Principal News

Grandparents Day

What a wonderful tradition we have in celebrating Grandparents Day here at Kin Kora. Thank you to the hundreds of grandpas and grandmas that attended last Tuesday, making it special for so many of our students.

We had some big efforts for people to attend and thank all of you for making the day so meaningful: first time grandparents, a grandma who attended her 25th Kin Kora Grandparents Day, a grandad who flew in from Brisbane just for the morning and flew out again at lunchtime and third generations- grandparents attending KK who once were KK parents themselves. Our grandparents travelled from afar- New Zealand, Tasmania, Melbourne, Ingham, Emerald, Toowoomba … Grandparents came who are the regulars at school, along with the oldest grandpa at 89 and youngest grandma at 41.

We value all of you being here for this moment for your grandies and enjoyed celebrating with you. The children loved sharing in tasks in their classroom with you and those without their loved one there, appreciated adopting a grandma or grandpa for the morning.

As a fund raiser for the Cancer Council, our Grandparents Day Biggest Morning Tea raised $228.45 for this great cause.

We will look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Oldest Grandparent

25th Anniversary Grandparent

School Song

One of our multi- talented teachers, Nikki Rogers wrote and composed our school song some years ago, reflecting the
values, positive behaviour and responsibilities of our Bazza Bee rules. We will be using the song more regularly, so I am including the words for your information and to share with your children.

**Striving For Success**

Written and composed: Nikki Rogers

Verse 1:

Wake up in the morning, and put our uniforms on. Not sure what the day will bring, but I’m sure we’ll have some fun. When we’re at Kin Kora, we’ll try to do our best. And we’ll keep trying harder, cause we’re striving for success.

Chorus

With a bit of hard work, teamwork, positive thinking. With some smiling, and a little bit of laughing. Don’t forget the good times that having a go can bring. Cause at Kin Kora we can do anything

Verse 2:

Waiting for the bell to ring, to let us out of class Not going to run home today, even though we want to get there fast Cos being responsible is where we want to be And we’ll keep trying harder, to be a learner like Bazza Bee.

Chorus

Repeat: Cause at Kin Kora we can do anything

Bridge:

Gonna be safe, responsible, respectful, a learner Gonna be safe, responsible, respectful, a learner Gonna be safe, responsible, respectful, a learner Gonna be safe, responsible, respectful, a learner

**Student Wellbeing and Behaviour Survey**

The school’s Wellbeing and Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL) Committees are seeking feedback from the students in years 1 to 6 about their experiences in the playground and the classroom. They are currently completing an anonymous survey which includes information about behaviour as well as student’s thinking and how they perceive themselves as learners. The teams and class teachers will be using this information to determine social and emotional needs, implement support programs and modify school processes. As a class, teachers will be able to assist students to set personal goals in these key areas.

**Whole School Attendance**

Kin Kora’s attendance goal is 95% for every year level.

Semester 1 to date: 94.19%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Sem. 1</th>
<th>Yr</th>
<th>Sem. 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>94.12%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>93.08%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>92.89%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>94.96%</td>
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</table>

**Cybersafety Tips**

**Cyberbullying**

Keep a record of harassing messages in case authorities become involved. Put them somewhere your child won’t continue to see them.

**Mobile Phone Safety**

Let your child know that it is ok to tell you if they come across something that worries them, and that their phone won’t be taken off them if they report something to you.

**Bazza Rules**

The key to successful School Wide Positive Behaviour is not to assume that children already know how to behave appropriately, but to TEACH children how to behave appropriately.

Encouraging the use of similar language at home, when teaching your own children appropriate behaviour, helps to reinforce the meaning of our school rules – Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be A Learner.

In each newsletter, we will provide a focus note, identifying the rule that is being taught for that particular week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Week 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Be Safe</strong></td>
<td><strong>Be Responsible</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Toilets</strong></td>
<td>Encourage your child to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wash hands after using the toilet.</td>
<td>• Use toilets properly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Walk when in the toilet area.</td>
<td>• Be quiet, be clean, be quick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use the toilet properly.</td>
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Mathletics

Mathletics is continuing again this year at Kin Kora. Students’ logins 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, 5D and 6A & 6B 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.

Andrew Shonhan
Master Teacher

Puberty Clues Workshop

A puberty clues workshop for mothers and their daughters (Grades 5 to 7) will be held on 7 June, 9 August, 11 October and 29 November at the Women’s Health Centre in Derby Street, South Gladstone from 5.30pm – 8.00pm. Cost will be $10 and please bring a plate. Phone 4979 1456

How else is early literacy taught?

