

Ironside State School

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Edition 6



Important Dates:

Wednesday 11 March Overseas and Australian Family Network Parent Meeting - Staffroom 2:00 pm
Years 4—7 Cross Country

Tuesday 7 April



Dear Parents

Congratulations to our two Aussies of the Month - Tamarine Epp from 5A and Tatiana Taimani from 6C. Both students received their certificates and badges at Assembly on Monday.

Congratulations also to our Term One Peer leaders from Years 5 and 6. These students will be working with Mr Knights on special programs. At Assembly we also recognised our Regional swimmers who completed Chandler on Wednesday and our recipients of the "Good Sport" awards.

Our Year 7 students were very excited about going to camp on Tuesday morning. This year, the students are attending Kindilan Recreational Park at Redland Bay. I look forward to their return on Friday. A special thank you to our Ironside teachers and Mr Blanchard Claridge who are giving up so much of their own time so that students can experience the delights of school camp.

This Tuesday, our students learnt about Hina-Matsuri – the Japanese dolls festival. There is a display in the library of these beautiful, traditional dolls which you may like to see.

You may be aware of the Federal Government's program – the BER (Building the Education Revolution) which is investing money in schools – via the construction of new buildings and the refurbishment of existing school infrastructures. Our school has received a promise of funding in the second stage of this program and we have established a working party consisting of school and P&C members to engage in some preliminary planning. I understand that timelines will be very short, but this is a wonderful opportunity for us to upgrade our school facilities.

*Patricia Neate
Principal*

News from Mrs Ruddick-McGrath

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FUN RUN/WALK

I'm looking forward to seeing some Ironside faces on Sunday 8 March at 7:00 am at South Bank Parklands.

OVERSEAS AND AUSTRALIAN FAMILY NETWORK MEETING

The first meeting for any interested parents will be held in the Staffroom on Wednesday 11 March commencing at 2:00 pm. At this meeting we will be discussing the role of our English as a Second Language Teachers and we will start planning for Ironside's International Breakfast to be held in June.

TUCKSHOP SPENDING

Please remind your child/children that they are not to buy ice blocks or drinks for friends at the Tuckshop. Students should also be discouraged from sharing food at school.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC MEETING

Thank you to the parents who attended Wednesday's meeting. We discussed the proposed 2009 Music Calendar and ways in which parents can assist at the school based events. We are also planning a roster for the sale of music uniform accessories. The dates will be advertised in future parent Newsletters.



LANGUAGE & LITERACY

SUPPORT TRAINING

Ironside State School would like to offer training to parents or volunteers wishing to assist children with reading. The support program has been designed around the central concept that, through daily reading in a supportive environment, children can be helped to become independent proficient readers whose improved self-esteem will promote further learning.

The training sessions will run for approximately 2 hours on each of three days:

Dates: Thursday 5th March (8.45 am - 10.45 am)

Thursday 12th March (8.45 am - 10.45 pm)

Thursday 19th March (2.00 pm - 3.00 pm)

Venue: Library

Please contact me if you have any queries.

***Ms Richenda Wagener
A/Head of Curriculum***

MOTHERS DAY STALL

It is that time of year again and we need your help. The Mothers Day Stall Organisers are having a meeting on Friday 6th March at 2:00 pm in the Library. Please come along if you are interested in helping or have lots of new ideas for the stall. The Mothers Day Stall will be held over two days on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th of May. Looking forward to seeing you there. Looking forward to a great year!

***Amanda Teo
0416262397***

TWO MINUTE DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONE REMINDERS

Please:

- plan your trip to avoid arrival at peak times
- pick up or drop off children via the car's kerb doors
- drive safely at all times

if your child is not at your arranged spot, drive around the block and try again

Please do not:

- get out of your vehicle
- double park
- stay more than 2 minutes

arrive early in the afternoon and sit in the zone

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

***Janice Ruddick-McGrath
Deputy Principal***

News from Mr Knights

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS

Interschool Sports kicks off tomorrow. Please ensure that all permission forms have been handed in and that you have a hat, water bottle and sunscreen.

CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING

Yesterday we kicked off the Cross Country training before school. It was a highly successful morning with lots of motivated students involved.

SWIMMING

Our swimmers did a great job representing us at WTB swimming trails. Our regional swimming representatives competed at Chandler yesterday.

Lucy Van Baarle

Lili Wackwitz

Phoebe Finlay

Sam Nguigi

Bill Bingham

Congratulations to you all.

