

IRONSIDE STATE SCHOOL

Our Vision: Ironside State School is a learner-centred community committed to excellence in education.



A Message from the Principal:

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Edition 01

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Dear Parents

WELCOME

Welcome back to a great year at Ironside for 2008. It was wonderful seeing the children return to school on Tuesday - full of excitement as they met their friends and were introduced to their new teacher and class. A special welcome to all our new students who settled into their classroom environments very well. Thank you parents for having your children so neatly dressed in full school uniform. Can I please remind you of the importance of having all the students' belongings clearly named.

Our traditional welcome morning tea for parents was well attended by both new and ongoing Ironside parents.

STAFF

- I would like to welcome the following new staff to our school:

Ms Tatum Underwood	Prep B
Ms Helen Southall	Prep D
Mrs Pearl Wijesooriya	Prep C Teacher Aide
Mrs Lucy Paul	Prep D Teacher Aide
Ms Alyssa Kimball	3C
Mrs Ros Goldsbrough	4C
Mr Chris Gann	5C

Ms Liz Woolcock has been seconded on a temporary basis to Central Office to write curriculum resources and Mrs Kim Donaldson our HPE teacher will take over the Student Relations Program. Ms Sarah Walters will increase her time at Ironside to take responsibility for more year levels in HPE.

Miss Michelle Whelan has been transferred to Pallara SS.

Mr Andrew Stoff has taken leave to look after his wife who is not well.

Mrs Susan King has been transferred to Ironside and will take up the position in Term 2. Until then, Mrs Ros Grant will be teaching the children in 3B.

ENROLMENT

At present we have 28 classes and approximately 700 students. Please note that all classes are temporary until Education Queensland's enrolment audit on Day 8 of the school year - Thursday 7 February. On this date, schools' staffing entitlements are confirmed. It could well be that new classes might have to be made at our school - we all know that it is quite difficult to predict enrolment numbers at Ironside due to the large number of enrolments we receive from overseas and interstate.

YEAR OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

This year has been dedicated as the Year of Physical Activity in Queensland - an initiative that will support the implementation of the Smart Moves: Physical Activity Programs in Queensland Schools. The program aims to increase the time in which primary students are effectively engaged in physical activity and improve the quality of that activity. We have been most honoured in having been chosen by the Minister of Education as the school in which this program will be launched. Next Wednesday, 6th February from 10.00 am, the Premier, Anna Bligh and the Education Minister, Rod Welford will visit Ironside to publicly launch this important program in our Assembly Hall. Some of our students will demonstrate aspects of our HPE program. Parents are most welcome to attend this brief, but special event.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

We have already scheduled our parent teacher meetings, which will all be followed by an invitation to parents to informally meet and enjoy refreshments with members of the current P and C Association.

Parent teacher meetings will be held in classrooms and will all commence at 6.30 pm and finish at 7.30 pm. Parents will then be invited to the staff room for drinks, refreshments and a welcome by the P and C. It is not appropriate for children to attend parent/teacher meetings, so I ask that parents arrange supervision for their children on these evenings if at all possible. The dates are:

Wednesday 6 February	Prep and Year One
Thursday 7 February	Year 2 and 3
Monday 11 February	Year 6 and 7
Tuesday 12 February	Year 4 and 5.

For your child's sake, please do your best to attend these important meetings. Thank you to our Ironside teachers for giving up their time to share with parents year level expectations and curriculum and assessment plans.

CURRICULUM

This year our school will be making some marked changes to our curriculum to reflect the large scale curriculum review and renewal that Education Queensland has initiated with the introduction of QCARF - Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Reporting Framework. We will be replacing our Integrated Curriculum Units with a program that will focus on Inquiry learning, quality assessment processes and Essential Learnings in the key learning areas of English, Maths, Science, SOSE, HPE, LOTE, Technology and The Arts. We believe that by making these changes to our school curriculum, we will be taking large steps towards ensuring that:

- Student learning is at the focus of all our efforts
- Teachers will have more flexibility in delivering the curriculum
- Time will be given for students to engage deeply in investigations and higher order thinking and
- Assessment will be transparent, fair, moderated and provide students with feedback on how they can enhance their learning.

Our class teachers will expand more on how these changes impact on each year level and as is usual practice, term overviews will be sent home and posted on our website by the end of Week 3.

SWIMMING

Swimming lessons commenced on Wednesday. Parents are reminded that all children must wear a shirt or rashee during lessons. Sunscreen will be available to students at the pool.

JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES

These classes for students in Prep, and Years 1,2,3 and 4 will commence from the start of Week 3 and will be taken by members of our school community, Mrs Janet Matthew and Mrs Nahoko Mulvey.

PARKING

For the safety of our students, please be reminded to park and drive in a safe manner at all times.

Best wishes for a wonderful year at Ironside to all members of our school community. Thank you parents for your fantastic support and readiness to help us provide the best education we can for our students.

Let's all commit to making a contribution - as parents, staff or students - to achieve our school vision for Ironside to truly become a learner-centred community committed to excellence in education.

Kind regards,

Patricia Neate, Principal

Student Relations Update:

Hello everyone! I hope that you enjoyed a terrific holiday season that included plenty of rest and relaxation. I wanted to let you know that for this term, I have been seconded to Central Office of Education Queensland. My work in Central Office is an essentially an extension of the Student Relations Program and involves developing online units of work with the Values Education Framework team. Know that you are all very much in my thoughts as I already miss you greatly and I look forward to seeing you soon.