Early years programs do use a mixture of other teaching methodologies. At Kin Kora SS we use phonemic awareness, the Sound Waves program, decodable texts and whole texts: quality literature in picture books, Big books and interactive stories as well as little guided reading books to explicitly teach how to read.

Children are encouraged to memorize high-frequency words (sight words), such as the words “a”, “the” and “was”, while at the same time being taught the sounds of the alphabet, along “C is for cake” and “J is for jellyfish”, focusing on the initial sounds and letter match to start.

Many diligent children study their high-frequency words list (containing words like “a” “and” “at”), and the letter “A” words on their classroom alphabet charts – “a” is for “apple”, “aeroplane”, “aardvark”, “apricot” and “autumn”, but can end up none the wiser about what sound or sounds the letter “A” represents.

That’s because the English language is a complex one where the letter “A” represents a different sound in each of these words, sometimes in combination with other letters, for example:-

• A as in “a book” (pronounced “uh”)
• A as in “was” (pronounced “o”)
• A as in “apple” (pronounced “a”)
• AER as in “aeroplane” (pronounced “air”)
• AAR as in “aardvark” (pronounced “ar”)
• A as in “apricot” (pronounced “ay”)

They need to start off with just a small number of sounds and letters, and practise reading and spelling them in little, simple words. Once these are mastered, a few more sounds and letters can be added, and then a few more, until all the main patterns are covered and the child can confidently tackle any word. The name for this teaching methodology is Synthetic Phonics. At Kin Kora we use a phonemic awareness approach to help children learn the mechanics of words for decoding print on the page.

HELping your child with literacy

What do beginning readers and spellers need to do?

Like driving a car, playing a musical instrument and other skilled behaviours, reading and spelling require not just theory, but also practice.

We accept that learner drivers need to kangaroo-hop around car parks to get mastery of a vehicle before they can really drive anywhere interesting, and learner musicians need to do scales and stuff before they’re ready to play real music in a real performance. Yet too often children are expected to read “real books” before they have had a chance to master the mechanics of reading and spelling.

At first, just getting words off or onto the page takes up 100% of a child’s cognitive resources. Children may be overwhelmed with too much print on the page and beginning reading can be and look like this to your child:

They need to start off with just a small number of sounds and letters, and practise reading and spelling them in little, simple words. Once these are mastered, a few more sounds and letters can be added, and then a few more, until all the main patterns are covered and the child can confidently tackle any word. The name for this teaching methodology is Synthetic Phonics. At Kin Kora we use a phonemic awareness approach to help children learn the mechanics of words for decoding print on the page.

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• AAR as in “aardvark” (pronounced “ar”)
• A as in “apricot” (pronounced “ay”)

The mixture of decodable and whole texts allows children to build confidence while not being overwhelmed with too much print on the page.
Reading research shows children need a systematic approach to learning their sounds. Ideally children should nail down one or two main spellings for 42 of the 44 sounds (represented by 26 letters of the alphabet). At Kin Kora SS children systematically learn sounds and apply these to cvc words and words with blends and diagraphs, where the sounds learnt are not just at the beginning of the word but in the middle or end.

cat ship boys

This is very important for problem solving to decode text written in reading books and spelling words in their writing.

Please help your child learn their sounds, sound out words identifying letter patterns and combinations and complete the sound waves tasks and homework spelling as key components to developing their literacy competency.


To get going at reading and writing, a child needs to know:-

• How to listen and speak,
• Lots of words (vocabulary),
• How written materials work e.g. what a book is for, that we start reading at the top of the page, we work left to right along each line and top to bottom, turn the page etc (reading behaviours and concepts of print).
• That spoken words are made of sounds.
• That letters are how we write speech sounds down.
• How to recognise letters, regardless of case or writing style

Aa – upper and lower case matching

• How to pull words apart into sounds, and smoosh them back together into words
• That we have more sounds (44) than letters, so sometimes we combine 2, 3 or even 4 letters to spell a sound, for example:
  • The “ch” in “chip” or the “ou” in “out”,
  • The “dge” in “ridge” or the “igh” in “fight”,
  • The “eigh” in “weight” or the “ough” in “drought”.
• That English is a mishmash of many languages (see the Open University’s hilarious History of English in 10 minutes), so most sounds are spelt in more than one way (e.g. the vowel sound in “hear”, “beer”, “here” and “pier”) and many spellings represent more than one sound (e.g. the “ear” in “hear”, “learn”, “bear” and “heart”).
• How to hold a pencil correctly (one pointer finger on top, thumb at the side and other fingers curled underneath for resting)
• How to formulate letters correctly – right shape, direction, starting places and movement pattern.


