Term 1 Week 6 - Tuesday 1 March 2016

Principal News

Welcome to the newsletter!

As promised, the new newsletter is here, and ready. There will be some teething issues as we work to tweak it to suit the needs of parents and community members (our audience). A BIG THANKS to Mrs Kenny who has worked for a few weeks behind the scenes to get this first edition out.

The newsletter will contain:

- Year Level News- for parents to be aware of upcoming events and planned learning for their children- Look for the "Classroom Gossip" Section
- Wrap ups from Specialist Teachers, Program Managers and Leaders on the great progress our students make.
- Information, Tips and Tools that parents can use to help support their child in learning.
- Information from the P&C about the ways that they support EVERY Kin Kora Kid, and how you can help.
- Avenues for information back from parents on how we can improve.
- Other information relevant to the great work, achievements and learning at this wonderful school.

Our focus- Attitude, Attendance, Achievement

These 3 messages will be everywhere this year. It was successful in 2015, and I am sure it will be the same this year. Periodically there will be newsletter information specifically aimed at parents to assist students to perform in these areas.

Leaders Morning Tea

After our School Leaders Badge Presentations on the February 16th, we hosted a short morning tea for the School Leaders and their parents. It was a fantastic way to get to meet parents, to recognise the leaders, and even provided time for the leaders to learn their first leadership lesson- when the school captains and I cleaned up after the morning tea. The first lesson of leadership- “Look after our Own”. It was a great morning, and a practice that I think will continue in years to come. The leaders have already started working with Mrs Cath Woods (Co-ordinator), who will work with the students to create this year’s Legacy- the benefit they leave behind.

Whole School Attendance

Term 1 to date:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semi. 1</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semi. 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>96.5%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>94.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>94.3%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>95.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
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Kin Kora’s attendance goal is 95% for every year level. Congratulations to 6D for achieving 98.3% in Week 4.
Bazza Rules

Be Respectful – Toilets
Encourage your child to:
- Be quiet, clean and quick and polite.

Be A Learner – Learning Settings
Encourage your child to:
- Be an active learner and participate
- Always do their best

Cybersafety Tips

Offensive or Illegal Content
Be aware of how your child uses the internet and explore it with them. Discuss the kinds of sites that are ok to explore and those that are not.

Social Networking
Stay involved in your child’s use of new technology. Set up your own account and learn about privacy settings so you can understand how you can best protect your child. It can be fun for you too!

Classroom Gossip

Prep
Prep children have settled nicely and they are quite busy thoroughly exploring the classroom and engaging in lots of activities. We have been getting to know each other, learning to get along and learning each others names. We have been working on our Gross Motor and Fine Motor Skills.

In our literacy lessons we have been learning our sounds plus focusing on writing our name.

Maths has been hands on establishing an understanding of the language of counting by naming numbers in sequences, initially to and from 10, moving from any starting point through fun and engaging lessons and lots of sorting.

Year 1
The year one cohort is off to a very busy start this term. Students are looking at narratives and how they entertain the reader. Students are developing their writing by creating retells that focus on the orientation, complication and resolution found in each story.

In Maths students are working on counting and learning their basic addition facts. Please continue to work on counting forwards and backwards with your students at home.

Next week students will begin to explore important memories and past events in their lives. Please keep an eye out for a note from your child’s teacher with the date these items need to be sent to school.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the parents who attended the afternoon information session last week and for bringing along such wonderful food.

Year 2
What a great start to Year 2 this year. The students have settled and some great learning is occurring.

Over the last five weeks in English the students have been exploring the text type Procedure. We have read many procedures and learnt the text structure of a Procedure: Title, Goal, Materials and Steps. This week the students have independently wrote and edited their own procedure. We will be publishing them to display in class.

In reading, the students are looking at making connections in their reading to other stories, information books and recipes (text to text) as well as connections to their real life experiences (text to self).

In maths we have been revising counting patterns, days of the week and months of the year. The students have been learning about numbers: how to represent a number in drawings and MAB blocks, how to locate a number on a number line, the value of each digit in a 2 digit number and how to break numbers in parts.

Year 3
What’s on in the next 2 weeks?
There are lots of exciting things happening in Year 3 in the next 2 weeks. In Science, we will continue to monitor the growth of our seeds to identify whether it is living or non-living. We will also be frantically cleaning to win the Clean Up Australia Day competition. The winning class will receive a sausage sizzle. Good luck to all.

Special Info
There will be an excursion in Term 3 to the Boyne Island Environmental Centre to coincide with our Science Unit: Heating Up. We depart and return on the same day. The cost for this excursion will be $23.