(The following was intended for the last Newsletter of 2007 but did not make it! I promised these students that I would feature their comments in the first Newsletter of 2008).

In class, students have been discovering just how fortunate they are compared to many children around the world, particularly those living in third-world countries. Here are some of their reflections:

"I want to give money away because I have been thinking of the phrase, "Every three seconds, a child dies of poverty." I don't want that to happen. I want it to be more like every ten seconds or never! I've raised money around my house, struggling to make cookies, lemonade and gourmet breakfasts for everyone. I've raised about five dollars in a little container from doing all that and I gave four dollars from my pocket money to Jasmine for her charity. I'm thinking of raising more over the Christmas holidays and I'm sure my family will support me and so I will have a lot more money to give to those poor people overseas in Africa."
Tenielle, 4B

"After I heard about people in poverty in third-world countries, I thought I could start raising money for charity. I started walking around the house, looking for money that was hiding! I put all the money that I could find into any empty milk bottle and I asked my sister if she would put some money in too."
Jasmine, 4B

"One day after Student Relations, Jasmine announced that she was raising money for people who don't have much. I thought that was a great idea so instead of using five dollars for Tuckshop, I gave it to Jasmine to help the charity Handprints for Humanity."
Caitlin, 4B

"After I went to Tonga and I heard about poverty I thought that it might have been a good idea to raise money to give to the RSCPA Animal Rescue. I raised about forty-eight dollars and sixty cents for people in poverty and for animals that haven't had food in ages."
Tatiana, 4B

"At Church we were raising money for people in poverty and we made lots and lots of decorations for the Christmas trees. We had some fridge magnets and we sold them and we raised \$123. We also had pancakes and lamingtons. We bought lots of stuff out of money we raised like mosquito nets, cows, pigs, lambs, warm blankets and immunisation for people in poverty. It was good that we were raising money for people who are less fortunate than us so they can have a better life. I felt glad that we were raising so much money and it helped me to develop more responsibility because I could find ways of helping them."
Emily, 3D

Year 7 News:

It is great to be in Year Seven! We are the leaders of the school now and it seems very daunting that we don't have anyone to look up to. There also are lots of things to look forward to though for example, the Year Seven Camp and the upcoming excursion to Parliament House, which the whole grade is excited about. Another fantastic thing are the privileges we get, such as getting to read the young adult books in the library and being able to access the library at morning tea. We think that we're going to thoroughly enjoy the experience of Year Seven!

Chess Club News:

Chess Club will be starting again this year in week 3. Details of day, time and room will follow in next week's Newsletter. New members welcome!

Important Dates for 2008

21 - 24 March	Easter Holidays
5 - 13 April	School Holidays
Monday 14 April	Pupil Free Day

CATHOLIC SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2008

For Catholic parents wanting their child from Year 3 upwards to receive Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation the program will commence on the 10th Feb 2008 (enrolment day) straight after the 9.00 am Mass (approx 9.40am.) It will be held in the Church Hall at St. Thomas Aquinas

Church

87 Central Ave St Lucia.

Enrolment forms will be given to Year 3's but if you do not receive one there are more forms at the Church on the back table. Forms need to be completed and returned to St Thomas Aquinas Church by 3rd Feb 2008 where there is a folder for completed forms on the back table inside the church.

Any queries contact Sheryl Esdaile 33787154(h) 0419806023(mob)

Penny Biddlestone Tennis Coaching



The tennis program for Ironside State School consists of classes held before and after school, holiday programs and the Ironside school championship.

Lessons will commence Monday 18 February, 2008. Fees will be charged by the term and are payable by the second lesson.

Term 1 fees are as follows:

Monday & Friday - 6 weeks \$108.00
(Holidays - Fri 21 Mar, Mon 24 Mar)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 7 weeks \$126.00

Coaching is available for all children from Prep to Year Seven at the school tennis courts. Lessons are designed to teach correct stroke technique, good sporting habits and a love of the game. Tennis is great for developing hand eye co-ordination, nurturing social skills, enhancing concentration and promoting fitness.

In the event of wet weather lessons are conducted under G Block. Please note all children must wear a hat when playing tennis.

For further information regarding the tennis program please contact:
Penny Biddlestone 3371 2849.



SWIM LESSONS TERM 1- 2008

Little Splasher's Swim School is proud to offer swimming lessons by qualified AUST-SWIM coaches at the Ironside State School pool. These lessons range from learn to swim through to squad training.

The season commences on Monday 11th FEBRUARY and continues for 8 weeks (ending Friday 4th APRIL).

All classes are available after-school. One morning squad session will be available. Private lessons may be available upon request at an extra cost.

Enrolment can be made at the pool at the following times:
4th FEBRUARY- 8th FEBRUARY: 2:30 pm- 5:30 pm

Contact Cat (0417 760 703) or Judy (0417 383 199) for more information

Shop News:

The 2008 Roster has been mislaid so if you know you were on the first week of the month - give me a surprise and turn up.

The Uniform Shop desperately needs plastic bags - your donations will be gratefully accepted.

Thank You, Jane Wurth

Tuckshop Roster - Term 1

Mon 4/02	Grace van Baarle, Julia Ryan
Tue 5/02	Yoko Inoue, Mikako Kanoh
Wed 6/02	Janet Curran, Nada Burt
Thu 7/02	Caroline Hines, Mandy Peden, Emily Dickson, Beauty Saha

Homebake Roster - Term 1

Mon 4/02	Charmaine Paiva
Tue 5/02	Sandy Smart
Wed 6/02	Kylie McNaught
Thu 7/02	Tricia Meehan