**WELLBEING and “You Can Do It!”**

**Information and TIPS**

**Personal and Social Capabilities**

It is recognised that achievement of students is linked to their social and emotional wellbeing. The Australian Curriculum we teach focuses on the development of personal and social capabilities alongside each of the academic key learning areas, such as English, Mathematics and Science.

The capability practices include:-

• Recognising and regulating emotions
• Developing empathy for others and understanding relationships
• Establishing and building positive relationships
• Making responsible decisions
• Working effectively in teams
• Handling challenging situations constructively
• Developing leadership skills

If they are sounding like what one needs for the workforce and a successful career in any employment, then you are right, they are! These are things we all need to develop to be happy and successful in any context.

Teachers are focusing on the different skills students need to know /do to be happy (like being him/herself, having friends, working hard in what he/she is learning), to be successful (being the best that he/she can be and trying new work and things) and be caring (helping others in need, and making school and home a safe and clean place to live and learn). For our students, the keys to success mean progressing in your own school work and other areas of your life (art, music, sport, friendships and peer relationships and own behaviour).

**Leanne Burke**
**Deputy Principal Lower School**

**Library News**

**Book Fair**

Tuesday, May 24 marked the official start to the Monster Book Fair! The Library hours will change for the Book Fair weeks to accommodate the purchasing of books from the Fair. The Resource Centre is only open during the times outlined below for purchasing books from the Book Fair. The Resource Centre is a very busy place during the day with many lessons taking place, therefore purchasing books is not possible outside of these times. **The Book Fair will officially end on Thursday, June 2.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>31 May</td>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>2 June</td>
<td>All Year Levels</td>
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<td>All Year Levels</td>
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<td>All Year Levels</td>
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Premier’s Reading Challenge

We are delighted to invite all Kin Kora State School students to join in the 2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge.

As well as being fun, the challenge aims to boost children’s literacy skills by encouraging students to read widely for pleasure and learning, to develop their imagination, and to cultivate a passion for literature.

Students wishing to take part in this year’s challenge can register by returning the permission slip below to Mrs Naomi Hughes, our school’s Premier’s Reading Challenge coordinator. Then, from the **Monday, May 16**, participants start reading and recording their books on the School Reader Record Form that they can pick up from the school office or Library or downloaded from the website below (once they have registered). Completed forms need to be then returned to Mrs Hughes by **Friday, August 26**.

For more information about the Premier’s Reading Challenge, please visit:

http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/readingchallenge/

***Naomi Hughes***

**Teacher/Librarian**

**Classroom Gossip**

**Prep**

The prep team are very busy undertaking assessment needed for the end of semester reports. Over the next few weeks preppies will be presenting an oral retell of chosen classroom favourite story. Maths is hands on using 2d shapes to build a house and using their subitise skills to determine numbers.

Thank you to all our wonderful Grandparents for spending time Tuesday morning in our classrooms. We had heaps of fun showing off how classroom learning takes place.

We are excited about two big events next week:

- **Monster Book Fair** on Tuesday

### Year 1

Thank you to all the wonderful grandparents and great grandparents who joined us for Grandparent’s Day this past Tuesday. The students really enjoyed showing off their work and classrooms to you.

The next few weeks will be very busy in grade one as we finish our English unit on character descriptions and begin learning about procedures. During our procedure unit students will making and baking learning to follow instructions and recipes.

In Maths, students will continue to work with money, time and numbers. Please continue working on counting and correct number formation with your child. Student should be working on their doubles facts and skip counting each night.

There are lots of important events in the coming week.

On Tuesday the 31st of May, students can dress up to support our book fair. The theme is Monsters. Please remember all costumes and outfits must be sun safe.

The following day, Wednesday the 1st of June will be the junior sports day. Please have your student dressed in their house colours with appropriate running shoes. As a reminder, students are to remain with their house under the sun shelters. They are not to be sitting with the parents or running between the sun shelters and seating area. Students should bring a packed lunch with extra water.

### Year 2

A lot has been happening in Year 2 the past couple of weeks. Students will be writing a recount on a character within a book. They are enjoying writing a personal comment regarding the text and adding their recommendations. In Maths we are learning how to tell the time in the quarter past and quarter to. Continued practice at home and in real situations will assist students in mastering the concepts.

