



-Kingsthorpe State School- NEWSLETTER



Thursday 23 April, 2009

07/09

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THE WEEKS AHEAD:

FRIDAY 24/04

- Assembly 8.50am
- ANZAC DAY Service 9:00am
- TUCKSHOP

MONDAY 27/04

- Music & HPE Lessons P-7

TUESDAY 28/04

- Intercultural Investigations Yr5-7 classes

WEDNESDAY 29/04

- Nthn Downs Schools Zone Cross Country - G'gee SS
- Mobile Library visit
- ICT Lessons Yr P-7

THURSDAY 30/04

- Instrumental Music

FRIDAY 01/05

- Assembly 8.50am
- TUCKSHOP

MONDAY 04/05

- LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

TUESDAY 05/05

- Intercultural Investigations Yr5-7 classes

WEDNESDAY 06/05

- Mobile Library visit
- ICT Lessons Yr P-7

ANZAC DAY OBSERVANCES & KSS STUDENTS

School Observance - Friday:

As a whole school we will be conducting a special observance of ANZAC Day tomorrow morning Friday 24th April. Throughout the days preceding this event, our teachers will have discussed with children the historic & cultural significance of this special occasion, in ways suitable to the maturity of the children in each class. Our school assembly tomorrow will host guest speakers from the Oakey RSL and the Defence Force School of Signals, Borneo Barracks. Student representatives of each class will place commemorative wreaths at the base of our flags display as we stand for a version of the Last Post. Parents are most welcome to join us on this sombre occasion from approx. 9.00am onwards.

Community Observance - Saturday:

The Kingsthorpe ANZAC Day Committee will be holding a local observance in the garden at the western end of the Kingsthorpe War Memorial Hall at 2.00pm on Saturday 25th April. Our school has been invited to involve uniformed students at this brief ceremony and I would like to encourage as many of our students (with parental consent) to join with us at this special local occasion. Both Mr Denman & I will be in attendance for the ½ hour ceremony & would welcome the attendance of all interested students in uniform. We have spoken particularly with our senior students & school leaders about this opportunity & would welcome parental interest & encouragement for the children's attendance. Many thanks - we look forward to your support once again on this occasion.

KINGSTHORPE SS ELIGIBILITY FOR POTENTIAL COMMONWEALTH FUNDED BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

I was pleased to be able to advise families via special note yesterday that our school is likely to be the beneficiary of some significant Commonwealth Government Funded projects this year.

Our school is eligible for a range of building & refurbishment initiatives that will greatly enhance the learning environment for all students as a result of the Commonwealth's Economic Stimulus Package funding. Due to our school's total student enrolment, we will be eligible for some specific building projects funded through the 'Building the Education Revolution' program. Conditional upon final Commonwealth Government approval, we will be eligible to undertake the following projects this year:

- ♦ Construction of a new purpose built school Library;
- ♦ Complete enclosure & extension of our Undercover Building over the basketball court;
- ♦ Internal repainting & new floor-coverings for D-Block classrooms (Yr 5/6, 6/7), relocation of the existing Library/Computer Lab and the conversion of this room to classrooms/teaching spaces.
- ♦ Internal repainting & new floor-coverings for E-Block classrooms (Yr 4/5, 3/4,2/3)
- ♦ Installation of a number of new electronic whiteboards;
- ♦ Provision of new student chairs & desks to 2 classrooms
- ♦ Re-development of the front school entranceway.

Again, the above projects are subject to final Commonwealth Government consideration & endorsement, however, if approved should commence this school term for total completion before 30th November this year.

SCHOOL STAFFING CHANGES & UPDATE

Prep/Year 1 Class:

Parents of our Prep/Year 1 class were advised earlier this week of the need for an unanticipated early departure from our teaching staff of Mrs Kristin Doherty. With the impending arrival of her second child, Mrs Doherty had planned to take Maternity Leave towards the end of this term - inadvertently, however, Mrs Doherty was advised by her doctor during the Easter break to take leave much sooner. I am pleased to report that (i) Mrs Doherty is well, and (ii) that Education Qld has confirmed the appointment of a new teacher to commence with our Prep/Year 1 children. Ms Michelle Coady, a teacher with experience across the early years, is excited to be joining us at Kingsthorpe SS from this Monday 27th April. Mrs Doherty Mrs Helverskov and I will be meeting with Ms Coady this afternoon to prepare the way for her appointment to our staff. Whilst sad to see her leaving our school, we wish Kristin continued good health and every happiness for the arrival for her new baby mid year.

Year 2/3 Class:

Due to a change of circumstances within her family, part-time teacher with our Yr 2/3 Class, Mrs Suzie Trimmer ceased her teaching contract with us at Kingsthorpe SS, at the end of last term. Mrs Anneli Saunders has been appointed in Mrs Trimmer's place. Commencing yesterday Anneli will continue with the class each Wednesday.

