once numbers have been established; and published in KIRNEWS on Tuesday 11 November.

*Trish McEvey – Acting Deputy Principal*

## Icy Cup Fundraiser for Leukaemia Foundation's "Shave for a Cure 2015"

Alice Edgerton from 3A is selling icy cups at the Shed on Friday afternoons for 50c each.



It is to raise money for the World's Greatest Shave. Alice is hoping to raise \$1000 before March next year before she shaves her head.

Leukaemia is a blood cancer that can affect anyone, anytime and any age.

World's Greatest Shave raises about half the money the Leukaemia Foundation needs to fund its important work, providing practical and emotional support to families facing blood cancer, as well as investing in life-saving research.

**\$27** can provide a pack to help someone understand their disease and the challenges ahead.

**\$36** can give emotional support to help someone overcome the initial shock of being diagnosed.

**\$58** can provide free transport to someone who is too ill to drive before and after chemotherapy.

**\$80** can give a regional family a free place to stay close to treatment in the city, for one night.

**\$120** can fund a scholarship to give essential support to a major blood cancer research project, for one day.

Donations can also be made at <http://www.worldsgreatestshave.com.au/>

Search for Alice Edgerton to make a donation.

Thank you for your support.



06 November . Year 6/7 Parent Committee Meeting – 2:00pm Staffroom  
 14 Nov – 02 Dec ..... Life Education Visit to Kirwan SS  
 18 November ..... Defence Parent Chat Group – 2:00pm Defence Room  
 18 November ..... P&C Dinner & Meeting – 6:30pm @ Kirwan Tavern  
 08 December ..... Prep Come and Try Day - 9:15-10:50am  
 08 December ..... Whole School Transition Day  
 08 December ..... Kirwan Christmas Concert  
 10 December ..... Year 6/7 Graduation  
 10 December ..... Report Cards issued  
 10 December ..... Year 6/7 Dinner Dance  
 12 December ..... Last day of Term 4  
 27 January 2015 ..... First day of Term 1 2015

**P&C Pieces**

- Our final meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 18/11/14 commencing at 6.30pm with dinner at the Kirwan Tavern followed by the meeting.
- Kirwan Christmas Concert – the P&C will once again be selling refreshments at the concert. There will be a sausage sizzle, drinks, chips, popcorn and ice-creams. A price list will be published closer to the event.

*Laurelle Jones – P&C Secretary*

**Tuckshop Talk**

Nov 05 Carol, Fiona, Sandra, Michelle (½ day)  
 Nov 06 Leanne, Leah  
 Nov 07 Jo, Belinda  
 Nov 10 Brett, Leanne  
 Nov 11 Jenni

- A BIG thank you to Belinda Green, Leanne Blad, Sandra Sellen, Michelle Lowe, Laurelle Jones, Tammie Jones, Helen Murdoch, Jo Ohl and Emma Watt for their effort in helping Tuckshop during the Fete week.
- There are no Slushies or Playwaters.

**Defence News**

- Hi everyone...
- Our next Parent Chat Group will be on Tuesday 18 November starting at 2:00pm in the Defence Room.
- The Defence Children's Christmas Party is on at Geckos on 22 November from 1500h-1800h. Cost is \$25 per child. RSVP to Geckos at Lavarack on 4411.7031 before 07 November.
- Carols at Lavarack is on Friday 28 November from 1800h at Geckos. BBQ, food and drinks available for purchase.
- See you all out and about...

*Jenny & Leigh - DSTAs*

**Are You Transferring?**

It's that time of the year again! The end of the school year is in sight and many of our students will be transferring to new locations. If you happen to be one of those families who know that you will be relocating at the end of the year, (or think you may be), we would love to hear from you. We ask that you fill the form out at the end of Kirnews and return it to the school office for processing. This will help in the smooth running of the office and with the great load of paperwork at this very hectic time of the year. Thank you.

**Year 6/7 Parent Committee**

- Dinner Dance notes have gone home. Payment is required by 07 November if your child wishes to attend. The Dinner Dance is being held on Wednesday 10 December at the Mecure Inn.
- The next Year 6/7 Parent Committee meeting is on Thursday 06 November at 2:00pm in the Staffroom.
- **CHOCOLATES AND MONEY ARE NOW OVERDUE!** If you haven't returned your chocolate money please do so ASAP!

**Dental Van On-Site**

The Dental Van is currently on-site. Year 6 and Year 7 students will be the first classes seen before they leave for high school at the end of the year, followed by other year levels if time permits. Please note that the dental van will still be on-site at the beginning of the 2015 school year and staff will then catch up with any students who missed out on an appointment time this year.

**Year 6/7 Chocolates and Money are Overdue!  
PLEASE RETURN ASAP!**

**Finalisation of Student Accounts**

As we commence preparation for 2015 classes, it will be necessary to close each student's account. We ask that all outstanding monies be forwarded to the school office (Student Resource Scheme, LEM Phonics Books, etc) as soon as possible. Thank you.



**Fete Feedback**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Ethan Jeffery Prep F/1F who was our highest dodger seller and has won a gift voucher from Big W.

**FEEDBACK**

The fete committee is looking for ways to make our fete bigger and better next time. If you have any feedback or suggestions from this year's fete please email [fete@kirwanss.eq.edu.au](mailto:fete@kirwanss.eq.edu.au). We would love to hear your comments.

**3E & the Tuckshop Present  
3E Milkies - Milkshakes**



**One day only!!  
Friday 7 November @ First Break  
4 choices of yummy flavours  
Vanilla, Strawberry, Chocolate & Caramel  
With a scoop of ice-cream!  
Don't miss out – only \$3.00**

Milkies MUST be ordered via your tuckshop basket on Friday 7/11 OR pre-ordered by returning the below slip with payment in an envelope with \$3.00. (Place in your tuckshop basket on any day to pre-order.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Flavour: \_\_\_\_\_

\$3 is enclosed to pre-order a milkie for my child @ first break Friday 7 November.

**2015 Prep Year Reminder**



**Monday 08 December  
Transition Day  
9:15am – 10:50am**

**Term & Vacation Times for 2014 and 2015**

2014	Term Dates	Vacation Dates
Term 1	28 Jan – 04 Apr	05 Apr – 21 Apr
Term 2	22 Apr – 27 June	28 June – 13 July
Term 3	14 July – 19 Sept	20 Sept – 06 Oct
Term 4	07 Oct – 12 Dec	13 Dec – 26 Jan 2015

2015	Term Dates	Vacation Dates
Term 1	27 Jan – 02 Apr	03 Apr – 19 Apr
Term 2	20 Apr – 26 June	27 June – 12 July
Term 3	13 July – 18 Sept	19 Sept – 05 Oct
Term 4	06 Oct – 11 Dec	12 Dec – 24 Jan 2016

**Children Returning Late in 2015**

If your child/ren is/are not returning on Day One 2015 (27 January), please advise the school office of details and expected return date. Advising of your late return ensures a place is reserved for your child/ren.

**Transfer Notice**

Yes, our family will be transferring from Kirwan Primary at the end of the school year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

His/Her/Their last day at Kirwan Primary will be:

We will be transferring to (name of school/town):