### Year 3

**What’s on in the next 2 weeks?**

Tuesday the 31st of May is Monster Dress Day. Students come dressed in anything to do with monsters. Please remember that your child’s costume will need to be sun safe. Friday the 3rd of June is Sports Day. Please refer to PE section of the newsletter for more information.

**Special Information**

The Premier’s Reading Challenge started on Monday the 16th of May. Students wishing to participate are to return permission slips to Mrs Hughes in the Library. The eldest in the family received a letter with the permission slip attached. Please see your child’s teacher if you didn’t receive this.
Highlights
It was great to see so many grandparents on Grandparent’s Day. Thanks to everyone that participated and we hope that all the grandparents enjoyed their time at our school.

Reminders
Upper School (3-6) parade is on a Friday.
Brainstorm Production money due Friday 6th June.
BIEEC Excursion money due Friday 17th June.

Year 4
This is a very busy time of year in grade 4. Grandparent’s Day was a big success in grade 4 classrooms. The children thoroughly enjoyed having our special visitors spend the morning with us. A huge thank you to all those Grandparents who were able to come and spend some time in our classrooms, and we really hope you enjoyed getting a better insight into your grandchild’s school life.

In literacy groups, we have completed our traditional tales unit, and have now started on our final unit for the term, which focuses on stories from The Dreaming. We are currently reading The Rainbow Serpent and the Story of Creation and using this text to identify various language features and outline how these language features engage the reader and enrich the text. We will be reading other Dreaming stories throughout this unit, and the children are really enjoying these types of text.

In Maths, we have completed our Odds and Evens unit, and with this concept being assessed last week. We have now started our final Mathematics unit for the term – Legend Land. This unit deals with such concepts as mapping, directionality, and scale. This ties in well with our Geography unit we have just started.

Most classes have their Science posters or powerpoints due this week, so could you please ensure your child has completed this assessment piece. The presentations that have already been returned, have been of a very high standard, so we are looking forward to seeing the rest of them.

Year 5
What a wonderful week we had with our lovely Grandparent’s visiting our classrooms. It is always a special day for the student’s particularly if their grandparent travelled for the special occasion. So a big thank you to all those who could make it and for ‘adopting’ those children who didn’t have a grandparent here on the day.

Curriculum News: Year 5 students are working towards completing their assessment items and improving their individual goals set at the beginning of the term. In Science our space reports are nearing completion. We will be writing a persuasive argument on a given topic for English in addition to putting our reading strategies into practice with a comprehension test. In Maths we are working on angles, learning to identify angles in 2D and 3D shapes along with using bench mark angles of 90, 45 and 30 degrees to estimate and measure angles.

Upcoming: Brainstorm productions will be visiting our school in week 9. Payment of $6.00 is due now. Sports Day for year 5 is this Friday. Please wear your house colours for the day of fun, bring a hat and a water bottle. Don’t forget a bbq and tuckshop will be operating on the day.

How you can help: Sometimes we may send some work home that requires the use of a computer and the internet. If this is a problem for your child please let the classroom teacher know. There are some opportunities for a laptop to be utilised before school or at break times if necessary. Currently we are asking students to complete a multimedia art poster using PowerPoint. As time is limited to one hour a week per class in the technology room we would appreciate the support of home computer time to complete this assessment.

Year 6
The grade 6s have just arrived back from camp and what an experience it was. They were pushed to their limits, learnt about themselves, learnt about nature and were immersed in the tranquil aura of the park.

The teachers were blessed with good behaviour and good commitment from not only the students but the staff of the camp facility. Most of the activities seemed very daunting at first but all students attempted them and pushed themselves to their physical and mental capacities. They all made personal goals before each activity and smashed them. It was terrific to see students step outside of their comfort zones and attempt things they never dreamed they could attempt prior. From taking leaps of faith from 10 metres high to learning bird calls from ‘Wazza’, the students will never experience something like this again.

It was an honour to spend the week with the students. They really are a terrific bunch of kids.

Tuckshop
The tuckshop will be open both sports days from 8:30am until 1:30pm. Please be advised that there will be food to purchase over the counter, but we can not guarantee the time you come up for lunch we have what you are after. You can pre-order your food off our menu for both days via our online ordering system (link below). This will ensure that you will get exactly what you are want. Ice-blocks are sold at 2nd break only (12:45pm to 1:30pm). If you are available either of these days to give us a hand in the tuckshop, even if it is just for an hour, that would be fantastic!


