09 September 2014

From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and Caregivers

IRON AND CLAY
Yesterday, staff and students were treated to a concert from the highly talented band – Iron and Clay. Iron and Clay travel all around Australia sharing their message of resilience and joy through music and friendship. Judging by the smiling faces, chorus singing, clapping and cheering, I have no doubt that everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly. I am also sure that there were some long lasting messages as well.

NAIDOC
Please keep Thursday 18 September highlighted on your calendar for our annual NAIDOC celebrations. The day commences with a whole school assembly at 9:00am. All are very welcome to attend. There will also be a series of workshops and demonstrations throughout the day.

GOLD FEVER
Today our Year 5 students have headed off to find fame and fortune on the goldfields of Charters Towers!! This field trip is part of their studies in the Key Learning Area of History encompassing the Australian gold rush and its effect on our nation.

I trust that they will have a rewarding and exciting day...and that they bring some gold home also!

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLING
Last week I submitted an application for Kirwan State School to be considered for Independent Public Schooling. This was after significant consultation with all stakeholder groups and overwhelming support for the initiative. Submissions will be considered in due course and we should have an outcome by the end of the year. I will inform you of the outcome when I am given this information.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Don’t forget to take the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher to check how your child is going against the standard of the Australian Curriculum. Your child’s teacher will be able to show you work samples and explain the elements of assessment which signify a grade A – E.

Until next week ... Kind regards

Melissa Jackson
Principal
From the Deputy Principal - Tony Woodhouse

IRON AND CLAY

Our students thoroughly enjoyed the performance yesterday by Iron and Clay. They presented a positive message about resilience, not being a gossip and working hard to achieve your dreams. I can certainly say that our students were an exceptional audience who listened, sang along and showed the true Kirwan Spirit. Well done to everyone!

BUILDING RESILIENCE IN OUR CHILDREN

One of the greatest abilities we can foster in our children is that of resilience. Resilience is the ability to “bounce back” from disappointment, challenges and adversities. Some children are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. These are the children who get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn’t faze them. Not every child has such natural resilience. But what happens to those children who are not naturally resilient?

Research shows that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their children. Resilient kids share four basic skill sets: independence, problem-solving, optimism and social connection. Sometimes we know that at times it is easier (and quicker!) to solve our children’s problems for them, but this does not help foster resilience.

Michael Grose, parenting expert, suggests that you can promote a lasting sense of resilience in your children by:

1. Having a positive attitude yourself. Make sure you model a ‘you can do it’ attitude.
2. Look for teachable moments. Make the most of those opportunities so that kids can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face.
3. Make kids active participants in the family.
4. Build kid’s coping skills. There are plenty of strategies you can pass on to kids to help them cope when life doesn’t go their way, including acceptance, getting away for a while, and normalisation.

He says that promoting resilience in kids is a not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don’t go children’s way. It also requires you as a parent to have an understanding of resilience, so you have faith in yourself, and your child’s ability to cope.

Tony Woodhouse – Deputy Principal

Parent/Teacher Meetings 8-19 September

To book a session with your child/ren’s teacher please use the following steps:

2. Enter the code DF3W7.
3. Enter your name and email address.
4. Select suitable times for your interview/s.
5. Check your inbox (or junk mail) for your confirmation email.
6. Bookings need to be made at least 2 days prior to your chosen interview time.

If for any reason you are unable to make your appointment, please phone the school on 4799.1888, so that we can let your child’s teacher know.

Important Dates for 2015 Prep

Enrolments

21 July-----------------------------2015 Prep Bookings Opened
1-19 September------------------- Prep Interviews with Admin.

30 October-------- Prep Information Sessions – 9:30am & 6:30pm
31 October-------- Prep Come and Try Day – 9:15-10:50am
8 December ---- Whole School Transition (Preppies 9:15-10:50am)

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: Elaina Marshall
PrepB: Callum Griffin
PrepC: Izayah Connelly
PrepD: Noah Schumann
PrepE: Lainey Horton
PrepF/1F: Nathan Stewart
1A: Zachary Gibson
1B: Amy Edgerton
1D: Nicola Massaro
1E: Uriel Tucker
2A: Laura Shaw
2A: Charlie Jones
2B: Georgia Graham
2B: Piper Ohi
2C: Blake Van Dorp
2D: Sarah Mitchell
2E: Malia Dixon
2E: Brok Lythgo
2E: Cleo Manning
3A: Lorafina Alfred
3A: Raphael Tucker
3B: Blaze Buchanan
3C: Connor Van Antwerp
3C: Zane Geue
3D: Kodi Leyseley
3E: Phoebe Hughes
4B: Liam Austen
5C: Michael Davison
5C: Jade Daly
5D: Tyler Winnett
6C: Kaitlyn Holz
6C: Ashlyn Clarke