Highlights
Over the past 2 weeks students have participated in Life Education lessons. These lessons focused on being healthy and safe. We have also elected our Class and Enviro Captains for Term 1. These positions were voted by class members and are highly sought after so well done to all recipients. Children in Year 3 are also lucky enough to be able to play with new sports equipment during lunch time. Each class has been supplied with a kit that includes equipment such as basketballs, frisbees, cricket bats and skipping ropes.
Reminders

Class photos are this Friday.
Please provide email addresses to your child’s teacher if you haven’t already. This is a great way to be kept updated on the latest happenings in the classroom.
Please see your child’s teacher for Mathletics login to use at home if you haven’t already.

Year 4

The focus for English is understanding language features and how they improve writing. Students are looking at noun groups, verb groups, pronouns, adverbs, prepositions, text connectives and direct and indirect speech. They are able to identify these language features and explain how their effect on the reader. All year 4 students are doing their reading comprehension assessment component of the unit this week. Every week students are focusing on a different spelling rule and sound. Reading groups and metacognitive activities are also being conducted each week. These activities are focused on improving reading comprehension.

So far this term in Maths, we have been focusing on place value of numbers and looking at different ways numbers can be partitioned. All classes are now investigating fractions. This can be a difficult concept, so we are doing a lot of concrete activities using fraction walls, pie pieces etc, so that students can actually see what the various fractions look like compared to a whole.

History is our other main area of focus at the moment. The first History unit consists of learning about early explorers from the 1400 – 1800’s, and then Captain Cook and the First Fleet. The assessment for this unit will be commencing this week. Students will be writing about a convict’s life before, during and after their arrival in Australia.

Year 5

Year 5 is having a very busy and exciting term. We are looking forward to having our smiles on for our school photos this Thursday and Friday. In week seven year 5 will be attending the combined schools musical The Addams Family. This will be extra exciting as Dallas Ward from 5C is in the cast.

Curriculum news: In English we have been reading a fantasy novel, The Forests of Silence. This novel is basis for our first assessment piece which we have started planning for. In Maths we are learning about fractions and new strategies for working out operations. There is a big focus this term on knowing our times tables as it helps us work efficiently with problem solving. Science news is all about creating a virtual creature. The creature will need to have structural and behavioural adaptations to survive in a unique environment. The You Can Do It Program is underway in classrooms assisting students to be confident, persistent, and resilient, organised and helping us to get along.

If you wish to make contact with the year 5 teachers please email your child’s teacher directly or telephone the administration to make arrangements.

Year 6

WOW! What a busy start Year 6 have had. Everybody has settled in well and we’re enjoying the new challenges that Year 6 brings for us. Our student diaries are up and running and we are working hard on learning how to use these to help keep us organised with very important dates and messages for our parents. A great skill we will need going into high school. Our new homework program is well underway and students should be working hard on their time management skills to ensure that the tasks are completed correctly for the three week rotation. If you have any concerns about this please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.

This term our English unit is centred on reading and comprehending short stories. We have been writing some “Sizzling Starts” to our stories and are beginning to incorporate some language features to help tighten the tension. Maths has been very busy with us learning about and using fractions before we move onto some work on graphing for our Unit 1 assessment. Science is very hands on this term because we are studying reversible and irreversible changes. We’ve had lots of fun so far melting, solidifying, dissolving and evaporating everyday chemicals. Geography is taking us on a tour around the countries of our neighbours in Asia. We have learnt how to map using longitude and latitude and area reference and are getting a great understanding of the diversity in these Asian countries. We have found out lots of interesting facts!

Everybody enjoyed our trips to see Harold in the Life Ed Van and we took away lots of valuable information about smoking and the effects it can have on our health. We are looking forward to our trip to the Entertainment Centre on Monday 7th March to see some of our Kin Kora students in the “Addams Family”. Please remember that the $14 for this is due by Wednesday 2nd March. School photos are on next week with all Year 6 classes having their photos on Thursday 3rd March. Please ensure that the photo slip is returned to the school by this day to ensure that all runs smoothly.

Feel Good Stories

This week we received some mail from a parent. Part of the message read ‘I just wanted to acknowledge the wonderful work of the Kin Kora state school Lolly Pop ladies. They are such happy, polite and wonderful ladies who really care about the children and their safety.’ Well done to the ladies Jan, Lyn, Sandy and Michelle for the wonderful job they do.

Medical Issues

If your child has an Epipen, Asthma, or any other medical condition Action Plan, please ensure school has an updated version for the beginning of 2016. All children taking any medication also need to renew medication forms annually. Forms are to be filled in and handed in to the office prior to starting school.
Tuckshop

On Monday 22nd February 2016, the Tuckshop started offering late orders via Flexischools.

You can order from this menu from 8:40am to 9am. The menu includes: ham, chicken or cheese sandwich, a piece of fruit and water for $6.50.