In 2017 there will be some changes to Smart Choices Healthy Food & Drink Supply Strategy, so the tuckshop has decided to start to get on top of these changes. One of the changes is to take off the Quench Mineral Waters. To replace this for over the counter purchases we have obtained a Naturals Slush Puppie machine. It is 99% pear juice base with no added colours or flavours and no added sugar. They are a 250ml size and sell for $2.00.

Sam Smith
Managing Tuckshop Convenor
Sports News

What a busy term in HPE with all students working really hard to get ready to compete on Sports Day. A reminder for some important dates:

- Wednesday 1 June – Junior Sports Carnival (Prep – 2)
- Thursday 2 June – Senior Field Events (Discus, High Jump, 800m)
- Friday 3 June – Senior Sports Carnival (3 – 6)

If your child is wanting to have their hair sprayed the colour of their sports house, there will be hair spraying in the parade area starting from 8am. The cost is a gold coin donation.

CONGRATULATIONS….

Nate Beach and Kyle Drake who were selected in the Port Curtis Boys Softball team.

Helpers Needed For Sport’s Day

Kin Kora P&C will be holding a sausage sizzle at both the lower and upper school sports days. Sausage in bread will be available from the barbeque in the eating sheds at both lunch breaks. Cost $2 per sausage.

If you could spare sometime between watching your child’s events to help out with the cooking or serving of the sausages it would be greatly appreciated.

Robbie Peters
PE Teacher

Instrumental Music Notes: Woodwind/Brass/ Percussion

Concert Band – our students are busy preparing for their performance at Fanfare. Information packages including payment envelopes, medical forms and project consent forms were sent home with students last week. Please ensure all forms are completed and returned by Wednesday 1st June, 2016. Fanfare performances are open to the general public and parents are welcome to come and watch our Concert Band perform on stage at the GECC at 9:30am on Thursday 9th June.

Combined Band – The nomination process for Combined Band will begin soon. Instrumental Music teachers have been asked to recommend their most promising and dedicated young musicians for nomination to be considered for selection into this prestigious, elite level district band.

STRING SESSIONS

It is time for our Annual Strings Workshop! This is a fantastic chance for our string students to consolidate on their skills they have been taught this year, and study for a day with renowned conductor David Maddick and perform in the GALA CONCERT. Workshop sessions will be held at Clinton State School Hall, Harvey Road. Cost will be $30.00. Please keep the following dates free and more information will be available as we near these dates.

Maree Maitland
Music Co-ordinator

Carol Slape (B,W,P), Carmen Smith (Strings Friday), Mandy Ruge (Strings Monday)

Payments Due

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Consumables Levy (Prep)</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<td>Assessment book (Prep)</td>
<td>$6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science Excursion (Year 3)</td>
<td>$23</td>
<td>17 June</td>
<td>‘Saving Lil &amp; Archie’ Brainstorm</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>6 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fanfare (Band students)</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>1 June</td>
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No late payments will be accepted after the due date.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue 31 May</td>
<td>ICAS Science</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 11 Jul</td>
<td>FIRST DAY BACK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 1 Jun</td>
<td>Lower School Sports Day</td>
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<td>Mon 18 Jul</td>
<td>TERM 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 2 Jun</td>
<td>Upper field events Book Fair finishes</td>
<td>Tue 19 Jul</td>
<td>Yr 3E &amp; 3F Science excursion Boyne Is</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 3 Jun</td>
<td>Upper School Sports Day</td>
<td>Wed 20 Jul</td>
<td>Yr 3C &amp; 3D Science excursion Boyne Is</td>
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<td>Wed 8 Jun</td>
<td>Brainstorm Productions (Whole school)</td>
<td>Tue 9 Aug</td>
<td>Puberty Clues Workshop (Year 5-7 girls) 5.30pm Womens Health Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 7 Jun</td>
<td>Puberty Clues Workshop (Year 5-7 girls) 5.30pm Womens Health Centre</td>
<td>Wed 10 Aug</td>
<td>Gladstone Show Holiday</td>
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<td>Wed 15 Jun</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm</td>
<td>Tue 2 Aug</td>
<td>ICAS English</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 22 Jun</td>
<td>Under 8’s Day</td>
<td>Tue 16 Aug</td>
<td>ICAS Maths</td>
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Medical Issues

Over-the-counter medications

The Education Department guideline regarding over-the-counter medications indicates schools are required to receive medical authorisation from a prescribing health practitioner (e.g. doctor, dentist, optometrist, but not a pharmacist) to administer any medication to students, including those bought over-the-counter (e.g. Panadol, nurofen, cough syrup and allergy medication including creams).

Photos

Nude Food