Attention: Year 6 & 7 Students

Sports Excellence Programs @ Kirwan High 2015

The second and final Sports Excellence trials for any students who are interested in enrolling in the Sports Excellence Programs at Kirwan High School for 2015 are on Monday 15 September. This is a compulsory trial for students wishing to enrol in the program. Trial information is:

When: Monday 15 September 2014
Time: 3:30pm-4:30pm
Where: Meet at KSHS Multi-Purpose Shelter
Bring: Sports Excellence Application Form 2015, water bottle, hat, appropriate clothing and footwear.

French News

James Cook University has invited 8 of our students to be Language Ambassadors for 2 years. These students will participate in a conference next term with high school and primary students from all over Townsville. Also, they will be invited to various events run by the James Cook University Language department.

Felicitation to Sasha Taylor, Shinae Bloye, Justine Mead, Tyler Caris, Caleb Mario, Annie Hiller, Brooke Stanek and Troysha Hoyle.

Felicitation to all the students who participated in the Language Perfect World Language and Social Sciences competitions. Kirwan came 183rd in Australia for French out of 659 schools and 4th out of 128 schools for Social Sciences.

French Language Competition:

Bronze awards to Shinae Bloye, Tyler Caris, Holly Doran, George Jones, Darcy Joyce Tapa and Madison Nossesta.
Credit awards to Annie Hiller, Zeke Holderness, Hannah Pettit, Zoe Royan, Joshua Smart, Kae Young and Danielle Connolly

Social Sciences Competition:

Gold award - Shinae Bloye
Silver award - Zeke Holderness
Bronze awards - Kyle Stout, Joshua Smart and Hannah Pettit
Credit award - Stefanie Campbell

Merci @ Mlle Smart

Waltzing Matilda Narrative by Victoria Aaron in 5D

One cold and gloomy night, near Winton, in old Australian times there was a sad, old swagman called Johnson. Johnson had a long bushy beard that swayed from side to side as he walked; his skin was very greasy and sweaty and his clothes were very ragged and far too big for him. He had wrinkles all over his grey and motionless face. He was one of the many poor people in Winton, but he was fortunate enough to have bought a room in a hotel on the west side of Winton.

Johnson could not afford to buy the food at the hotel for any longer. While Johnson was eating his tea and damper, the door to his room swung open and the owner of the hotel trudged angrily into the room and suddenly stopped in front of the trembling swagman. ‘Johnson, since you ain’t payin’ your bills, you’ll have to leave this hotel now,’ said the owner in a deep voice. The owner dragged Johnson out of his room, his face scraping against the rough floor. The owner dumped Johnson into a wagon which was waiting for him outside the hotel.

Three troopers with blue uniforms, lined with grey, tumbled in his few belongings. Then with a sudden jolt, the wooden wagon started moving further and further from the hotel.

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

This is part of our school’s Workplace Health and Safety Policy.
The elderly swagman was shocked and speechless because of what just happened to him. His eyelids started to get heavier and heavier and in minutes he was asleep.

To be continued…….

Victoria Aaron
Student Council Disco – Thursday 11 September
Prep, Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3 – 4:00pm-6:00pm
Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 & Year 7 – 6:30pm-8:30pm

$5 tickets went on sale for the disco on Wednesday 03 September and are available from Mrs Taylor’s room – H Block. Prep children attending must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the disco. All children attending MUST be dropped off and collected from the Multipurpose Hall. Prep to Year 3 students must be collected at 6:00pm and students from Years 4-7 must be collected at 8:30pm. No child will be permitted to leave without an adult accompanying them.

Pizza at the Disco

The P&C will be selling slices of pizza for $2 each at the disco this Thursday from 5:45pm-6:15pm.

Prep Enrolments – 2015

Enrolment paperwork is available for collection from the office at which time an interview for you and your Prep child will be arranged.

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

Kirwan School Phone Number - 4799.1888