GOOMBUNGEE-HADEN SHOW - STUDENT SCHOOLWORK PRIZES

Many of our students submitted school work for judging at the recent Goombungee-Haden Show. Congratulations to the following children for gaining awards for some terrific results in the schools competitions as follows:

Yr	Student	Place	Work
Prep	Ryan S	3rd	Project
Prep	Isabella A	HC	Project
Prep	Jacob H	2 nd	Painting
1	Jayde O	HC	Yr 1 Project
2	Natalya K	3 rd	Handwriting
2	Ethan K	HC	Handwriting
5	Tyler B	1 st	Geometric Design
5	Jacob H	HC	Drawing
6	Molly K	1 st	Handwriting
6	Shaylene C	2 nd	Handwriting
6	Helainer G	HC	Handwriting
6	Harvie C	3 rd	Geometric Design
6	Emma P	HC	Geometric Design
6	Jessica G	3 rd	Drawing
6	Sam K	HC	Drawing
6	Jarod J	HC	Drawing
6	Joshua B	HC	Drawing
6	Harvie C	HC	Drawing
7	Matthew C	HC	Geometric Design
7	Melissa C	1 st	Drawing
7	Andrea F	2 nd	Drawing
7	Rebecca C	HC	Drawing
7	Dylan B	HC	Drawing

HC* = Highly Commended

NEW WATER COOLERS - THANK-YOU P&C ASSOCIATION

Our P&C Association has completed the installation of 2 x new chilled water fountains at school for the benefit of all students. The combined fundraising efforts of last year's Committee and this year's new team have made possible the purchase of these new water fountains - our sincere thanks to our dedicated P&C members and all families for contributing to fundraising that has allowed for the provision of these two great assets - they've certainly been popular with the children this first week back at school.

PREP PATHWAY - COVERED LINK CONSTRUCTION & TEMPORARY GATE CLOSURE

The construction of a new covered link between the current Prep building and the existing covered walkway outside the Library has commenced over the break. The walkway from the gate outside the Prep Building on Goombungee Road through to the covered walkway will continue to be closed off until the completion of the new works, hopefully within the next fortnight.

As previously advised, while construction is underway & the pathway is closed, all access to school buildings will be via the main school gateway on Goombungee Road, near the flagpoles..

YEAR 3, 5 & 7 NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM - LITERACY & NUMERACY

All students at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in schools across Australia will be undertaking the same tests in Literacy & Numeracy on the same days this year, over **12-14 May**. Students have their skills assessed in numeracy, reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar.

The national tests assess student achievement in literacy and numeracy in much the same way as has been done in the past. The test formats and the type of questions will be familiar to students. National tests provide information on how students are progressing and are designed to support improvements in teaching and learning. Our teachers have been, and will continue to provide effective preparation for the national testing program with all of our students.

We appreciate parental assistance in ensuring that all Year 3, 5 & 7 children are in full attendance over this period. (Health conditions excepted).

NORTHERN DOWNS ZONE CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS

As a result of the successful Interhouse Cross Country Carnival held last term, a number of students aged 10-13 years who placed in 1st to 5th places have been invited to now go on to the Northern Downs Cross Country Trials at Goombungee next Wed 29th April. We wish the children the best of luck as they proudly represent our school in this tough course. Parents are reminded that the consent form and \$5 bus travel cost must be brought to the office by this coming Mon 27th April. Our bus departs from Kingsthorpe on Wednesday morning at 8.30am. Please feel free to join us at Goombungee to cheer on our runners.

EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE - Results

Our P&C Association Easter Hamper Raffle was drawn on Friday 3rd April and the lucky winners were:

1st Prize - Easter Hamper – Wally

2nd Prize – Fruit Tray – Robyn

3rd Prize – Bakery Voucher – Luke

Congratulations to all the winners. The amount raised from the raffle was \$1062. Many thanks to all for your kind donations & purchases of tickets.



PREP ENROLMENTS 2010 & 2011

We are continuing to invite parents of age eligible children to enrol NOW for the 2010 and 2011 Prep Year program at Kingsthorpe SS. Details as follows:

☞ Eligible Prep 2010	Child born between 01 July 2004 - 30 June 2005
☞ Eligible Prep 2011	Child born between 01 July 2005 - 30 June 2006

We have been fielding Prep enrolment enquiries and listing age eligible children since the beginning of this year - please advise your family & friends of the age entry details above. We will welcome Prep enrolment enquiries through the school office.

AEDI IMPLEMENTATION IN QUEENSLAND PREP 2009

The Australian Early Development Index (AEDI)

Our school, along with all other schools in Queensland and across Australia will participate in the national implementation of the AEDI.

Why is Australia implementing the AEDI?

Research shows that investing resources and energy into children's early years, when they are developing rapidly, will bring life-long benefits to them and to the whole community.

The AEDI is a measure of how young children are developing in different communities. This information enables communities and governments to pinpoint the types of services, resources and supports young children and their families need to give children the best possible start in life.

What is the AEDI?

The AEDI is population measure of young children's development across five areas:

- Physical health and wellbeing
- Social competence
- Emotional maturity
- Language and cognitive skills
- Communication and general knowledge

What does it mean for your child?

Across Australia, between May and July 2009, teachers of children in the first year of full-time schooling (Prep in Queensland) will complete an online checklist for each child in their class. The checklist comprises a series of questions about each child's development across the five areas mentioned above.

The checklist gathers general information about children's development. It does not seek to rate your child's development or learning. AEDI results are grouped together according to the suburb or district in which the child lives not by the school they attend. The information provided about your child is anonymous. No child will be identified through the AEDI.

How will the information be used?

Government and community organisations will use the information gathered to assist planning for social and community services in the early years.

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH LITERACY & NUMERACY?

To be literate is to confidently and appropriately read, write, speak and listen in a range of contexts. To be numerate is to confidently and effectively use mathematics to meet the everyday demands of life. If you need assistance to develop your reading, writing, English language and numeracy skills, help is only a phone call away.

The Reading Writing Hotline - 13000 6555 06

The Reading Writing Hotline is a nationwide service which can provide you with information on:

- where to find reading and writing classes for adults in your area
- learning resources for adults
- English as a second language programs
- Centrelink client programs
- literacy in the workplace.

You will be able to speak to an experienced adult literacy teacher who can answer your questions and offer support. If there are no classes available in your local area, the teacher will provide you with information about accessing learning support through distance education.

For more information telephone 1300 655 506 or visit: www.literacyline.edu.au/index.html.