MOE

Last week the school finished its Managed Operating Environment upgrade. However, as with all systems upgrades of this type, small enhancements and changes will be made over the coming week to ensure it's functionality. As such, there may be occasional delays with email and other electronic forms of communication. Your patience is much appreciated.

***Adam Knights
Deputy Principal***

News from Ms Wagener

Queensland Comparable Assessment Tasks (QCATs)

All students in Year 4 and Year 6 will be undertaking the Queensland Comparable Assessment Tasks during weeks 8 and 10 of Term 1 and week 2 of Term 2. If your child is going to be absent during these aforementioned timeframes please speak with their class teacher.

Spelling Information Evening

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and staff who were able to attend the spelling information evening last night. We had a fantastic turn out, which is indicative of the great support we have for our students.

Sincere thanks to Mrs Margaret MacGinley who was our key speaker for the evening. I trust that you found the evening informative and have a greater understanding of how the "Spelling Choices" program operates.

If you are unable to attend please feel free to collect a parent information booklet from the School Office.

***Richenda Wagener
Head of Curriculum***

CAR POOL REQUIRED

Please contact Tapan Saha
Telephone: 3365 3962 (work)
Mobile: 0422 001 378
After Hours: 3375 6528

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Please bring any spare used plastic bags to the Uniform Shop or Tuckshop.

CHESS CLUB

Would you all please note that I have made a mistake with the date of the tournament in the last Newsletter I have that it is on the 12th March when in fact it is as per the Parent Permission Form the 18th March.

Once again I would like to apologise for any miss understanding which you might have had.

Dianne Harrower (Koala)
Chess Coach

PREP NEWS

Wanted:
If anyone has access to soft wood for hammering, please notify the prep teachers as we would appreciate any donations for our Outdoor Program.
Thank you .

Cathy McInerney

YEAR 5

COFFEE MORNING

Parents and Guardians of Year 5 students are invited to a coffee morning at St Lucia Golf Club on Tuesday 10th March after school drop-off (about 9:00 am). Come along and catch up with new and old friends.

Thank you,
Margaret Henderson

Year 4 News

Year 4's put their thoughts about what it is to be young on paper during a five minute writing task.

Being young is when we make the most of our lives; it's when we have all our fun. It's when we gain some of our most priceless treasures. We get to go on some amazing holidays that we treasure forever. Being young is taking the first steps of life. **By Phoebe**

Being young is a wonderful feeling. It is so much fun because you can do things like roll around in dirt. But when you are elderly, you wouldn't like to roll around in dirt. When my mum was younger than me in India, she and her cousin Anju would roll around in sand. **By Ayesha**

Being young is better than being old. When you're young you're more flexible and playful. When you're young you have more fun. When you're young you feel more excited when you're going places and you also feel brighter and more active. Being young means you get to go to school and see your friends and learn, which is fun. **By Josie**

Being young is great because I think my parents love me so much. They also get cool stuff for you. Being young is also great because you can be really energetic and go outside and have fun. When you're young you can always stand up for yourself and you can always have lots of fun and that is what matters to me. When you are young you have nice friends. You have an awesome time when you are young! **By Sandy**

Being young is the time to start learning and going to school time. It's an opportunity to learn and get a better life. Youth is a splendid thing to have. Being young is also time to get friends and a big brain. **By Susanna**

Being young is bending over and do somersaults. You also get to live longer! **By Callum**

Ironside Chaplain

It is a Government requirement that all school Chaplains are commissioned in a public service.

Education Queensland, Scripture Union Queensland, The Ironside Local Chaplaincy Committee, the School Community, Local Community and Local Churches all work together to support the Chaplain and care for Ironside State School.

Marion Birchley's commissioning ceremony will take place this **Sunday 8th March at 2:00 pm in the Ironside Hall.** **Please feel welcome to attend** this ceremony as Marion is officially commissioned and embraced as Chaplain of Ironside State School and as the local Church community pledge their support for her as she cares for Ironside State School.

Hope you have a good day,
Marion Birchley

Swim Club News

Congratulations to all swimmers on Friday night. Once again many PB's were broken – Club Championships will be a great night. Thank you to all parents who are helping with the many tasks that keep Swim Club working well!