Sports News

Swimming

Congratulations to Luke Hampson, Nate Crosisca, Brady Blake and Peyton Craig for being selected in the Port Curtis Swimming team. Peyton and Craig were also selected for the Capricornia Swim team.

Cross Country

Running club will continue every Tuesday and Thursday morning 8am. Please make sure you have a water bottle with you!

Fun Run

This year Kin Kora State School students will be participating in a fun run. The fun run will run in conjunction with the school cross country which will take place on the 15th April this year. Students will receive their fund raising booklet in class this week.

This is one of our major fundraisers for the year and we would appreciate your support! Our target is to raise $15,000. All monies raised will be of tremendous assistance for further improvements and additional resources for our school.

Golf

Congratulations Declan Corke on his win in the Under 12 18 holes CQ Boys Golf competition in Rockhampton on Monday.

Sports Days

Our sports days will be held on the following dates:

- Lower school (Prep – Yr2) – Wednesday 1 June
- Upper field events (discus, high jump, 800m) – Thursday 2 June
- Upper school (Yr 3-6) – Friday 3 June

ICAS Competitions

Again this year our students have the opportunity to enter a number of academic competitions run by the University of N.S.W for year level three to six.

Students from Kin Kora have frequently scored very well in these competitions and the challenges involved can provide a very worthwhile experience. All students who enter receive detailed feedback on their performance and a certificate recognising their efforts.

The competition is an initiative of the Educational Testing Centre of the University of New South Wales and will be held on the following dates:

Music

Welcome to 2016! And here’s hoping you’re having a ‘tuneful’ start to the year! All classes have started their Music lessons with enthusiasm and panache. I am so impressed with how much they have retained over the holidays.

Choir has now started, and many eager students are once again attending these rehearsals during their lunchtime. Our rehearsals are as follows…

- Grade 1 and 2 choir - Tuesday morning tea
- Grade 3 and 4 choir – Wednesday morning tea
- Grade 5 and 6 choir – Thursday second break

I hope to see many more faces again next week.

We welcome to the Instrumental Program two Music specialists – Brass/Woodwind/Percussion - Mrs Carol Slape and Strings – Miss Mandy Ruge.

Mrs Slape is now replacing Miss Hueber and is at Kin Kora Tuesday afternoons and all day Wednesday while Miss Ruge is teaching Monday for half the day and is an additional to the Strings program on Friday with Miss Carmen Smith. Please contact these teachers if you should have any questions regarding your child and beginning an instrument this year.

Band has started and rehearses every Wednesday morning, and String Orchestra gather for rehearsals every Friday morning. Please ensure students are ready to play by 7.45am. Band shirt orders are being processed, so look out for these notes in your child’s bag.

Mathletics

Mathletics is continuing again this year at Kin Kora. Students’ log ins and passwords are the same as last year. If a student has forgotten theirs or is new to the school, they are to see their teacher for these details. Congratulations to Year 3A, 6A & 6B and 6D for achieving the highest points last week.

Students earn a Bronze Certificate when they complete 1 000 points in a week. The bronze certificates can be viewed in the student’s ‘My Awards’ section on their Mathletics account and can be printed at home. A Silver Certificate is presented to the student on parade after they have achieved 5 Bronze Certificates. A Gold Certificate is awarded to students once they have achieved 4 Silver Certificates.

Well done to the following students who have achieved a Silver Certificate.


Science - Tuesday 31 May English – Tuesday 2 August Maths – Tuesday 16 August

If you would like your child to enter any of these competitions please fill in the form attached and return to the office (Mr Zadeh) with payment by 23th March, 2016.
Kiara Muller, Riley Thomas, Chloe Jensen, Harry Allen, Dylan Rogers and Ethan Brady.

Extra special congratulations to Oliver Ord, Faisal Agha, Mackenzie McCann and Sahara Arroyo Serrano for achieving a Gold Certificate.

### Payments Due

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Amt</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consumables Levy (Prep)</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addams Family Excursion Yr 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>2 Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment book (Prep)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
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No late payments will be accepted after the due date.

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 3 Mar</td>
<td>School photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PC AFL Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4 Mar</td>
<td>School photos</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PC 10yo &amp; Girls RL (PJ Marsh Cup)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 7 Mar</td>
<td>Addams Family Performance Yr 6 10.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Mar</td>
<td>PC RL 11 &amp; 12yo trials</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PC Netball trials</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PC Hockey trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Mar</td>
<td>Addams Family Performance Yr 5 10.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 16 Mar</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 17 Mar</td>
<td>PC Soccer trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 24 Mar</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 25 Mar</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY – GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 11 Apr</td>
<td>First day of Term 2</td>
</tr>
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### Photos

#### School & Vice Captains

#### Prefects

#### House Captains

#### Class Captains