Winners of last weeks awards:

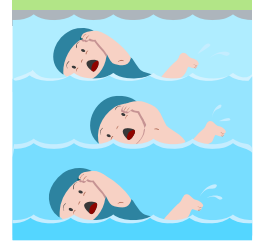
First	Emily Rainbird	Medley	Christopher Smith
Second	Edwina Badgery	Freestyle	Edwina Badgery
Third (equal)	Philip Henderson	Backstroke	Gemma Phillips
Third (equal)	Emma van Baarle	Breastroke	Alanah Jenkins
		Butterfly	Erica Leslie

Schedule for Race Nights:

Club Championships is only 4 weeks away. To help the children practice for this, the free swim will now include lanes dedicated to "warm up" swimming. Only lap swimming will be allowed in "warm up" lanes.

Below is the adjusted schedule for race nights:

5.30 to 6.00	Warm up and free swim; Race nominations
6.00	Clear pool; Presentation of awards
6.25	Nominations close – no late entries will be taken (Why not pre-nominate?)
6.25	Tadpole races
6.30-8:30	Club races



Dates to Remember: Thursday 2nd April and Friday 3rd April - Club Championship
Wednesday 8th April Awards Night

Contact Details: emails for club information: IronsideSwimClub@gmail.com
Phone number for nomination changes: 0407 25 85 95

You can pre-nominate (those already pre-nominated you will carry over from the first half of the season) – If you wish to pre-nominate contact Barry on barrys@qldcricket.com.au with the child's name and the events requested.

Shop Rosters

Date Tuckshop

Mon	9/3	Muriel Chien, Alyson Bates
Tues	10/3	Kylie mcNaught, Marg Rackeman, Gabby Elliott
Wed	11/3	Susan Gibson, Carolyn Biddle, Marie Lee See
Thurs	12/3	Karen Heyden, Libby Bingley, Wendy Munchkhof



Date Homebake

Mon	9/3	Genevieve Bruce, Kathy Clarkson
Tues	10/3	Linda Tonge, Theresa Stolz
Wed	11/3	Kallayanee Epp
Thurs	12/3	Margaret Henderson

Menu Changes

Tri Pies are NO longer available. Purple (lentil), Orange (sweet potato) available until stock runs out.
Apple Just Juice and Paradise Punch price change down to \$1.30.
No flavored straws available.

Letting Kids be Kids

Perhaps the most serious and insidious harm done to children in the last 20 years has been caused by the way society appears to have taken away their childhood. This has been done in ways such as:-

Exposing them to adult issues and themes

Media bombardment –

Many TV shows (including the news), and computer games focus on horror, fear, grief and pain, as well as sexual references beyond childrens' developmental years;

Family issues –

such as separation, divorce or bereavement although common occurrences require adults to take control of their own situation allowing children to feel safe and loved

Substance abuse by adults –

put children in a role of helplessness, sometimes hopelessness, and often require the child to take on the responsibilities of the adult

Creating overly-busy lives –

where evenings and weekends are spent away from home for activities. This combined with homework leaves very little time for the child to relax, play and enjoy just being at home with his family. It is thought that busy children are less likely to get into trouble, but there has to be a balance with children learning to relax, have down time to refresh the body and the brain.

A competitive attitude –

Life becomes a desperate race to get everything done, as well as keep up with academic requirements. Yes some children are born competitive but this coupled with a competitive push by adults creates anxiety. Children as early as Prep start to become anxious about their performance.

Overworked or stressed parents –

who may not have the time nor the energy to be available to their children. Snappy, tense parents do not encourage children to want to spend time with them also.

Over-protection or under protection –

With increase in traffic, stranger danger and crime, protecting your child is a must but balancing how this is done is equally important. It is our responsibility as adults to know where their children are, who they are with, what they are doing, who they are talking to (especially on the internet) and put in place guidelines for being safe.

A recent Qld university study asked children what they need to be happy. Answers reported on TV stated `to do well in school, space to play, to have no worries, to have fun.' Children did not talk about money or possessions. Children with spiritual beliefs also faired better in coping with adversity.

Here are some tips to support children:-

Limit the TV/computer – have lots of time, space and materials for simple play

Create healthy boredom – stop entertaining them. Let space and books do that.

Play – it is the source of creativity and inventiveness. It comes naturally to kids, and with practise you (the parent) will remember how to participate

Reconsider your own lifestyle – is it what you want? Are you happy? What changes can be put in place? Do you need to 'wind down' a little?

Limit the worries – Avoid undue pressure on children. Take away adult stressors and adult responsibilities (news, family issues that only adults can 'fix')

The best thing you can do for your children is `let them be children', be a part of their growing up and most of all enjoy them.

Aspects adapted from 'More Secrets of Happy Children' by Steve Biddulph

*Sue Robertson
Developmental Guidance Officer*